

SECTION A-7-"NO PLAN" AND "MINIMUM PLAN" PROJECTS

GENERAL CONCEPTS

Description

The "No Plan" and "Minimum Plan" concepts provide for the accomplishment by contract of the type improvements that would not require complete and detailed surveys and plans, and where the use of standard Specifications would be appropriate.

Generally, the improvements will consist of widening, grading, draining and stabilizing primary and secondary roads with relatively low traffic volumes by using engineering judgment. Bridge/Structure improvements will consist of drainage structures, "bridge only" rehabilitation and replacement projects with minimal roadway approach work, bridge repair/maintenance and other engineered non-complex structures in nature. These types of projects are to be accomplished by the "Accelerated Bridge Plan" concept as defined in IIM-S&B-84. "No Plan" and "Minimum Plan" concepts are to be used only for projects where significant reductions in the cost/time of engineering, contract development and construction can be experienced by using these concepts to obtain the quality of improvement necessary for the particular situation. To optimize the usefulness of these concepts, very careful initial study and project selection by the District staff is required. The Federal Highway Administration has concurred with the use of the "No Plan" and "Minimum Plan" concepts on selected projects with Federal Oversight.

"No Plan" projects are used when—minimal survey is required to accomplish engineering, right of way and construction stakeout, and no major hydraulic analysis or river mechanics studies are needed. Right of way may be acquired on "No Plan" projects without the preparation of official plans as long as the value of the acquisition of each parcel does not exceed \$5,000. If the anticipated acquisition value is greater than \$5,000 per parcel or eminent domain will be required to acquire property, the information outlined in the Code of Virginia §33.1-89 (see below) shall be developed and provided for each parcel on which a certificate is to be filed.* A "No Plan" contract contains an assembly of letter size sketches showing the location of the project with a typical cross section and estimated quantities.

"No Plan" road projects and "Accelerated Bridge Plan" projects may be put together in a common contract in the same manner that a minimum plan (M) or construction plan (C) road project is contracted together with a bridge (B) project. When this is done, finished grade control must be provided through the limits of the 500 year flood plain at each bridge or major drainage structure located within the "No Plan" road project that requires a hydraulic analysis. When the contract contains an "Accelerated Bridge Plan" project the structure plans may consist of 8½" X 11" sketches inserted into the assembly or separate full scale bridge plans.

* Rev. 3/11