

The Agency

Department of Transportation

Agency Operations

The Department of Transportation, under the leadership of a director appointed by the Governor, is responsible for the maintenance and construction of a quality infrastructure which reflects the transportation needs of the citizens of the State. These tasks include supervision of all planning, design, construction and upgrading activities associated with the implementation of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The department has three major functional components: Central Management, Management and Budget, and Infrastructure.

Prior to FY 1994, funding was provided through general revenue, dedicated receipts, and federal aid. In FY 1994, the Intermodal Surface Transportation Fund (ISTF) was established to finance all of the department's personnel, operating, and capital improvement expenditures, as well as highway debt service, Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) operating funds and elderly transportation services. State funding for transportation services is provided by earmarking 29 cents of the state per gallon gasoline tax.

The Department of Transportation is responsible for the maintenance of approximately 3,300 lane miles of highway and 1,153 bridges, as well as the inspection of all bridges, both municipal and state, that are greater than 20 feet in length. Other responsibilities include planning, development, and implementation of transit, rail, water, and bicycle/pedestrian transportation projects. Maintenance is funded by the Rhode Island Transportation Fund. Road and bridge capital improvements are financed by federal funds (with an average share of 80 percent), and the remaining share is financed by state bond issues. The Infrastructure Program is funded by the Federal Highway Administration under the authority of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991.

Agency Objectives

To maintain and provide a safe, efficient, environmentally, aesthetically and culturally sensitive intermodal transportation network that offers a variety of convenient, cost-effective mobility opportunities for people and the movement of goods supporting economic development and improved quality of life.

Statutory History

In 1970, the department assumed the responsibilities of the Department of Public Works, Registry of Motor Vehicles, and Council on Highway Safety. The Director also sits on the boards of the Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority (responsible for the operations of the Mount Hope and Newport Bridges) and the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (the statewide bus system). R.I.G.L 42-13 establishes the organization and functions of the department. R.I.G.L. 31-36-20 establishes the Intermodal Service Transportation Fund (Rhode Island Transportation Fund). Article 21 of P.L. 1994, Chapter 70 transferred the Registry of Motor Vehicles to the Department of Administration.

The Budget

Department of Transportation

	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2009 Revised	FY 2010 Recommended
Expenditures by Program					
Central Management	9,436,237	8,971,167	19,287,781	14,616,170	19,109,271
Management and Budget	3,428,282	760,190	2,162,403	1,351,936	1,186,330
Infrastructure - Engineering	321,236,983	257,674,927	305,774,060	330,409,902	421,244,494
Infrastructure - Maintenance	34,585,281	38,030,278	42,802,136	46,682,241	41,743,129
Total Expenditures	\$368,686,783	\$305,436,562	\$370,026,380	\$393,060,249	\$483,283,224
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	105,008,499	92,877,329	96,840,639	93,538,681	99,517,682
Operating Supplies and Expenses	48,807,171	33,785,247	44,417,197	54,987,895	62,458,687
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	5,634,155	14,071,082	26,981,963	25,005,420	33,884,283
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$159,449,825	\$140,733,658	\$168,239,799	\$173,531,996	\$195,860,652
Capital Purchases and Equipment	116,518,352	74,282,993	113,360,677	127,600,346	191,125,942
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	92,718,606	90,419,911	88,425,904	91,927,907	96,296,630
Total Expenditures	\$368,686,783	\$305,436,562	\$370,026,380	\$393,060,249	\$483,283,224
Expenditures By Funds					
Federal Funds	231,342,605	189,355,117	263,437,353	286,069,476	381,348,383
Restricted Receipts	1,451,818	(160,669)	1,447,246	1,450,000	1,500,000
Other Funds	135,892,360	116,242,114	105,141,781	105,540,773	100,434,841
	\$368,686,783	\$305,436,562	\$370,026,380	\$393,060,249	\$483,283,224
FTE Authorization	786.7	773.7	729.2	691.2	780.2
Agency Measures					
Minorities as a Percentage of the Workforce	9.4%	9.6%	9.6%	9.6%	9.6%
Females as a Percentage of the Workforce	20.7%	20.6%	20.6%	20.6%	20.8%
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of the Workforce	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	0.9%

The Program

Department of Transportation Central Management

Program Operations

The program consists of seven functional units:

The Office of the Director is responsible for providing vision, leadership and policy development for the Department of Transportation in order to ensure that the State's public transportation services are safe, efficient, environmentally prudent, and consumer oriented.

The Legal Office is responsible for providing advice and representation and other assistance in relation to program development, property management and acquisition, contract finalization, litigation, and arbitration for the department.

The Office of Human Resources is responsible for administering labor relations, human resource development and training, equal opportunity programs, and payroll and fringe benefits programs.

The Office on Highway Safety, through funding provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), develops and coordinates programs with local, state and federal agencies to reduce highway deaths and injuries, and to promote public awareness of the correlation between highway safety and alcohol and substance abuse through the development and distribution of educational information.

The Office of Communications is the spokesperson for the department handling all media inquiries, speaking engagements, legislative correspondence and special events and managing the Department of Transportation website: www.dot.state.ri.us.

The Real Estate Section acquires real estate necessary for highway and other construction projects through appraisals, titles, leases, easements and property relocation assistance.

Internal Audit is responsible for internal controls and independent departmental audits

Program Objective

To maintain a system of centralized program services, which promotes optimum utilization of departmental resources consistent with all federal, state and departmental policies, objectives, and procedures.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 42-13 governs the Department of Transportation.

The Budget

Department of Transportation Central Management

	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2009 Revised	FY 2010 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	3,939,992	3,005,171	2,233,462	2,221,957	2,186,112
Operating Supplies and Expenses	979,661	921,949	1,087,174	1,016,713	995,900
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	808,169	699,505	5,954,906	6,697,000	6,680,949
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$5,727,822	\$4,626,625	\$9,275,542	\$9,935,670	\$9,862,961
Capital Purchases and Equipment	2,998,108	4,165,656	10,012,239	4,680,500	9,246,310
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	710,307	178,886	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$9,436,237	\$8,971,167	\$19,287,781	\$14,616,170	\$19,109,271
Expenditures By Funds					
Federal Funds	5,834,596	7,298,004	17,371,666	12,705,548	17,203,537
Other Funds	3,601,641	1,673,163	1,916,115	1,910,622	1,905,734
Total Expenditures	\$9,436,237	\$8,971,167	\$19,287,781	\$14,616,170	\$19,109,271
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

The Program

Department of Transportation Management and Budget

Program Operations

The Management and Budget Program consists of seven functional units:

The Office of Contracts and Specifications develops and monitors all preliminary engineering and construction contracts, and negotiates consultant engineering fees and staff hours for engineering projects. Management Information Services (MIS) is responsible for the automated telephone system and computer related services which includes network communication, custom programming, software installation, computer purchases, inventory maintenance, on-line help desk, Geographic Informational Systems (GIS) data integration/mapping and the management of consultants developing custom applications. Financial Management is responsible for the preparation and processing of all fiscal materials. The Assistant Director serves as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) with oversight over all financial transactions. The Office is charged with developing overall agency policies, guidelines, and procedures for budget administration, financial reporting, and financial management systems. Fleet Operations is responsible for development and enhancement of the department's vehicle fleet. Specific functions include continual monitoring and review of vehicle maintenance costs and records for improved vehicle history and analysis, and vehicle maintenance and inspections. Other functions include the supervision of the Vehicle & Safety Program. The Office of Business and Community Resources is charged with overseeing the department's role in all Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) programs, which includes supportive services, On-The-Job Training (OJT), the Transportation and Civil Engineering program (TRAC), and other educational, training, and outreach programs targeted to underrepresented groups in the Rhode Island Transportation Industry. External Audit performs routine and special audits as required in such areas as consultant fringe benefits, overhead rates, and final payments. The Federal Programs Section is chiefly responsible for managing all federally reimbursable costs attributed to the Highway Program and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). It also administers the annual Federal Highway Program as it relates to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Program Objective

To provide the necessary support staff and systems needed to ensure efficient program services.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L 42-13 governs the Department of Transportation which outlines its responsibilities and organization. Rhode Island General Laws Title 37 Chapters 5, 12, 12.1, 13 and 13.1 define state rules on contractors.

The Budget

Department of Transportation Management and Budget

	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2009 Revised	FY 2010 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	3,173,502	899,400	2,189,170	1,198,287	1,122,157
Operating Supplies and Expenses	307,043	(229,865)	(78,568)	15,422	(28,129)
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	92	-	-	-	-
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$3,480,637	\$669,535	\$2,110,602	\$1,213,709	\$1,094,028
Capital Purchases and Equipment	(52,355)	90,655	51,801	138,227	92,302
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$3,428,282	\$760,190	\$2,162,403	\$1,351,936	\$1,186,330
Expenditures By Funds					
Other Funds	3,428,282	760,190	2,162,403	1,351,936	1,186,330
Total Expenditures	\$3,428,282	\$760,190	\$2,162,403	\$1,351,936	\$1,186,330
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

The Program

Department of Transportation Infrastructure Engineering

Program Operations

Infrastructure Engineering is headed by the Transportation Development Division through the Office of the Chief Engineer and consists of Construction Management, Design, Traffic Management, Environmental and Intermodal Planning, and Capital Programming. Transportation Development is responsible for the development of projects, from initial scoping through construction and is charged with the complete design of capital projects undertaken by the Department. The Construction Management Section includes the Materials and Survey Units and is responsible for overseeing the statewide highway reconstruction and bridge rehabilitation/replacement program totaling over \$100 million. The Materials Unit is responsible for testing and verifying that construction materials are in compliance with established standards. The Central Surveying functions include construction layout and the dissemination of survey information. The Engineering Section or Design is responsible for maintaining a comprehensive transportation program, as well as environmental assessments and other preliminary engineering required for receipt of federal funds for the construction and reconstruction of Rhode Island's state-owned and maintained highways, bridges, intersections, and bicycle and pedestrian paths. Traffic Management is responsible for managing the department's database and information management systems as they relate to traffic research. The Environmental and Intermodal Planning Unit is charged with developing an integrated transportation system that provides convenient transition between mode shifts through the development and implementation of planning projects in the areas of rail, water, bicycle/pedestrian transportation, and transit. The unit is also responsible for strengthening the department's compliance efforts with respect to environmental issues. The Capital Programming Unit develops and monitors the Capital Transportation Program to meet the transportation needs of the State's citizens and ensure successful implementation of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Program Objectives

To develop Rhode Island's roads and bridges into an advanced, state-of-the-art ground transportation system. To maintain and improve public safety, convenience, mobility, and service.

To promote a balanced Intermodal Transportation System through the use of buses, cars and van pooling, light freight/commuter rail, and water transportation.

To develop an Intelligent Vehicle Highway Reporting System to provide a more efficient highway program that will conform to the requirements of the Clean Air Act.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 42-13 establishes the Maintenance and Public Works Division and defines its role. R.I.G.L. 24-8 defines the duties of the department regarding the construction and maintenance of state roads. Title 37 Chapters 6.1, 6.2, and 7 defines state rules on land acquisition and property management.

The Budget

Department of Transportation Infrastructure Engineering

	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2009 Revised	FY 2010 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	80,976,231	72,145,144	73,705,805	73,235,122	79,497,230
Operating Supplies and Expenses	31,197,083	13,080,067	22,675,956	27,677,037	41,388,970
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	4,690,215	13,321,327	20,881,081	17,861,420	26,752,834
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$116,863,529	\$98,546,538	\$117,262,842	\$118,773,579	\$147,639,034
Capital Purchases and Equipment	112,965,155	69,362,364	100,085,314	120,183,416	177,708,830
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	91,408,299	89,766,025	88,425,904	91,452,907	95,896,630
Total Expenditures	\$321,236,983	\$257,674,927	\$305,774,060	\$330,409,902	\$421,244,494
Expenditures By Funds					
Federal Funds	225,508,009	182,057,113	246,065,687	273,363,928	364,144,846
Restricted Receipts	1,451,818	(160,669)	1,447,246	1,450,000	1,500,000
Other Funds	94,277,156	75,778,483	58,261,127	55,595,974	55,599,648
Total Expenditures	\$321,236,983	\$257,674,927	\$305,774,060	\$330,409,902	\$421,244,494
Program Measures					
Vehicle Crash Fatalities per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled	0.94	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80
Linear Feet of State Sidewalk Retrofitted to Conform to Americans with Disabilities Act Regulations	35,000	33,450	25,000	25,000	15,000
Vehicle Crash Injuries per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled	15.31	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4
Percentage of State Roadways and Sidewalks Swept Annually	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Percentage of State Roadway Miles Whose Pavement is Rated Good or Excellent	46.0%	41.0%	40.0%	40.0%	39.0%
Number of Rhode Island Bridges Over 20 Feet Listed as Structurally Deficient	20.3%	21.2%	21.5%	21.5%	21.8%

The Program

Department of Transportation Infrastructure Maintenance

Program Operations

The Division of Maintenance is responsible for the routine maintenance of approximately 3,300 lane miles of state highways, 1,153 bridges, and associated roadsides and highway appurtenances. The Highway and Bridge Maintenance Section is comprised of several units that address the various aspects of the highway system. The units include Administration, Automotive, Business Office, Employee Relations Office, Engineering and Support, and Field Operations. Administration is responsible for supervision, planning, and administration for the section. The Automotive section is responsible for the maintenance and repair of the section's fleet of heavy trucks and other equipment. The Business Office administers purchasing, invoicing, and payroll activities and coordinates with contract administration to ensure proper recording of subcontractor documentation. The Employee Relations Office is responsible for all personnel matters of the Highway and Bridge Maintenance Section including, but not limited to, labor relations, Workers' Compensation, and training. The Engineering and Support Office is multi-faceted and is responsible for the following: review and resolution of drainage problems, issuance and inspection of work permits, contract preparation, maintenance of guardrails, fences, and highway attenuators along the state highway, maintenance of highway appurtenances including signs, traffic signals, and highway illumination, processing of pothole, state fleet and other tort claims, and state-wide beautification projects. Field Operations is comprised of a field staff which operates from satellite facilities statewide and is involved with sweeping, litter collection, snow plowing, and bridge, pothole, guardrail repairs, and other roadway maintenance tasks.

Program Objectives

To provide for the safe, comfortable, aesthetically pleasing, and efficient movement of people and commerce along the State's highway system. Our objective is met by providing a well-maintained system of highways with their associated pavements, drainage systems, roadsides, bridges, and traffic-related appurtenances.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 42-13 establishes the Maintenance and Public Works Division and defines their roles.
R.I.G.L. 24-8 defines the duties of the department regarding the maintenance of state roads.
R.I.G.L. 24-9 establishes an emergency storm account and authorizes the Director to take the action necessary to respond to emergency situations.

The Budget

Department of Transportation Infrastructure Maintenance

	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2009 Revised	FY 2010 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	16,918,774	16,827,614	18,712,202	16,883,315	16,712,183
Operating Supplies and Expenses	16,323,384	20,013,096	20,732,635	26,278,723	20,101,946
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	135,679	50,250	145,976	447,000	450,500
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$33,377,837	\$36,890,960	\$39,590,813	\$43,609,038	\$37,264,629
Capital Purchases and Equipment	607,444	664,318	3,211,323	2,598,203	4,078,500
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	600,000	475,000	-	475,000	400,000
Total Expenditures	\$34,585,281	\$38,030,278	\$42,802,136	\$46,682,241	\$41,743,129
Expenditures By Funds					
Other Funds	34,585,281	38,030,278	42,802,136	46,682,241	41,743,129
Total Expenditures	\$34,585,281	\$38,030,278	\$42,802,136	\$46,682,241	\$41,743,129
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA