

MAP-21, Functional Classification and NHS

<http://cms.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TDATA/rics/docs/Map21.pdf>

Description

Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) is the latest Transportation bill and was signed into law by President Barack Obama on July 6, 2012.

Among the many changes in MAP-21, is a new definition of the National Highway System (NHS). As of October 1st, 2012, the NHS will automatically be expanded to include all roads that have a federal functional classification (FC) of principal arterial.

Oregon Impact: About 600 miles of principal arterials—including many local roads—will be added to the NHS. These routes will be subject to federal design standards as the result of this designation and a number of new federal performance measures are required on all NHS. Local governments may want to consider reviewing FC designation of some marginal principal arterial routes. ODOT will work with FHWA to review additional routes that may need to be added to the NHS to provide connectivity between the pre-MAP-21 NHS and principal arterials newly added to it. FHWA guidance is anticipated by 12/31/12.

On September 5th, FHWA sent a memo asking states to provide a list of known needed changes on existing Principal Arterial roads. This list is due back to FHWA headquarters September 20th.

FHWA 9/5/12 Memo – [click here](#)

Q&A

- *Where are the new additions of PA's to NHS?* ODOT estimates approximately 600 miles of Principal Arterials will be added to the NHS. This impacts both State Highways and roads owned by Local Agencies. To see which roads will be added to the NHS system, ODOT has created a GIS application that shows both the current NHS system and the new additions.
 - [NHS Impact Analysis Map Tool](#)
 - [Draft example maps](#) (pdf)
- *Can Agencies change the Functional Classification of their roads?* Yes. Requests for a change to the Federal FC can be made by filling out the change request form found at the link below. However, please note that FHWA will be providing new guidance for FC and NHS by the end of this year.
- *What happens if we want to change a principal arterial after October 1st?* Requests that add or remove roads from the NHS will require additional approval by FHWA in Washington DC. FHWA guidance is still pending, however using current rules, FC and NHS changes that requested and approved by December 31 will be reflected in ODOT's required federal reporting for that calendar year.

Federal Functional Classification Change Request

To request a change to the Federal Functional Classification of a road, please fill out one of the following forms and submit to Charles McConnell at the contact info below.

- [Oregon Functional Classification Change Request Form \(.pdf\)](#)
- [Oregon Functional Classification Change Request Form \(.xls\)](#)

Milestones

- September 11th, 2012 – Initial requests for changes to principal arterials due to ODOT
- September 20th, 2012 – FHWA conditional approval of changes to principal arterials
- October 1, 2012 – MAP-21 “Phase in” of legislation begins and principal arterials become part of the NHS system
- *December 31, 2012 (anticipated date)* – Guidelines published for NHS and Functional Classification
- March 27, 2013 – New MPO’s must be designated by Governor to represent all new UZA’s
- April 1, 2013 – ODOT cutoff date for requesting Functional Classification changes before data freeze for reporting. Requests received between April 1 and June 15 will be processed after June 15.
- June 15, 2013 – HPMS 2012 Submittal includes the new NHS network
- June 15, 2013 – Plan due to FHWA for LRS on all public roads
- June 1, 2014 – Adjustments to the Federal Aid Urban boundaries approved.

Documents

Link to ODOT FC Guidelines - [coming soon](#)

Resources

[ODOT FC page](#)

[FHWA MAP-21 page](#)

[FHWA FC page](#) and [Updated guidance page](#)

[FHWA NHS page](#)

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