

National Highway System Questions & Answers

Spring 2013

MAP-21, the 2013-2014 Federal Transportation Act, expands the National Highway System (NHS) effective October 1, 2012, adding over 850 miles of locally owned principle arterials in Washington state not previously included. These added streets and roads will now be eligible for funding through the National Highway Performance Program. For a list of all NHS routes by city, visit our website: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/localprograms>

Are there any new requirements?

Design Standards

Because WSDOT's Local Agency Guidelines always relied on the AASHTO Green Book for design of new and reconstruction projects using Federal-aid, no new design standards will apply to the locally owned principle arterials added to the NHS in 2012. Visit WSDOT's website for additional information on City and County Design Standards: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/LAG/Design.htm>

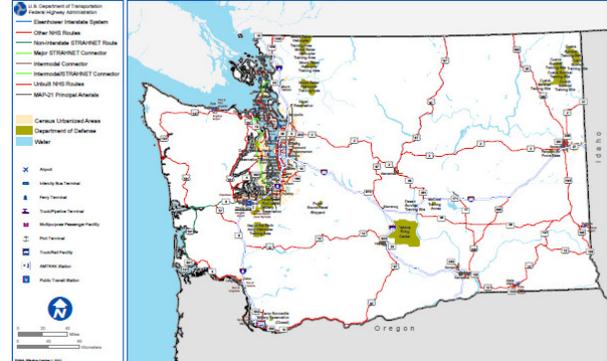
Certified Testers

Local Agencies making improvements to National Highway System (NHS) routes with Federal-aid funding must comply with the FHWA approved qualified tester program for materials and workmanship. If a local agency is not certified to perform these tests, there are several options for meeting the qualified tester requirements:

- Contract with WSDOT to perform the required tests.
- Pursue tester qualification through WSDOT for agency personnel.
- Use laboratories qualified to test as defined by AASHTO test methods appropriate to the material.
- Use laboratories that are accredited by the Labor Accreditation Bureau, or accredited by the Construction Materials Engineering Council's (CMEC's)

Find additional guidance on certified materials and workmanship testers in WSDOT's Local Agency Guidelines Chapter 52 on our website: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/localprograms/LAG>

National Highway System: Washington



Performance Measures

MAP-21 required FHWA to develop national performance measures. Three measures apply specifically to the NHS including pavement condition, bridge condition, and system performance.

Although we are still analyzing the impact of the newly added NHS routes on data reporting, we expect this expansion of the NHS will impact data programs such as FHWA's Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) and National Bridge Inventory (NBI) that provide coverage of the NHS.

Outdoor Advertising Control

Locally managed principle arterials added to the NHS under MAP-21 will be subject to the same outdoor advertising control requirements as all other segments of the NHS. The Federal Highway Beautification Act regulates signs visible from Federal-aid highways, including the NHS. The State's Highway Advertising Control Act regulates signs visible from Interstate highways and most state highways, including the NHS.

The Highway Advertising Control Act assures that signs adjacent to the highway present information safely and effectively, and to preserve the scenic quality of Washington's roadsides. For signs visible from public roadways, regulations also assure that drivers are not distracted from the driving task. For additional information about outdoor advertising control in Washington, visit our website:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Operations/Traffic/Signs/default.htm>

For More Information

Highways & Local Programs Division Contacts

Director

Kathleen B. Davis
(360) 705-7871
davisk@wsdot.wa.gov

Northwest Region

Ed Conyers, PE
Local Programs Engineer
(206) 440-4734
conyere@wsdot.wa.gov



Olympic Region

Neal Campbell, PE
Local Programs Engineer
(360) 357-2666
campben@wsdot.wa.gov



Southwest Region

Ken Hash, PE
Local Programs Engineer
(360) 905-2215
hashk@wsdot.wa.gov



Eastern Region

Keith Martin, PE
Local Programs Engineer
(509) 324- 6080
martink@wsdot.wa.gov



South Central Region

Roger Arms, PE
Local Programs Engineer
(509) 577-1780
armsr@wsdot.wa.gov



North Central Region

Paul Mahre, PE
Local Programs Engineer
(509) 667-3090
mahrep@wsdot.wa.gov



Headquarters, Olympia

Aaron Butters, PE
Engineering Services Manager
(360) 705-7375
buttera@wsdot.wa.gov

Stephanie Tax
Manager, Program Management
(360) 705-7389
taxs@wsdot.wa.gov

Web Site

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/localprograms/>



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**