BDE PROCEDURE MEMORANDUM

NUMBER: 14-08

SUBJECT: BDE Manual Revision - Chapter 53

DATE: August 8, 2014

Chapter 53 of the BDE Manual has been revised to affirm that 3P projects are not allowed on Interstate highways. Please see Chapter 53 of the BDE Manual on-line to view the revisions.

Background

In the early 1990's, the Office of Planning and Programming had a "Pavement Preservation Policy (3P)" which implied that 3P projects were allowed on Interstate highways as it listed an Interstate resurfacing thickness. However, that policy did not address safety in 3P projects in that it stated, "Safety procedures relating to 3P are still under revision". That meant that Design Memorandum 90-29, "Guidelines for Upgrading Existing Interstate Routes for Safety Features" was still in effect. DM 90-29 required a review of roadside features to determine if hazards exist. For existing hazards, DM 90-29 would indicate whether the hazards should be redesigned to be made traversable, removed or relocated, shielded with an appropriate barrier, or were not cost-effective to redesign. That information is more or less now contained in Chapter 50 of the BDE Manual.

Most recently, BDE met with the FHWA and conferred with the District Offices to determine how Interstate resurfacing projects are being scoped. This confirmed that roadside safety is still being included in the scope and such practice is still appropriate considering the high priority placed on the Interstate system. As such, this revision to Section 53-4.03 is meant to explicitly state the 3P program is not to be used on Interstate highways and thus affirm historical/current practice.

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