



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division

March 13, 2013

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Salem, Oregon 97301
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In Reply Refer To:
HEO-OR

Mr. Mark Foster
Certification Program Manager
Oregon Department of Transportation
555 13th Street NE, Suite 2
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Local Public Agency Projects on Locally Owned National Highway System

Dear Mr. Foster:

As you are aware, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) expanded the National Highway System (NHS) to incorporate all principal arterials, which were previously not included, including facilities owned by Local Public Agencies. The original intent of ODOT's certification program was to review a Local Public Agency's procedures and to delegate authority to certified Local Public Agencies to administer Federal-aid projects that were off the National Highway System.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is aware that incorporation of these arterials has created the unintended consequence of prohibiting certified agencies from working on Federal-aid projects on the newly incorporated locally-owned principal arterials on the National Highway System. To rectify this situation, FHWA, through this letter, authorizes the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to allow certified Local Public Agencies to perform work, in areas in which they have been certified, on Federal-aid projects when the projects are on locally owned arterials that are part of the National Highway System. Additionally, ODOT may, at the discretion of FHWA and ODOT, allow certified Local Public Agencies to administer Federal-aid projects that are part of the National Highway system on ODOT-owned arterials subject to the Stewardship Agreement between FHWA and ODOT. ODOT shall assure that the projects on the NHS will follow AASHTO design standards or approved ODOT design standards regardless of funding source.

Sincerely,

Mike Morrow, PE
Field Operations Engineer

MM/rm