

This chapter is by those local agencies for whom the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) advertises and awards projects.

51.1 General Discussion

WSDOT is responsible for the proper expenditure of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds on local agency projects and will administer all construction activities to ensure compliance with applicable rules and that all documentation is in order.

WSDOT will assign a contract number after the PS&E has been approved and construction funds have been authorized. No FHWA reimbursement for construction can be made until a contract number has been assigned. Reimbursement will follow the method indicated in Chapter 22, The Local Agency Agreement.

Non-NHS projects will be administered in accordance with Chapter 52 of the LAG manual. NHS projects administered by WSDOT will be in accordance with the CA procedures. The Regional Administrator will select one of the following for administration of the project.

1. Assign a WSDOT Project Engineer and WSDOT staff.
2. Assign a WSDOT Project Engineer and a mix of WSDOT staff and local agency staff.
3. Assign a WSDOT Project Engineer and local agency staff.
4. Assign a WSDOT Project Engineer and a WSDOT-selected consultant's engineering staff (when available WSDOT and/or local agency staff will be used to supplement the consultant's staff).

The local agency will appoint a project coordinator to be the contact person for the Project Engineer.

51.2 Preconstruction Conference

As soon as practicable after a contract is awarded, the Project Engineer should arrange a conference with the contractor and shall notify the local agency project coordinator and Region Local Programs Engineer of the time and place.

Minutes of the conference should be taken and copies transmitted to the local agency, the contractor, and all other agencies and firms that were invited to the conference.

51.3 Changes and Extra Work

The Project Engineer will prepare the change order in accordance with departmental policy and the Interlocal Agreement.

If a change order or the accumulation of change orders will result in the final cost of the project exceeding the amount authorized in the Local Agency Agreement, the local agency must submit a supplement to the Local Agency Agreement in accordance with Chapter 22 of this manual prior to the contractor starting the change order work. The local agency should contact the Region Local Programs Engineer for assistance in preparing the supplement and to determine if FHWA funds are available for the overrun.