

Turnpike Design Handbook Migration to the FDOT Design Manual

Brief summary and description of changes:

At the direction of leadership, the Turnpike Design Handbook (TDH) will be sunset in 2023 and all necessary design criteria will be migrated to the 2023 FDOT Design Manual (FDM). This effort was started by FTE in Fall 2021 and joined in January 2022 by the Roadway Design Office Criteria section. FTE identified TDH items that were potential FDM criteria and worked with Central Office subject matter experts to review the proposed FDM edits. Approved criteria were included in the 2023 FDM as appropriate. Only four TDH items will be listed in the FDM as specific to the Florida Turnpike; the others were adopted as statewide criteria or best practices. The FTE-specific items remaining are:

- 1. FDM 211.1 Requires FTE system to be constructed to “Interstate” standards, even though they are not classified as an Interstate. This is current practice in the TDH, so no cost impacts result from this change to the FDM.*
- 2. FDM 211.4 Requires use of 12-foot inside shoulders on certain FTE facilities. This is already done under the TDH, so no cost impacts result from inclusion in the FDM.*
- 3. FDM 240.2.1.4 Requires that diversions with construction speeds of 50 mph or higher be considered high speed facilities and designed accordingly. This is a current FTE practice in the TDH and its inclusion in the FDM does not represent a new cost.*
- 4. FDM 302.4 Requires inclusion of beginning and ending county as well as FTE mileposts. The 300 series is being replaced by the 900 series, and this FTE-specific criteria will be included in FDM 910. No cost increase is associated with this change.*

Are changes in line with promoting and making meaningful progress on improving safety, enhancing mobility, inspiring innovation, and fostering talent; explain how?

In general, the changes will promote safer roadways. The criteria migrated from the TDH are primarily associated with limited access roadways, but also affect lighting, ITS, and maintenance of traffic, with occasional interaction with other criteria. Some of these changes are more for operational efficiencies and best practices, but many of them also promote safer roadways through the design of high-speed limited access facilities.

What financial impact does the change have? Pay items and consultant fees.

The TDH criteria, with the exceptions noted above, can be implemented on the statewide system with minimal to no impact on pay items and fees, as they are generally best practices developed by FTE over the years. In the best case, the changes may even reduce costs slightly through greater efficiencies.

Which offices does the change impact?

Offices of Design, Construction, Program Management, Traffic Operations, and Maintenance will all be affected at some level by the TDH migration items.

What impacts to the Districts are anticipated?

The districts have reviewed and helped draft language to incorporate the TDH migration items. Once the TDH items become FDM criteria, the primary impacts will be (potentially) additional efficiencies resulting from best practices associated with limited access roadways.

Have District counterpart's comments been addressed?

Yes, these edits have been reviewed by the districts and their comments have been addressed.

Does the change shift risk and to who?

These changes do not shift risk.

What is the communication plan and schedule of events?

The Criteria Section of the Roadway Design Office has included review of the TDH migration in the annual review and update to the FDM. Internal reviews have been conducted with the C-Team, Roadway Design Office, Traffic Engineering and Operations, District Design Engineers, District Consultant Project Management Engineers, and the District Roadway Design Engineers.

The following is the schedule for implementation:

- *The 2023 FDM will be published on or before November 1, 2022*
- *Training webinars will be conducted on larger revisions prior to December 20, 2022*
- *The 2023 FDM will be effective for all projects beginning design in January 2023*