
CHAPTER 24 MAINTENANCE

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24.1 OVERVIEW

In order to ensure that transportation facilities developed using Federal funds continue to operate safely with no loss of function during their lives, Federal law requires that they be properly maintained for the useful life of the project (**23 CFR 1.27 and 23 USC 116**). Useful life is defined in this context as: to perform normal maintenance operations for the preservation of the entire project, including roadway surface, shoulders, roadsides, structures, and such traffic control devices as are necessary for its safe and efficient use.

When the project is on a local roadway system or “off-system”, the LA and FHWA each have responsibilities in this area: the LA maintains the projects, and FHWA reviews the LA’s maintenance efforts. Off-system projects are defined as projects not located on the SHS, but may include projects located on the NHS.

When the project is on the SHS, the Department will generally maintain any improvements; unless otherwise stipulated in the terms of the LAP Agreement between the Department and the LA. A common example of when the Department would **not** maintain an improvement constructed on the SHS are streetscaping (including landscaping) projects where an agency may install stamped crosswalks and other features that the Department would not typically construct and not be in a position to maintain.

In accordance with **Section 116, Title 23 USC**, the LA agrees in the **LAP Agreement (Form No. 525-010-40)**, **Section 13.13** to maintain the projects completed. In addition, any special considerations by the Department or alternate maintenance requirements shall be designated in **Exhibit A** of the **LAP Agreement**. Maintenance activities and related pay items are not eligible for reimbursement under the FAHP. The agency should budget for future maintenance and operations costs with local funds, including landscaping related costs. Maintenance bonds as a condition of LA construction contracts are not eligible for reimbursement.

The LA will be contacted in the event reports of deficiencies in the maintenance of the local projects are received by the Department.

24.2 BRIDGE INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE

The Department inspects all bridges in the State of Florida both on-system and off-system. The Department provides each LA with copies of their inspection reports. The LAs maintain these reports to be responsive to Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) requests for bridge rehabilitation, replacement, or enhancement designations. When necessary from these inspections and subsequent load ratings, the Department provides

bridge posting information to the local agency owner. The owner must also provide and promptly install the appropriate signage, according to the MUTCD.

24.3 RESOURCES

[LAP Forms Page](#)