

*CHAPTER 1 - ORGANIZATION

The Executive Deputy Director of the Oregon Department of Transportation ("Agency") is responsible for, among other duties, the construction, improvement, maintenance, and operation of the State Highway system.

The Technical Services Manager of ODOT carries the title of "Chief Engineer" and is the "Engineer" referred to in the Standard Specifications and Contract.

Authorized representatives of the Chief Engineer, such as the Project Manager (PM), perform most responsibilities of the Engineer on construction Projects. The Executive Deputy Director and Chief Engineer have delegated some duties to other parties within the Agency. [Refer to [Chapter 3 - Delegation of Authority](#)]

The Construction Section performs, along with other tasks, staff-level functions related to the Construction program.

The Region Managers, through the Area Managers (AM's), PM's, and ODOT Local Agency Liaisons (LAL's) assure that all construction Contract obligations are fulfilled. The PM role can be filled by an ODOT PM, a Consultant, or a Local Agency. The PM may assign some duties and responsibilities to persons under his/her control.

1-1 CONSTRUCTION SECTION

The Construction Section, under the direction and supervision of the State Construction and Materials Engineer, is a part of the Technical Services Section of ODOT. The Construction Section, among other things, is responsible to assure proper and uniform administration of ODOT construction Contracts and to promote consistent, efficient, and expeditious administration of ODOT construction activities.

The Technical Services Manager/Chief Engineer, by Letter of Authority, has authorized the State Construction and Materials Engineer (SC&ME) to:

- Approve Construction Authorization overruns of up to an accumulative value of \$500,000 for Projects on the State Highway System; and
- Officially accept completed construction projects.

The Technical Services Manager/Chief Engineer, by Letter of Authority, has authorized the Contract Administration Engineer (CAE) to:

- Approve construction Authorization overruns of up to an accumulative value of \$500,000 for claim settlements.

* All marked text updated October 2013

In addition, the Technical Services Manager/Chief Engineer, by Letter of Authority has authorized the SC&ME and the CAE to approve progress and final payments on ODOT Construction Contracts, to approve all adjustments to Contract Time, and to approve all Contract Change Orders and claim settlements. [*Refer to [Chapter 3 - Delegation of Authority](#)*]. The SC&ME is authorized to act on behalf of the Chief Engineer in all matters of construction contract administration and to further delegate to such persons, as the SC&ME sees fit, those powers necessary to carry out that responsibility. That authority includes developing policies and procedures for quality control, inspection, and the acceptance and rejection of Materials.

The Construction Section, acting through the CAE has the authority to accept quality and quantity documentation for each Project, which indicates that the documentation and Materials meet the Contract requirements and established policies and procedures. This includes authorizing non-standard adjustments for non-specification Material or approving acceptance of documentation that does not meet Contract or accepted Agency guidelines.

Units within the Construction Section specialize in various areas such as: Pavements, Structure Services, Quality Assurance, Contract Administration, and Materials. Region Managers, AM's, PM's, LAL's and other Project personnel should consult with them for advice and direction on administering construction Contracts.

1-2 REGION MANAGER

Each Region Manager is responsible to the Executive Deputy Director for all work performed by ODOT employees in the Region. For construction Contract administration, the Region Manager is responsible to assure that construction Contract obligations are fulfilled and that Contract administration is performed according to established ODOT policies and procedures, including those described in this manual.

The responsibilities of the Region Manager, regarding construction Contracts, include:

- Assign the personnel necessary to assure proper Contract administration and construction engineering;
- Review and make recommendations to the Construction Section regarding overruns or increases in Project authorizations. Approve overruns for Projects on the State Highway System of up to \$500,000, if justified;
- Review and approve, if within authority, or make recommendations to the Construction Section regarding Contract Change Orders, adjustments to Contract Time, claim settlements, and other construction matters. [*Refer to [Chapter 3 - Delegation of Authority](#)*]

- Assure that the Work performed on, and the Materials incorporated into each Project comply with Contract requirements and are documented in accordance with ODOT's established policies and procedures, including those described in this manual;
- Assure that all Contract requirements, including workforce and small business equity programs and others, are properly fulfilled on all affected Contracts;
- Arrange for needed Project reviews and inspections to assure that the Project is constructed according to Contract requirements and achieves its intended purpose;
- Provide public information about construction Projects to the media, interested citizens, property owners, and other governmental agencies; and
- Assure that personnel assigned to the Region receive the training needed to accomplish their duties.

The Region Manager may assign one or more AM's to be responsible for the construction and Project delivery program in the Region.

The Region Manager may issue Letters of Authority, within limits established by the Project Delivery Leadership Team (PDLT), granting Region Project Delivery Managers, AM's, and PM's certain levels of approval pertaining to construction Contracts for overruns, changes, and time. Please review the Letters of Authority that apply to your Contract. LAL's do not have delegated authority.

1-3 AREA MANAGER (AM)

The AM manages and provides guidance, assistance, and advice to the PM and LAL. Through Project visits and other information, the AM assures that the PM fulfills the duties regarding administration of construction Contracts.

The AM also must assure that:

- The PM has adequate staff;
- The Project is adequately funded to complete the Work; and
- Good public relations exist at the Project level.

The AM, if the AM concurs with the PM's recommendation, will recommend that the Agency accept each Project once it is completed.

1-4 PROJECT MANAGER (PM)

The PM is the Agency's representative in relationships with the construction Contractor, the public, and others. The role of the PM may be assigned to an ODOT employee, a Local Agency employee, or a Consultant. In each of these cases, the responsibilities of the PM will be the same, however the delegated authorities will differ [Refer to [Chapter 2 – Project Funding/Contract Administration Responsibility](#)]

The PM is specifically responsible for the performance of construction Contract administration and may have other Project delivery activities, under the direction of the Region/Bridge Delivery Unit (BDU).

The PM's duties regarding construction Contracts include:

- Develop and supervise an efficient and effective organization, including the PM's staff and all other members of the Project team as needed, to help insure that each Project is constructed in accordance with Project Plans and Specifications;
- Assure that Contract administration is performed according to established ODOT policies and procedures, including those described in this manual.
- Assure that all Work, Materials used on the Project (whether produced on the Project or delivered from an outside source), and Project documentation conform to Contract requirements and established ODOT policies and practices. The PM must obtain the approval of the Construction Section for all price adjustments or for documentation that does not meet the Contract requirements or accepted ODOT guidelines; and
- Assure that all Contract requirements are fulfilled on all assigned construction Contracts including but not limited to the following:
 - Contract requirements are achieved.
 - Projects will be completed in a timely manner and within approved Project funding.
 - Disagreements are addressed and resolved at the lowest possible administrative level.
 - Field records and other documentation are proper and current.
 - Change Orders and adjustments of Contract Time are processed in a timely manner.
 - Workforce and small business equity programs and other requirements are fulfilled on all affected Contracts.

The PM has limited authority to change Plans and Specifications. If changes are needed, the PM must obtain proper approval, including involvement of the Construction Section, the Agency's [Technical Resource List](#), and the Professional of Record (POR) and/or designer when necessary.

On occasion an ODOT PM may fulfill other roles such as LAL.

1-5 PROJECT MANAGEMENT BY CONSULTANTS OR LOCAL AGENCIES

(a) Consultant Oversight by Agency PM

The Agency may engage the services of a Consultant to perform the PM role in administering a construction Contract. In this case, the Agency will assign an ODOT PM to administer the Consultant's contract with the Agency and to provide oversight of the Consultant's PM. The PM assigned to this role will report to the AM. If the Project is being administered by the Bridge Delivery Unit (BDU), the PM assigned to the oversight role will report to the BDU Manager.

The Consultant's PM for the Project has the same responsibilities as an ODOT PM in administering the construction Contract. However, there are certain authorities that have not been delegated to a Consultant's PM. The authorities to adjust Contract Time, approve Contract changes, and approve payments remain with the Agency. [*Refer to [Chapter 2 - Project Funding/Contract Administration Responsibility](#)*]

If the Consultant's PM does not administer the construction Contract according to the provisions of this manual, the construction Contract Specifications, and other requirements, Federal-Aid participation on those items may be withheld.

(b) ODOT Local Agency Liaison (LAL)

On Projects with matching local funds, the Agency may engage the services of a Consultant or Local Agency to provide a PM to administer the construction Contract. The LAL is the liaison between the Agency and the assigned PM on projects that have city, county or other local funding associated with the Project. The assigned PM could be a Local Agency employee or a Consultant hired by the Local Agency to administer the construction Contract.

The assigned Consultant or Local Agency PM for the Project has the same responsibilities as an ODOT PM. However, there are certain authorities of Project administration that have not been delegated to a Local Agency or a Consultant's PM. Authorities to adjust Contract time, approve Contract changes, and approve payments remain with the Agency. [*Refer to [Chapter 2 - Project Funding/Contract Administration Responsibility](#)*]

The Agency will assign a LAL to provide oversight and assistance in administration of the Project. The Agency has the responsibility for ensuring that the Project is administered in conformance with approved Plans and Specifications and that all processes conform to required standards and guidelines.

If the Local Agency or the Consultant does not administer the construction Contract according to the provisions of this manual, the construction Contract Specifications, and other requirements, Federal-Aid participation on those items may be withheld.

(c) ODOT Bridge Delivery Unit (BDU)

The BDU manages the OTIA III Bridge Program Management contract with Oregon Bridge Delivery Partners (OBDP). Construction contracts under this program are administered by OBDP PM's. A BDU PM is assigned to provide Agency oversight and assistance in administration of the Project, oversight of the Consultant's contract, and coordination with the Region in which the Project is located. The BDU Manager has the same delegated construction authorities as an AM, and provides management and construction oversight to the BDU PM. [*Refer to [Chapter 3 - Delegation of Authority](#)*]