

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 operates within 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 State of Rhode Island established an Intermodal Surface Transportation Fund (ISTF) to finance all of the department's personnel, operating, and capital improvement expenditures, as well as highway debt service, RIPTA operating funds and elderly transportation services. State funding for these operations is provided by earmarking 28.0 cents of the state per gallon gasoline tax in FY 2006.

The Department of Transportation is responsible for the maintenance of over 1,300 miles of highways and over 775 bridges, and the inspection of all bridges, both municipal and state, that are greater than 20 feet in length. 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 established 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 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures by Program				
Central Management	7,434,469	5,271,667	12,457,866	13,298,371
Management and Budget	1,129,069	1,882,278	1,967,694	2,067,463
Infrastructure - Engineering	240,789,450	240,778,089	258,449,555	251,112,984
Infrastructure - Maintenance	44,742,022	39,908,629	41,449,276	42,319,590
Total Expenditures	\$294,095,010	\$287,840,663	\$314,324,391	\$308,798,408
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	100,413,102	96,356,925	93,705,247	94,516,963
Other State Operations	63,215,328	57,467,937	24,839,346	25,045,991
Aid To Local Units Of Government	1,076,955	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	3,540,781	1,734,977	50,405,164	51,002,924
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$168,246,166	\$155,559,839	\$168,949,757	\$170,565,878
Capital Improvements	125,848,844	123,598,196	94,005,271	86,825,917
Capital Debt Service	-	8,682,628	51,369,363	51,406,613
Total Expenditures	\$294,095,010	\$287,840,663	\$314,324,391	\$308,798,408
Expenditures By Funds				
Federal Funds	163,081,687	137,100,477	207,381,293	207,852,520
Restricted Receipts	25,860,444	30,780,882	6,379,851	6,000
Other	105,152,879	119,959,304	100,563,247	100,939,888
Total Expenditures	\$294,095,010	\$287,840,663	\$314,324,391	\$308,798,408
FTE Authorization	820.7	812.7	811.7	811.7
Agency Measures				
Minorities as a Percentage of the Workforce	9.0%	8.9%	9.1%	9.2%
Females as a Percentage of the Workforce	20.0%	20.2%	20.0%	20.0%
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of the Workforce	1.9%	1.9%	1.9%	1.9%

The Program

Department of Transportation Central Management

Program Operations

The program consists of eight functional units:

The Office of the Director is responsible for providing vision, leadership and policy development for the Department of Transportation. These responsibilities help to ensure that the State's transportation services to the public are safe, efficient, environmentally prudent, and consumer oriented. The Legal Office is responsible for providing advice and legal representation for the department. It works with program administrators to establish policies, procedures and regulations that enable them to carry out the mandates and program objectives in a manner that is lawful, cost-effective, and equitable. The Human Resources Office is responsible for employee relations, labor relations, human resource development, the affirmative action program, staff development and training programs, and the processing of documentation pertaining to personnel actions. The Governor's Office on Highway Safety 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. Public Affairs assists the department by developing informational materials for active transportation projects. Informational brochures are prepared and public workshops are undertaken whenever necessary to better communicate the effects of various transportation related projects. Property and Right of Way 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 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 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	3,443,250	3,443,082	4,297,284	4,395,002
Other State Operations	3,354,080	859,204	1,678,625	1,826,412
Aid To Local Units Of Government	276,389	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	243,292	885,668	6,373,450	6,968,450
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$7,317,011	\$5,187,954	\$12,349,359	\$13,189,864
Capital Improvements	117,458	83,713	108,507	108,507
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$7,434,469	\$5,271,667	\$12,457,866	\$13,298,371
Expenditures By Funds				
Federal Funds	4,183,620	2,105,198	8,956,810	9,608,487
Other	3,250,849	3,166,469	3,501,056	3,689,884
Total Expenditures	\$7,434,469	\$5,271,667	\$12,457,866	\$13,298,371
Program Measures				
Number of Vehicle Accident Fatalities per 100,000 Persons in the State's Population	10.2	9.4	9.2	8.9
Vehicle Crash Injuries per 100,000 Persons in the State's Population	1,384.6	1,343.1	1,316.2	1,276.7

The Program

Department of Transportation Management and Budget

Program Operations

The Management and Budget Program consists of six functional units:

Contract Administration develops and monitors all preliminary engineering and construction contracts, and negotiates consultant engineering fees and staff hours as they relate to engineering projects.

Management Information Services provides data processing services (systems analysis, programming and computer operations) to all areas of the department to include such systems as progress payments, federal reimbursements and office automation functions.

Financial Management is responsible for the preparation and processing of all fiscal materials. This includes the development of the department's operating budget as well as the processing of all federally financed program documents.

Facilities Management is responsible for the development, supervision and maintenance of a comprehensive management program for the upkeep and safety of the vehicle fleet used by the department. Additionally, the unit is responsible for the coordination of the purchase and disposal of vehicles as required, and to function in a technical capacity regarding vehicle maintenance.

The Civil Rights Office is responsible for ensuring that mandated goals are achieved and that the practices and principles of affirmative action and equal employment opportunity are carried out.

External Audit performs routine and special audits as required in such areas as consultant fringe benefits, overhead rates, and final payments.

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 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	1,790,778	1,951,425	1,787,305	1,884,853
Other State Operations	547,763	612,881	979,219	997,610
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	1,564	1,686	-	-
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$2,340,105	\$2,565,992	\$2,766,524	\$2,882,463
Capital Improvements	(1,211,036)	(683,714)	(798,830)	(815,000)
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$1,129,069	\$1,882,278	\$1,967,694	\$2,067,463
Expenditures By Funds				
Other	1,129,069	1,882,278	1,967,694	2,067,463
Total Expenditures	\$1,129,069	\$1,882,278	\$1,967,694	\$2,067,463
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA

The Program

Department of Transportation Infrastructure Engineering

Program Operations

Engineering consists of Design, which is responsible for maintaining a continuing comprehensive transportation program, as well as environmental assessments and other preliminary engineering required for receipt of federal funds. Research and Technology is responsible for product research and technological advances. Construction is responsible for overseeing the statewide highway reconstruction and bridge rehabilitation/replacement program totaling over \$100 million annually. Materials is responsible for testing and verification that construction materials are in compliance with established standards. Intermodal Transportation Planning is engaged in the promotion of mass transit systems and the development of intermodalism as a primary focus to offer affordable transportation to the citizens and businesses of the State. This division operates independently as a primary planning organization. Strategic Planning coordinates the scheduling of project implementation with the availability of federal funds to provide fiscal policy in overseeing the financing of the Construction Program. Other sections include Survey and Final Review.

Program Objectives

To develop Rhode Island's roads and bridges into an advanced, state-of-the-art ground transportation system. 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 with 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 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram				
Infrastructure - Engineering	7,199	51,913	-	-
Infrastructure - Maintenance	240,782,251	240,726,176	258,449,555	251,112,984
Total Expenditures	\$240,789,450	\$240,778,089	\$258,449,555	\$251,112,984
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	79,271,994	74,985,406	70,864,231	70,635,367
Other State Operations	35,321,223	35,502,921	1,419,051	1,434,518
Aid To Local Units Of Government	800,566	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	3,215,309	754,499	43,931,955	43,934,715
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$118,609,092	\$111,242,826	\$116,215,237	\$116,004,600
Capital Improvements	122,180,358	120,852,635	90,864,955	83,701,771
Capital Debt Service	-	8,682,628	51,369,363	51,406,613
Total Expenditures	\$240,789,450	\$240,778,089	\$258,449,555	\$251,112,984
Expenditures By Funds				
Federal Funds	158,898,067	134,995,279	198,424,483	198,244,033
Restricted Receipts	25,860,444	30,780,882	6,379,851	6,000
Other	56,030,939	75,001,928	53,645,221	52,862,951
Total Expenditures	\$240,789,450	\$240,778,089	\$258,449,555	\$251,112,984
Program Measures				
Cumulative Percentage Reduction of Work Site Injuries	18.0%	18.0%	19.0%	20.0%
Linear fee of State Sidewalk Retrofitted to Conform to Americans with Disabilities Act Regulations	81,255	75,000	100,000	100,000

The Program

Department of Transportation Infrastructure Maintenance

Program Operations

The Division of Maintenance is responsible for the routine maintenance of approximately 1,100 miles of state highways, 834 bridges, along with associated roadsides and highway appurtenances. The Maintenance Division is comprised of several units that address the various aspects of the highway system. The units are Administration, Bridge, Business Office, Employees Relations, Engineering, Field Operations, Safety Barriers, Traffic Maintenance, Claims Section, Environmental Section, and Roadside Section.

Program Objectives

The objective of the Division of Maintenance is 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 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	15,907,080	15,977,012	16,756,427	17,601,741
Other State Operations	23,992,262	20,492,931	20,762,451	20,787,451
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	80,616	93,124	99,759	99,759
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$39,979,958	\$36,563,067	\$37,618,637	\$38,488,951
Capital Improvements	4,762,064	3,345,562	3,830,639	3,830,639
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$44,742,022	\$39,908,629	\$41,449,276	\$42,319,590
Expenditures By Funds				
Other	44,742,022	39,908,629	41,449,276	42,319,590
Total Expenditures	\$44,742,022	\$39,908,629	\$41,449,276	\$42,319,590
Program Measures				
Percentage of State Roadways and Sidewalks Swept Annually (By July 1)	70.0%	80.0%	85.0%	80.0%
Percentage of State Roadway Miles Whose Pavment is Rated as Good or Excellent	72.0%	74.5%	77.0%	79.5%
Number of Rhode Island Bridges Listed as Structurally Deficient	202	195	185	175