

Chapter 3

ENGINEER'S ESTIMATES

This chapter is new; implementation will be at the discretion of the District Estimates Engineer for 2021. It is intended to assist the Designer with meeting the Estimates requirements in the [FDM](#), as well as meeting estimating needs of District Estimators, FDOT Project Managers, and others. The requirements are intended to compliment the FDM, Consultant Designer's Scope of Services, as well as current FDOT procedures.

Comments or suggestions are welcome; contact your District Estimates Engineer for district specific guidance.

3.1 General

Estimators are required to develop and review Construction Cost Estimates for all projects, throughout the Work Program. While the project is under design, the scope must be maintained, so that cost estimates correctly reflect the anticipated work. This chapter will address estimate requirements at each project phase, as well as periodic updates that may be required.

Terminology used:

Construction Cost Estimate: The Department's Estimate for all construction related costs.

NOTE: While these requirements apply to all projects, Districts may vary in who completes the data entry for the updates. The guidance below is written to the Designer/EOR, unless otherwise shown. However, Designers, Project Managers, and District Estimators must work together to ensure that all updates are completed in a timely manner, and fully reflect the project's anticipated work or scope.

3.2 Initial Work Program and Scope Estimates

The Initial Work Program and Scope Estimates are often completed by the Department, prior to a Consultant Design Contract being issued. These estimates are normally entered into the **Long Range Estimates (LRE)** system, based on available scope information and historical prices.

The purpose of these estimates is to determine a budget amount for the Work Program. For additional information, see procedures **600-010-005, Development & Review of the 5 Year Work Program Construction Cost Estimates**, and **600-010-001, Preparation of the Authorization/Official Construction Cost Estimate & Contract Bid Review Package**, available in the [Procedural Document Library](#).

3.3 Project Design Estimates

3.3.1 Phase I Estimate

Update the estimate to reflect any scope changes. **FDM 301/901** identifies preliminary information that should be available at this phase. Verify that the following items are correctly reflected in the Phase I Estimate:

- Typical Section(s)
- Right of Way widths
- Bridge and Bridge Culvert lengths and widths
- Curb and/or Sidewalk preliminary lengths
- Drainage needs, including open/closed system or retention ponds
- Other components, including Signalization, Lighting, Landscaping

While specific pay items and quantities may not be known at this phase, it is important that the estimate identify all anticipated work/scope.

3.3.2 Phase II Estimate

Update the estimate to reflect any scope changes. **FDM 301/901** identifies preliminary design information that should be available at this phase. Verify that the following items are correctly reflected in the Phase II Estimate:

- Typical Section(s)
- Right of Way widths
- Bridge and Bridge Culvert lengths and widths
- Curb and/or Sidewalk preliminary lengths
- Drainage Structures and Pipe Sizes
- Retention Pond Size
- Other components, including Signalization, Lighting, Landscaping

In addition to updating scope information for the Phase II Estimate, the **FDM** requires that pay items be loaded into the Designer Interface. This will help to identify specification and pay item needs that must be addressed before the Phase III submittal. Coordinate with the District Specifications and Estimates Office(s) for any non-standard specification or pay item needs. See the **Specifications Handbook** for additional specification guidance. See **BOE Chapter 6** for requesting pay items.

The District Estimator will update/review the Department's Phase II Cost Estimate using any combination of LRE, DQE, PrP AASHTOWARE, Phase II plans, and other scope information.

3.3.3 Phase III Estimates

FDM 301/901 requires that all pay items and quantities should be "complete, but subject to change". Verify that all items are correctly reflected in Estimated Quantities Report. Update pay items and quantities through the Designer Interface.

Notify the District Specifications and Estimates Offices of any pending non-standard

specifications or pay items, so that the Cost Estimates can reflect all anticipated work. The District Estimator may request the Designer/Engineer's Cost Estimate on specific pay items, especially Lump Sum pay items and those with non-standard specifications or pay items.

The District Estimator will update the Department's Phase III Cost Estimate, based on the pay items and quantities loaded through the Designer Interface. Project conditions, details, work, materials, and applicable specifications may be considered by the District Estimator.

3.3.4 Phase IV Estimates

FDM 301 calls for Work Zone Traffic Control pay items to be updated based on the established construction duration. Update all remaining pay items, including any changes due to non-standard specifications or pay items. Finalize the Estimated Quantities Report. Update the quantities through the Designer Interface.

The District Estimator will update the Department's Phase IV Cost Estimate, based on the pay items and quantities loaded through the Designer Interface. Project conditions, details, work, materials, and applicable specifications may be considered by the District Estimator when pricing the pay items.

3.3.5 PS&E Phase Estimates

Per the *FDM 301/901*, "after corrections noted during the Phase IV submittal review are completed and verified, the plans are referred to as Final Plans." **Projects with outstanding specifications or pay items are not ready to begin the PS&E phase.**

The District Estimator will begin preparation of the Department's Authorization Estimate. Project conditions, details, work, materials, and applicable specifications may be considered by the District Estimator when pricing the pay items.

Additional guidance on the cost estimates during this phase is available ***procedure 000-0000, Title.***

3.4 Revisions and Addenda

Coordinate with the District Estimator to update Authorization or Official Estimate. Provide updated Summary Box or EQ Report, as directed by the District Estimator.

3.5 Estimating Systems

Long Range Estimates (LRE): <https://fdotwp1.dot.state.fl.us/LongRangeEstimating/>

Webgate and Designer Interface:

<https://fdotwp1.dot.state.fl.us/WTWEBGATEREPORTS/WebGate.aspx>.

Design Quantities & Estimates (DQE): Estimates application for pre-letting activities. DQE has both public and secure pages. The application is located at:
<https://fdotwp1.dot.state.fl.us/designquantitiesandestimates>

The ***Basis of Estimates: Chapters 11-20 Database*** and ***Master Pay Item*** list are available to view/print on the DQE public pages. From the home page, select the Basis of Estimates or Master Pay Item link from the dark blue border at the top of the page; do NOT enter a userID/password.

Chapter 3 Revision History

11-1-20: Updated header dates for 2021 edition. Changed the scope of the chapter to address estimating guidance to Designers, working with FDM changes.

11-1-19: Updated header dates for 2020 edition.

12-1-18: Updated header dates for 2019 edition.

10-25-16: Updated header dates for 2017 edition. Ongoing draft text.

11-25-15: Updated header dates for 2016 edition.

12-30-14: Updated header dates for 2015 edition. Added DQE definition.

-14-14: Started adding DRAFT text for new section.

12-2-13: Deleted 3.2. Moved Alphabetical List to Chapter 2.

2-20-13: Updated header dates for 2013 edition.

11-23-11: Updated header dates for 2012 edition.

2-1-10: Updated header dates for 2011 edition.

5-14-10: Restored Alphabetical Index. Created explanation text for chapter.

10-30-09: Updated header dates for 2010 edition.

10-1-08: Updated header dates for 2009 edition. Deleted “Alphabetical Index” chapter. Users, please use search/find, as needed.