

DIVISION OF LOCAL ASSISTANCE



CONSTRUCTION OVERSIGHT INFORMATION NOTICE



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Welcome to the COIN!

This is the sixth issue of Caltrans Local Assistance Program Construction Oversight Information Notice, or “COIN” for short. These short, single-topic bulletins are intended to provide outreach information and guidance to local agencies on issues pertaining to the construction of Federal-aid projects. They will cover a wide variety of subjects, including discussions of findings resulting from process reviews by Caltrans and/or FHWA, changes in procedures or regulations, reminders of existing procedures or best practices, and other timely information. The goal is to ensure proper and timely delivery of Federal-aid projects.

OUR SIXTH TOPIC: FEDERAL WAGE RATES IN FEDERAL-AID CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS

Reference “Division of Local Assistance Office Bulletin 09-03 – Using the Internet for Federal Wage Rates.” This Office Bulletin states that during the **advertising period**, applicable federal wage rates no longer need to be physically included in the advertising package for local agency Federal-aid contracts. However, if not physically included in the advertising package, applicable federal wage rates must be referenced with an Internet Website address where they can be found. Any revisions to applicable federal wage rates, which must be made up to 10 days before bid opening, shall be identified by issuance of an addendum with the corresponding Internet Website address of where revisions can be found.

However, it cannot be over emphasized that the final contract documents signed by the local agency and the contractor, including subcontracts, must still physically contain the applicable federal wage rates as revised by addendums, if any such addendums were issued.

In the event the signed contract documents do not physically contain the applicable federal wage rates as revised by addendums, then a change order to the contract shall be issued to physically incorporate applicable federal wage rates.

Reminder - If your local agency receives **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)** funds for a federal-aid project, federal wage rates are required to be included in all **ARRA** federal-aid contracts, as provided above, regardless of project location or contract dollar amount.