

Research in Progress

Best Practices for Cost Recovery

Research Need

MassDOT is looking to improve its cost recovery procedures for construction projects which will help to hold designers accountable for their mistakes, improve overall design quality, and save resources.

Goals/Objectives

The objective of the research is to gather and analyze information regarding best cost recovery practices used by State DOTs and to modify and enhance as appropriate existing MassDOT Cost Recovery Procedures previously revised in 2017.

This research will provide stakeholders with:

- Best cost recovery practices for design errors and item omissions in construction projects;
- Methods of preventing or reducing design errors and item omissions; and
- A tool or a set of recommendations to improve the design phase and pre-construction process.

The anticipated deliverables will include a set of flowchart guides that should help MassDOT to prevent or minimize errors and omissions and to improve overall design quality.

Project Information

This project is being conducted as part of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Research Program with funding from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) State Planning and Research (SPR) funds.

Principal Investigators:

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Performing Organization:

UMass Transportation Center

Project Champion:

Jerrell Riggins, MassDOT Highway

Project Start Date:

February 1, 2021

Expected Project Completion Date:

October 31, 2021

Methodology

In order to achieve project objectives, the Research Team is going to carry out the following tasks:

Task 1: Review of Current Cost Recovery Procedures and Practices. The research team will conduct a detailed literature search on past and current state DOTs' cost recovery practices and experiences with an emphasis on highway infrastructure construction projects.

Task 2: Information Analysis. The Research Team will analyze the collected data and prepare a synthesis of the best methods and practices of cost recovery.

Task 3: Reporting of Results. The Research Team will prepare and deliver the Final Report to MassDOT. The report will include a set of recommendations to improve current cost recovery procedures.

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