



Office of the Secretary
PO Box 94245 | Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245
ph: 225-379-1200 | fx: 225-379-1851

Bobby Jindal, Governor
Sherri H. LeBas, P.E., Secretary

Date: October 1, 2015

From: April Renard, P.E., PTOE
Highway Safety Manager
Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802



To: DOTD Districts, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's), Regional Safety Coalitions, and Local Public Agencies in Louisiana

Re: Local Road Safety Program Changes

Dear Safety Partners:

This is to inform you of some recent changes pertaining to the **Local Road Safety Program (LRSP)** that will take effect on October 1, 2015.

The LRSP is one of DOTD's Local Public Agency programs, so you are encouraged to visit DOTD's LPA website for updated information and requirements for all LPA programs (http://wwwsp.dotd.la.gov/Inside_LaDOTD/Divisions/Administration/LPA/Pages/default.aspx).

The LRSP is administered by the DOTD Highway Safety Section under the umbrella of the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (www.destinationzerodeaths.com) which aims to reduce fatalities and serious injuries and is coordinated through the Louisiana Center for Transportation Safety (LCTS) (<http://www.ltrc.lsu.edu/lrap/lrsp.html>). All public roads are eligible under the Highway Safety Improvement Program and **LRSP projects may be 100% federally funded when eligible**. Projects that have a local funding commitment may be given higher weight than those without a local match. An annual total budget of \$5 million is allocated for LRSP projects, which all local public agencies will share through a project application process.

The LRSP encourages low-cost safety improvements through the systemic approach and developing parish safety plans is recommended. All project applications must be submitted with a **supporting data analysis** and are evaluated in a competitive manner. **The \$500,000 maximum per year per entity has been eliminated** and the following factors will be used to prioritize projects:

- Purpose and need of the project is safety
- Aligned with the Strategic Highway Safety Plan
- High potential for safety improvement (identified through a network screening process or parish safety plan)
- Systemic approach (high risk roadway features identified through data analysis)
- Implementation of FHWA Proven Safety Countermeasures (<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/provencountermeasures/>)
- Effectiveness of proposed project
- Roadway geometric issues
- Access management challenges



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- Pedestrian and Bike concerns
- Local stakeholder support (regional safety coalition, parish/city officials, etc.)
- Right of way and utilities impacts
- Benefit/cost ratio (emphasis placed on this factor when project costs exceed \$500,000)
- Consistent with plans for other nearby projects

Also, effective October 1, 2015 the contracting procedures for non-purchase projects have been modified. **The Local Public Agency (LPA) will no longer need to enter into an agreement with a consulting firm for engineering, construction, and inspection services.** The LRSP Project Managers will manage the consultant contracts through the normal DOTD process. This change should positively impact the timeline for project implementation. The LPA may still choose to do their own engineering, but this will be at their own cost. Be on the lookout for similar contracting changes for the Safe Routes to School Program.

We encourage you to take advantage of these changes to implement life saving projects on locally owned roads. The vision of the Louisiana Strategic Highway Safety Plan is to reach **Destination Zero Deaths** on all public roads and it will take all of us to get there. By working with the Districts, MPOs, Regional Safety Coalitions, and LPAs, we hope to create more partnerships to implement life-saving projects in our state (<http://www.towardzerodeaths.org/marketing/marketing-collateral/>).

If you would like to request technical assistance or have training needs to get you on the road to Destination Zero Deaths or if you have any questions, please contact Rudynah Capone at (225)767-9718 or Rudynah.capone@la.gov.

Yours in Safety,

April Renard, P.E., PTOE
DOTD Highway Safety Manager

Cc: Dan Magri, DOTD Highway Safety Administrator
Dortha Cummins, LCTS Director
Rudynah Capone, LCTS Program Manager
Marie Walsh, LTAP Director
Rick Holm, LRSP Project Manager
Mike Ricca, LRSP Project Manager
Tom Buckley, LRSP Engineer
Peter Allain, LRSP Engineer
Ann Wills, LPA Program Manager
Betsey Tramonte, FHWA Safety Specialist
Mary Stringfellow, FHWA Program Delivery Team Leader