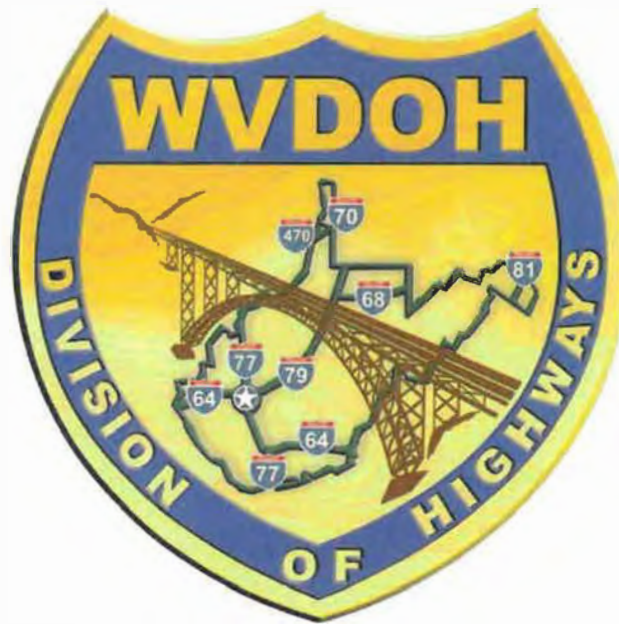


**West Virginia Division of Highways
Design-Build Program Experience**



**Report to the Joint Committee
on Government and Finance**

December 17, 2025



WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Division of Highways

1900 Kanawha Boulevard East • Building Five • Room 110
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0430 • (304) 558-3505

Stephen T. Rumbaugh, P. E.
Secretary of Transportation
Commissioner of Highways

December 17, 2025

The Honorable Randy Smith
West Virginia Senate President
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Building One, Room 229M
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

The Honorable Roger Hanshaw
West Virginia Speaker of the House
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Building One, Room 228M
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Joint Committee on Government and Finance
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Building One, Room 214W
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

President Smith, Speaker Hanshaw, and Committee Members:

Pursuant to W. Va. Code §17-2D-5, please see the enclosed report outlining all active design-build projects for the West Virginia Division of Highways in calendar year 2025.

Please contact my office for any questions or additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen T. Rumbaugh".

Stephen T. Rumbaugh, P.E.
Secretary of Transportation
Commissioner of Highways

STR: Sj

**Report to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance
Division of Highways Experience on Design-Build Projects
December 17, 2025**

This report has been prepared in accordance with West Virginia Code Chapter 17, Article 2D, Highway Design-Build Pilot Program (See Appendix A).

As per the legislation, “the Commissioner of the West Virginia Division of Highways may expedite the construction of projects by combining the design and construction elements of a highway or bridge project into a single contract as provided in this article. On or before January 15, 2014, and annually thereafter the commissioner shall prepare and submit to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance a written report evaluating the experience of the Division of Highways with each project, including whether the division realized any cost or time savings, the number and cost of change orders, the quality of work performed, the number of bids received and other issues the commissioner considers appropriate.”

WVDOH Design-Build Program – 2025

During 2025, the West Virginia Division of Highways (WVDOH) has used the Design-Build method of project procurement to award 3 projects. All three of the projects were from our traditional state and federal program.

The design-build project procurement method allows for the design phase and construction phase of a project to be completed by a team, usually a contractor paired with an engineering firm, which typically allows the project to be completed on an accelerated schedule because design and construction can occur concurrently. WVDOH has observed throughout the span of the pilot project that if all involved parties work towards completion congruently, the project should reach finality sooner when compared to traditional methods.

With the contractor having the design from the beginning, they can steer the final design to fit their company's individual strengths while providing a final product that meets the requirements of the original contract. WVDOH has observed the desired outcome with certain contracts like the ADA ramp contracts and bridge projects.

The quality of work performed has been comparable to the projects awarded through the traditional design-bid-build process. The number of contractors that bid on the design-build projects for the WVDOH has increased since the first design-build projects were awarded. The increased competition for projects has led to more competitive bids and a larger number of bids in general.

The Design-Build tool continues to be a valuable tool that WVDOH has at its disposal for expediting work and maintaining quality in design and construction. WVDOH has evaluated the overall outcome since the Legislature approved the use of design-build project delivery and is finalizing a Design Build manual for continuation of the program. The WVDOH intends to focus the use of Design Build on projects that have characteristics that result in an overall benefit to the traveling public.

Since July 1, 2019, WVDOH has been required to track contractual obligations of the design-build program instead of contract expenditures. This section of the code was changed to mirror the tracking procedures of federal funds.

Project List

PROJECT NAME	STATE PROJECT NUMBER	LETTING	LOW BID	# OF BIDS REC'D	# OF CHANGE ORDERS	CHANGE ORDER COST
REGULAR PROGRAM PROJECTS						
Fairmont Gateway Connector +5	U325-273-0.00 01	9/9/2025	\$825,985.00	3	0	\$0
University Ave ADA Ramps +2	S331-55-0.00 00	9/9/2025	\$1,328,800.00	3	0	\$0
Putnam County ADA Ramp Bundle	U340-ADARB-25 00	11/18/2025	\$1,441,837.77	2	0	\$0

***Projects listed with no change orders are not at the point to finalize the project which would reflect the final administrative change order. Zero dollar change orders are used to change the item of payment from Lump Sum to Dollars/Unit.**

**** It should be noted that all contracts, whether design-bid-build or design-build, will have at least one administrative change order to finalize and close out the project because of the software used to manage the schedule and funds for the projects.**

Appendix A

West Virginia Code §17-2D

Highway Design-Build Pilot Program

<https://code.wvlegislature.gov/17-2D/>