

120 Design Submittals

120.1 General

The design process will require various submittals to transfer technical information and decisions between the Engineer of Record (EOR), Department personnel, and functional areas. The Department Project Manager is responsible for the adequacy of the submittals or requests and for the coordination of reviews between the Department and the EOR. Each district office head (including Construction and Maintenance) should assume direct responsibility for assigning reviewers and meeting the review schedules. The contract scope of work should list the information to be furnished by FDOT functional areas and submittals (number and type) required of the EOR.

During the design process, various items of information may be required from different sections or departments. **Figure 120.1.1**, shown on the following page, is a partial list of functional areas with typical submittals and requests. Plans phase submittals include component plans and BIM files.

Figure 120.1.1 List of Requests and Contacts
Sheet 1 of 2

A) Planning

Request pavement design (18 Kip ESAL)
Request project traffic data
Request turning movements for intersections
Request updates of project traffic data (as needed)
Request Context Classification
Request Target Speed
Railroad contact (Phase I and III)
Plans transmittal letter data (railroad)
Notification that projects is in vicinity of a traffic monitoring site

B) Traffic Plans/Traffic Operations

Request turns and counts for intersection design
Notification that projects include milling
Signing & pavement marking plans (Phase I, II, III)
Traffic signal plans (Phase I, II, III) & signal warrant
Lighting plans (Phase I, II) & justification report
Confirm environmental lighting requirements
Pedestrian and bicycle project traffic
Safety/crash analysis and recommendations
Operational and capacity review of design plans

C) Geotechnical

Request pavement design soil information
Request roadway soil survey
Soils data
Request foundation investigations
Request falling weight deflectometer testing
Phase III review if unsuitable soils exist.
Soils and foundation recommendations
PH and soils resistivity for culvert material selection
Request pavement composition and milling recommendations
Review if any changes are made in alignment, grade, or typical section.
Bridge Geotechnical Report

D) Surveying and Mapping

Request survey

E) Drainage

Request grade and high-water review
Conceptual drainage plan & assumptions
Bridge Hydraulics Report
Request drainage design
Request final drainage review
Permit review
Stormwater Runoff Control Concept

F) Maintenance

Pavement design comments
Phase I Plans review & response
Phase II Plans review & response
Phase III Plans review & response

G) Construction

Pavement design comments
Phase I Plans review & response
Phase II Plans review (constructability) & response
Phase III Plans review (biddability) & response
Submit traffic control plan request
Contract time

H) R/W Surveying and Mapping

Submit title search request
Request existing Right of Way maps
Transmit Right of Way requirements
Final Right of Way check
Plans transmittal letter data

I) Utilities

Preliminary (First) contact (Phase I)
Pre-Design conference and contact (Phase II)
Final contact (Phase III)
Horizontal and vertical verification of utilities
Plans transmittal letter data (utilities)
Number of sets of final prints for utility companies

Figure 120.1.1 List of Requests and Contacts Sheet 2 of 2

J) Estimates and Specifications

~~Preliminary estimate (LRE)~~ Initial Project Cost (Programming Phase 52)
~~Preliminary estimate (Phase I)~~ Scope Project Cost (Design Scope)
~~Preliminary estimate (Phase II)~~ Phase I Project Cost (Phase Submittal)
~~Preliminary estimate (Phase III)~~ Phase II Project Cost (Phase Submittal – Pay Items)
~~Complete estimate (Phase IV)~~ Phase III Project Cost (Phase Submittal – Quantities)
Phase IV Project Cost (Complete and Final)

K) Right of Way Department

Project schedule updates as needed
R/W estimates as needed
Pre-Proposal appraisal conference
Field questions from R/W agents as needed
Plans transmittal letter data

Phase I Plans Review (by Appraiser)
Phase II Plans Review (by Appraiser)
Phase III Plans Review (by Appraiser)
Phase IV Plans Review (by Appraiser)

L) FHWA (if Project of Division Interest (PoDI))

Phase I Plans review & response
Phase II Plans review & response
Phase III Plans review & response
Phase IV Plans review & response
Submit for typical section approval
Submit for pavement design approval
Submit Design Exception request letters
R/W review

M) Value Engineering (\$25,000,000+)

Phase I & II reviews

120.2 Design Documentation Submittals

Certain engineering processes require the submittal of information to specific Department personnel for the purpose of making timely decisions and confirming project objectives. Submittals will take place as these activities are completed so that issues do not go unresolved before subsequent activities begin. The following are submittals that should take place during initial engineering. Ideally these engineering type submittals are done in lieu of traditional phase plans reviews.

120.2.1 Field Survey Data

Evaluate the following typical field survey data for sufficient breadth and accuracy to complete the proposed design. Bring deficiencies to the attention of the Department.

- (1) Design location survey data including horizontal and vertical control, alignments, reference points, utilities, natural and manmade features, and topography or general shape of the terrain.
- (2) Digitized aerial survey data, especially for large areas such as drainage maps. Drainage design survey data from site inspection and historical records.

- (3) Right of Way and related property (land) survey data, including property owners and acreage.
- (4) Geotechnical studies and foundation and soils report, including physical properties and classifications of soils, together with recommendations related to foundations, pavement, and drainage design.
- (5) Bridge data sheet surveys, channel alignment survey data, and bathymetric data.

120.2.2 Traffic Data

In the development of roadway plans, traffic data is used to justify:

- Number of through lanes,
- Geometric improvements to intersections,
- Traffic signal timings, and
- Pavement design.

The number of through lanes is usually determined during the project development phase, based on Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) and factors included in the typical section. Vehicular traffic data shown on the plans Typical Section sheet includes:

- AADT for the following:
 - Current Year (refers to when the traffic data is collected),
 - Opening Year (as defined in the [*FDOT Project Traffic Forecasting Handbook*](#)), and
 - Design Year (as defined in the *FDOT Project Traffic Forecasting Handbook*),
- Design hour factor (K is the Department's Standard "K" factor as defined in the *FDOT Traffic Forecasting Handbook*),
- Directional distribution (D is the percent of two-way peak-hour traffic that occurs in the peak direction), and
- Truck factors (T is the percent that trucks constitute of vehicular traffic) for the peak hour and a 24-hour period.

The source and methods used to produce this data must be documented.

120.2.2.1 Traffic Counts

Intersection improvements and signal timings require additional information on turning volumes. The [*FDOT Project Traffic Forecasting Procedure \(Topic No.: 525-030-120\)*](#) describes the input data required, explains the procedure to forecast turning volumes,

and provides examples. A Project Traffic Report will be required. Traffic counts provide input on the number of motor vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians using an intersection. At proposed (non-existing) major intersections, turning volumes are estimated using transportation planning models or other means. Forecasts provide designers the information required to determine the need for turning lanes, turning bay length, signal timings, and pedestrian crossings. Also, the designer establishes Right of Way requirements based on documented needs to satisfy design year volumes.

120.2.2.2 18-kip Equivalent Single Axle Loads (ESAL)

In pavement design, the designer requires AADT forecasts for the year a project opens to traffic and for the design year. AADT, together with percent trucks (24-hour period) and other factors used by the Department, provides information on the pavement loadings (18kip ESAL) used in pavement design. The FDOT Project Traffic Forecasting Procedure provides additional information.

120.2.3 Typical Section Package

The purpose of the Typical Section Package is to establish and document the following:

- (1) Project Controls
- (2) Typical Section Elements
 - (a) Lanes (width and cross slope)
 - (b) Curbs (for curbed roadways)
 - (c) Median (for divided roadways)
 - (d) Shoulders (paved and unpaved)
 - (e) Front and back side slopes, including roadside ditches
 - (f) Border and clear zone
 - (g) Bicycle and pedestrian facilities
 - (h) Bridge traffic railings and parapets.
- (3) Traffic Data
- (4) Potential Design Variations and Design Exceptions related to the typical section.

Prepare a Typical Section Package for projects that alter cross section elements and for resurfacing projects. The Typical Section Package must be prepared and sealed by the EOR. The 11" x 17" report format is available in the FDOT CADD Software for the development of Typical Section Packages.

The Typical Section Package consists of a cover sheet and proposed typical section sheet(s). See **Exhibit 120-1** for an example of a cover sheet and **Exhibits 120-2** through **120-4** for examples of typical section sheets.

120.2.3.1 Approval Process

The completed Typical Section Package is signed and sealed by the Engineer of Record (EOR) with concurrence from the following as needed:

- District Design Engineer: design, posted, and target speeds and typical section
- District Traffic Operations Engineer: design, posted, and target speeds
- FHWA Transportation Engineer: typical section
- District Structures Design Engineer: bridge typical section elements
- District ISD Manager: Context Classification and target speed

Unless requested by the district, changes made to the Typical Section Package during the design phase are not required to be resubmitted. If requested, the Typical Section Package will be updated, reapproved and resubmitted once at Final Design phase.

Projects with PD&E Phase:

The Typical Section Package is prepared by the PD&E EOR as part of the Project Development & Environment (PD&E) process. The Typical Section Package is processed after the preferred alternative is selected. Include a copy of the approved Typical Section Package as part of the PD&E Final Preliminary Engineering Report.

Projects without PD&E Phase:

For projects that do not contain a PD&E phase, the Typical Section Package is prepared by the Design EOR and should be approved by the Department prior to the Phase II plans submittal.

120.2.3.2 Cover Sheet

The Cover Sheet contains the following:

- (1) Project Identification: Place the Financial Project ID number(s) immediately under the heading "TYPICAL SECTION PACKAGE" at the top of the sheet. When the project involves Federal funds, place the words "(Federal Funds)" under the Financial Project ID. Place the county name and (in parentheses) the full 8-digit roadway section number Roadway ID associated with the Straight-Line Diagrams under the Financial Project ID or "(Federal Funds)". Include a description of work type under the state road number.
- (2) Project Location Map with Project Work Limits and Features as described in **FDM 910.2.2**.
- (3) General Project Location map as described in **FDM 910.2.3**.
- (4) PD&E or Design EOR Signature Block: See **FDM 130** for requirements.
- (5) Sheet Index: Provide an index of sheets listing all sheets contained in the package that the EOR is responsible for.
- (6) Typical Section Concurrence: Concurrence from the District Design Engineer for all typical sections is required. Include other concurrence signatures as applicable:
 - (a) District Structures Design Engineer for bridge typical sections
 - (b) County or City Engineer for local roadway typical sections.
 - (c) Concurrence of the typical section elements by the FHWA Transportation Engineer is required on Projects of Division Interest (PoDI). Refer to **FDM 128** for additional information concerning PoDIs.
- (7) Design Speed and Posted Speed Concurrence: The District Design Engineer and District Traffic Operations Engineer will discuss and agree to the posted speed. The selected design speed will be jointly approved by the District Design Engineer and the District Traffic Operations Engineer with a declaration that the posted speed is not expected to exceed the selected design speed.
- (8) Context Classification Concurrence: Context classification is determined by FDOT district staff on all projects. Coordinate with the FDOT Project Manager to obtain context classification(s). Concurrence from the District Intermodal Systems Development (ISD) Manager or Planning and Environmental Management Administrator for the context classification assigned to each typical section is required.
- (9) Target Speed Concurrence: The District Design Engineer, District Traffic Operations Engineer, and District Intermodal Systems Development Manager will discuss and agree to the Target Speed.

120.2.3.3 Typical Section Sheet

The Typical Section sheet contains a data box that provides the Project Controls and the cross-section view showing the proposed typical section. Provide a Typical Section sheet for each proposed typical section. The only gaps between the Begin and End Project Limits should be Project Exceptions. Other than the primary State Road typical section, additional typical sections may be required for the following conditions:

- A change in the number of through lanes, or a change in Project Controls.
- Change in facility type (e.g., flush shoulder roadway to curbed roadway).
- Intersecting roadways when significant work length is required.
- Toll sites (ramp and mainline) representing the required 100 feet of loop pavement underneath the toll gantry.
- New, widened, or modified bridges.

Project Controls:

Indicate Project Controls that apply to the typical section being shown as follows:

- (1) Context Classification: Indicate the applicable context classification.
- (2) Functional Classification: Indicate the type of facility.
- (3) Highway System: Indicate the applicable highway system(s) for the roadway.
- (4) Access Classification: Indicate the degree of access for the roadway.
- (5) Criteria: Indicate the type of construction.
- (6) Potential Exceptions and Variations: List non-compliant typical section elements related to the typical section.

When the typical section limits contain one or more applicable project control, list each project control with the limits to which it applies. This is an acceptable practice only when changes in project control do not affect the typical section elements being shown.

Typical Section:

Display the proposed typical section in the center of the cross-section view panel. The FDOT CADD Software provides typical section templates that can be modified to reflect the conditions of a particular project. Typical sections are not created to scale, but the horizontal dimensions should be proportionate.

Show all required typical section information contained in **FDM 913.2**, except:

- (1) Show and label Border Width (required only for new construction and reconstruction projects) and Clear Zone (required only for flush shoulder roadway).
- (2) Do not include Typical Section Notes and Details.

- (3) Do not include Partial Sections.
- (4) Do not include pavement construction dimensions and labels.

Place below each typical section the name of the roadway and the station or Mile Post (MP) Limits. An assumed beginning MP or station (e.g., MP 0.000 at point of intersection) may be used for local roads.

Provide the following traffic data on the lower left portion of the plan view panel:

- (1) Current Year and AADT
- (2) Estimated Opening Year and AADT
- (3) Estimated Design Year and AADT
- (4) K, D, T (24-hour) factors.
- (5) Design Hour T factor
- (6) Design Speed, Posted Speed, Target Speed

Exhibit 120-1: Typical Section Package

Exhibit 120-2: Typical Section Package

Exhibit 120-3: Typical Section Package

Exhibit 120-4: Typical Section Package

120.2.4 Preliminary Drainage Design

On projects where the drainage design is a critical element, the following items should require a preliminary submittal:

- (1) Determination of water elevations affecting the roadway grade. These include base clearance water elevations and design flood elevations.
- (2) Pond Siting Report.
- (3) Documentation of preliminary drainage coordination with permitting agencies.
- (4) Information that is essential to proper evaluation of drainage design concepts such as seasonal high ground water, soil types, existing cross drain peak design stages, historical pavement failure, floodplain elevation, present water elevations, and drainage areas.
- (5) Documentation of coordination with the Landscape Architect and District Maintenance Engineer regarding aesthetics, including the accommodation of existing and proposed trees, particularly where additional R/W or Design Exceptions or Design Variations may be required.

120.2.5 Preliminary Geometry and Grades

On projects where connections to the facility make grades a critical element, back of sidewalk profiles, project profile grades, determination of water elevations affecting the roadway grade, and driveway and side street geometry should require a preliminary submittal. The Department may require the designer to present the project geometry and grade to a geometry and grade technical review team to encourage productive dialogue and proper communication regarding these design issues. If a bridge exists within the project limits, the early input of the structural designer as to approach grades and clearance needs should be coordinated to ensure proper bridge design.

120.2.6 Preliminary Traffic Control Plan

On projects where the traffic control plan is a critical element, the following items should require a preliminary submittal:

- (1) Typical sections of each construction phase with information that is essential to proper evaluation of each construction phase, e.g., location and nature of proper construction drainage; regulatory speed; location of work zone; proposed traffic control devices; number, width and location of maintained traffic; maximum drop-off; maintenance of existing lighting.

- (2) Documentation addressing possible innovative construction techniques, e.g., need for temporary detours, hazardous material excavation, temporary structures.
- (3) Documentation of coordination with the local community, e.g., city and county transportation engineers, businesses, police, hospitals, civic centers or arena operations, fire departments, schools, mass transit.
- (4) When a temporary bridge is used, the designer must coordinate with the State Bridge Evaluation Engineer in Tallahassee (Office of Maintenance) to ensure that a detour route for overweight vehicles is included in the plans. If no detour route is available, the temporary bridge may have to be designed to support multi-trip overweight vehicles.

120.2.7 Pavement Selection and Design

The pavement selection and design should be completed as early in the process as possible. The Rigid and Flexible Pavement Design Manuals are available through [Pavement Design Publications](#).

The final version (non-signed and sealed) of the Pavement Design Package should be submitted and reviewed prior to submitting the Phase II plans. The Phase II plans submittal should incorporate the resolution of comments from the final version Pavement Design Package review. The signed and sealed Pavement Design Package should be approved by the Department prior to the Phase III plans submittal.

120.2.8 Preliminary Utilities

On projects where utility coordination is a critical element, the following early involvement activities should be required.

- (1) Prior to Phase I plans submittal, early involvement can be obtained by coordinating a review of the utility information in the topographic survey. This review may be accomplished by distribution of the topographic survey to all Utility Agency/Owners (UAOs) through the District Utility Office for mark-ups and confirmation of existing facilities.
- (2) Once the designer has reviewed the early topographic survey mark-ups, a meeting should be held with the UAOs, District Utility Office and the designer to discuss errors, omissions, and future plans of the utilities already identified within the corridor. This will allow the designer the ability to prioritize which utilities will ultimately impact the design.

120.3 Structures Submittals

Structures design elements go through decision-making reviews at various stages of the design as listed below:

120.3.1 Coordination of Structural Design (Bridges and Retaining Walls)

Requests for structural design should include roadway plan and profile sheets showing horizontal and vertical alignments and cross sections within 500 feet of each end of the bridge or ends of retaining walls. Horizontal curvature that is on or near the end of the bridge or retaining wall must be shown. Non-standard superelevation transition details or other special profiles must be included if any part or all of the transition is on the bridge or wall. The approved proposed typical section is required.

Provisions for access to property near the ends of bridges and adjustments to avoid costly Right of Way takings should be resolved.

120.3.2 Bridges

Bridge design begins when the Phase I bridge geotechnical report is complete and proceeds on a schedule which allows simultaneous review of the final (90%) bridge plans and the Phase III roadway plans. All structures design work is coordinated through the District Structures Design Engineer or the State Structures Design Office in the Central Office, depending on the category or complexity of the structure. Determine the typical section of the facility crossing, the horizontal and vertical clearance requirements, and the profile grades prior to beginning structures design. For complete details and requirements for structural designs and plans preparation, the reader is referred to **FDM 121** and the Structures Detailing Manual issued by the State Structures Design Office.

Generally, the completion and review of bridge designs are accomplished in the following phases:

- (1) BDR/30% Structures Plans
- (2) 60% Substructure Submittal / 60% Structures Plans
- (3) 90% Structures Plans
- (4) 100% Structures Plans

These reviews should be coordinated with the phase reviews of the roadway plans. Submit the latest set of structural plans with the Phase II roadway plans submittal. This

joint submittal at Phase II roadway plans review is to ensure that roadway and bridge structures plans are consistent, i.e., widths, superelevation transitions, vertical and horizontal alignments, and that work zone traffic control agrees. The precise number and type of plans submittals depends on the complexity of the design and the sensitivity of the project. Each submittal must include written responses to the comments received on the previous submittal.

Modification for Non-Conventional Projects:

Delete **FDM 120.3.2** above and replace with the following:

120.3.2 Bridges

For bridge submittal requirements see RFP and **FDM 121**.

120.3.3 Other Structural Submittals and Reviews

In addition to bridge plans, structures plans may include retaining walls, sheet piling, noise barriers, box or three-sided culverts, pedestrian overpasses, temporary bridges, and special structural appurtenances. Special structural appurtenances that include transit-related furnishings and amenities would require review by the local transit agency.

For projects where bridges and other structures plans are involved, preliminary and final plan submittals (usually along with bridge plans) should be handled according to the instructions for structures plans submittals covered in **FDM 121** and **FDM 262**.

For projects where retaining walls are required along with roadway plans (no bridge in the project), follow the procedure outlined in **FDM 262**. The submittal of detailed control plans should occur as early in the design process as possible.

120.4 Plans Phase Reviews

The number of submittals and phase reviews is determined on a project-by-project basis and defined in the scope. Submittals allow functional areas to review the development of the project as contained in the scope.

Formal plans phase review requirements are covered in the District Quality Control Plan. Reviews should include Department personnel that can assist in making timely decisions and confirm that the requirements have been met for their discipline. Reviews are driven by the engineering process and occur when input or a decision is needed. Some of these activities are discussed in **FDM 120.2**. Reviews are complete when the comments from all the various offices have been resolved and have been documented as required in **FDM 128**.

Constructability and biddability reviews by the District Construction Office will be included at appropriate stages of the phase review process. Procedures for these reviews are provided in the [Construction Project Administration Manual](#).

Minor projects, such as resurfacing, typically have two plans phase reviews. The two reviews consist of a decision-making phase review on the scope and intent of the project and a final plans phase review for constructability and biddability. One of these will be an onsite review.

On complex projects, plans phase reviews may be required at the Phase I, II and III stages and a final check at Phase IV. Two on-site reviews are typically required with one of these held early in the initial engineering phase.

FDM 901.3 outlines, in detail, the sequence for contract plans preparation and assembly required by the several design phase submittals. Also included in the chapter is information required to be presented on various plan sheets included with each submittal.

When the plans are in compliance with all phase review requirements and are considered final, they are to be submitted in accordance with the process described in **FDM 131**.

Modification for Non-Conventional Projects:

Delete **FDM 120.4** above and replace with the following:

120.4 Plans Phase Reviews

FDM 901.3.1 outlines, in detail, the sequence for contract plans preparation and assembly required by the design phase submittals.

120.4.1 Review of Non-Department-Owned Projects

Perform a Department review of those portions of non-Department-owned projects located on Department-owned Right of Way, regardless of funding source or owner. Perform the review to the same extent as reviews for Department projects to assure compliance with the Department's design criteria. See **FDM 121.18** and **FDM 121.12** for review requirements of non-Department-owned projects containing a structure located on, under or over Department-owned Right of Way.