

Introduction

The purpose of the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Project Development Manual (PDM) is to provide user-friendly guidance for the most common CDOT preconstruction processes required to develop a project. While other manuals, like the CDOT Roadway Design Guide, provide technical engineering guidance, the focal point of the PDM is CDOT preconstruction processes. This manual is intended to assist new engineers, designers, and consultants by:

- Identifying and describing the activities related to project development from conception to award.
- Establishing a uniform application of processes and procedures for department-wide implementation.

The PDM is organized to follow the structure of the now-retired CDOT Form 1048, Project Scoping/Clearance Record. The use of CDOT Form 1048 has been superseded by the implementation of sophisticated project management software. Nevertheless, maintaining the flow of the eight Project Development Manual sections as they have been historically ordered offers a logical and familiar framework to launch into a new era of CDOT project management.

The first two sections provide more generalized project management guidance. Sections three through seven cover key specialty considerations for project managers. The final section, Section 8, is intended to serve as a catch-all for additional topics that did not fit well into the previous sections.

This effort represents a rewrite of the entire PDM. Prior to the publication of this resource, those who contributed content related to the use of CDOT's latest project management software expressed a desire to add relevant PDM content as it becomes available. In addition to evolving to address this major topic, the PDM will continue to change to reflect other current CDOT practices.

Notification of future content releases will be issued via Design Bulletin. Users will be responsible for downloading the latest PDM version upon receiving these notifications, as no physical copies will be printed. Practitioners are encouraged to contact the Design Program Manager within the Project Development Branch with suggestions for content modifications and additions.

Acknowledgments

The last rewrite of the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Project Development Manual or PDM occurred in 2013. The Project Development Branch recognizes all Colorado Department of Transportation personnel who contributed to and reviewed material for the 2024 edition of the CDOT PDM.

Upon the release of this 2024 PDM, only two out of the thirty-three individuals acknowledged in the 2013 Project Development Manual rewrite remained at CDOT. While no writing can fill the void left by such a significant departure of experience, this document is intended to help preserve the most critical preconstruction institutional knowledge. Special recognition is due to these subject matter experts who served as either task force members, content contributors, or, in some instances, both.

Task Force Members:

Stacy DeWitt
Jerome Estes
Amin Fakhimalizad
Steven Griffin
Chad Hall
Hilary Hawthorne
Michele Kayen
Brenan Sellers
Kelley Tatman

Contributors:

Ben Acimovic	David Kosmiski
Dennis Blea	Wes Loetz
Brian Boydstun	Rob Martindale
Esayas Butta	Brian Metzger
Pamela Cornelisse	Celina Milner Leon
Bill Cornelius	Sarah Mitchell
Jeff Dawson	Matt Muraro
Stacy DeWitt	Michael Nusen
Jerome Estes	Jacob O'Brien
Jerad Esquibel	Melody Perkins
Amin Fakhimalizad	Andy Pott
Melissa Gende	Lisa Schoch
Roger Graham	Brenan Sellers
Steven Griffin	Jacob Shafer
Chad Hall	Jennifer Sparks

Contributors (Continued):

Troy Halouska
Jane Hann
Hilary Hawthorne
Bob Hays
Armando Henriquez
Scott Hoftiezer
Patrick Holinda
Todd Ipsen
Maggie John
Colleen King
Alana Koenig

Andrew Stratton
Ryan Sullivan-Hope
Kelley Tatman
David Thomas
David Ulane
Rose Waldman
Annelies van Vonno
Katherine Vlajcic
Craig Wieden
Chris Williams

