

CHANGE LOG

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN GUIDE



CHAPTER NO./TITLE 18. Plans, Specs and Estimates

EFFECTIVE DATE April 30, 2026

SECTION	CHANGE
General	Agency name has been updated to MassDOT throughout.
General	Various minor grammatical changes and nomenclature changes for consistency within this chapter and throughout the Guide.
General	Hyperlinks to external resources have been added.
General	Changed all Exhibit numbers to separate Table and Figure numbers.
18.1 Introduction	Minor language updates to reflect changes to the remainder of the chapter.
18.2 Construction Plans - Base Plans	Information on Base Plans has been removed from this chapter and replaced with a reference to the Field Survey Guidelines and Baseplan Requirements for Survey and Design Consultants.
18.2 Construction Plans - Final Plans	Final Plans - Introduction: Recreated introduction paragraph as one sentence explanation and what section includes. Minor word changes to criteria section. Added figures describing what color to plot each different utility type. Most requirements for final plans have been moved to a set of newly developed Sample Plans, available in .pdf format in three volumes, covering drafting guidance previously included in this section and incorporating guidance for the use of the MassDOT CAD Standards when preparing plans.
18.3 Decree Plans	There has been no update to this section.
18.4 Layout Plans	Updated to conform to the Layout/Easement Plan Preparation Guidelines.
18.5 Right of Way Plans	Information on Right of Way Plans has been removed from this chapter and replaced with a reference to the Plan Preparation Guidelines for Consultants Preparing Right-of-Way Plans.
18.6 Specifications	New content in this section has been added to describe the order of precedence of contract documents and Quantity Detail Sheets. Additional detail and clarification has been added throughout.
18.7 Estimates	New content in this section has been added to define the structure of an estimate prepared by a Consultant, updated guidance on funding sources, links to other existing MassDOT estimate preparation guidance (the CPE and the Guide to Estimating Highway Projects), new language regarding force account agreements, allowance items, and to reflect the latest standards for an Office Calculation Book.