

For More Information

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Web Site

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Highways & Local Programs Division Technical Assistance

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The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Highways and Local Programs Division provides technical assistance to Local Agencies. The services provided are designed to assist Local Agencies in managing and maintaining their transportation programs with optimum ease and efficiency in order to benefit the traveling public, as well as commerce, across the state.



As the transportation needs of our state are multi-faceted and regionally unique, the services we provide offer a wide variety of expertise.

WSDOT offers assistance in the areas of:

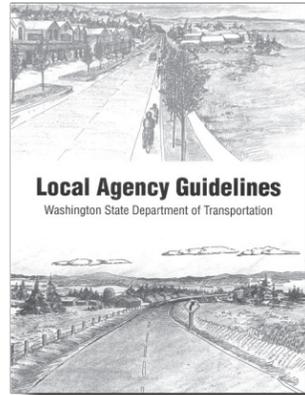
- Local Agency Guidelines (LAG)
- Bridge Technical Services
- Pavement Services
- Traffic Services
- Environmental Services
- Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP)
- Community Design Assistance
- Scenic Byways Program



Local Agency Guidelines (LAG)

What does the LAG Manual provide and why do we have it?

- Provides guidance on authorizing and administering FHWA funded projects.
 - Design
 - Right of Way
 - Environmental
 - Construction
 - Project Closeout



Bridge Technical Services

WSDOT's Bridge Engineering Services provides technical services and guidance to local agencies. The services include:

- Bridge Inspection and maintenance training and certification.
- Coordination of equipment for high cost Under Bridge Inspection.
- Bridge Scour and load rating evaluations.
- Provide guidance and direction for completion of various reports and studies to qualify projects for available funding.



Pavement Services

WSDOT provides the following pavement related technical services:

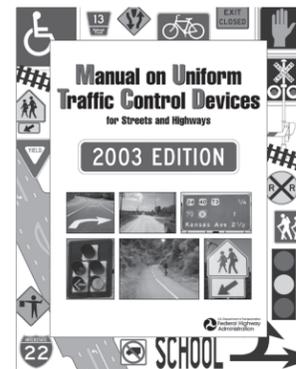
- Assistance instituting pavement management concepts.
- Pavement condition rating training.
- Assistance initiating pavement preservation strategies within Local Agencies.
- Pavement repair and maintenance techniques.
- Identifying and disseminating new pavement and contracting related technical improvements.
- Program support for the Northwest Pavement Management Association.



Traffic Services

The Traffic Services Branch provides traffic engineering assistance to Local Agencies. The types of assistance provided include:

- Assistance with applications of the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)*.
- Analyses of traffic records, including collision records to locate high collision areas.
- Review of traffic related ordinances on the use of an agency's road/street system.
- Analyses of locations to improve traffic safety.
- Analyses of traffic operations to determine level of service (LOS), including the determination of appropriate traffic control types.
- Support of the new City/County Corridor Safety Program (the program looks at low-cost, near-term solutions to traffic safety).



Environmental Services

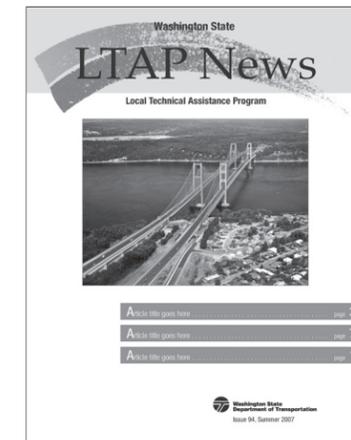
WSDOT's Environmental Office is responsible for ensuring that environmental documentation is accurate, complete, and ready for FHWA's review and approval. The Environmental staff serve as:

- The lead in WSDOT's review of Local Agency National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and other supporting environmental documentation.
- Coordinator with FHWA for environmental document approval.
- Technical resource for Region staff, Local Agencies, and consultants on environmental requirements.
- Liaison between FHWA, Local Agencies, tribes, and resource agencies to satisfy coordination requirements and approvals.
- Lead in developing training, policy, guidance, and resources for Local Agencies completing NEPA and other federal environmental requirements.
- Cultural resources.

Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP)

The LTAP Center offers Local Agencies an array of services such as:

- Training classes that range from "Applying for Funding" to "Construction Administration."
- Maintains a lending video/publication library.
- LTAP quarterly newsletter containing information regarding the latest technology news.
- Printed publications and training opportunities from LTAP, Transpeed, and other organizations related to the transportation industry.
- Works with Local Agencies in the areas of automated data collection and asset management.



Community Design Assistance

WSDOT offers technical assistance in transportation planning and policy development. We draw from research and experience to assist communities in the development of:

- Sub-area, corridor, and comprehensive plans.
- Zoning codes and ordinances that support efficient transportation and livable communities, particularly in the areas of street design and standards.
- Non-motorized transportation and transportation supportive land use policies.
- Planning, public participation, and visioning.
- Data and resources that may be useful for community inventory and analysis processes.
- Ability to identify state transportation projects early in the process that may affect a community's plan.

Scenic Byways Program

Washington's Scenic Byway Program is a network of over 3,000 miles of state, local, and tribal routes designated to preserve and enhance the unique scenic character found along Washington's transportation routes.

The State Scenic Byways Program offers technical assistance to scenic byway organizations in:

- Developing Corridor Management Plans.
- Explaining the Benefits of the National Scenic Byways (NSB) Program.
- Providing Technical Assistance with the NSB Grant Application Process.
- Liaison between the State and NSB Program.
- Assisting Byways seeking national designation.
- Developing Partnerships with Byway Stakeholders.

