

South Carolina Department of Transportation
Engineering Directive Memorandum

Number: 52

Primary Department: Chief Engineer for Planning, Location, and Design

Referrals: South Carolina Code of Laws Sections 57-1-370 and 57-1-460

Subject: Interstate Rehabilitation Project Selection Process

Act 114 of 2007 established changes to the South Carolina Code of Laws, adding Sections 57-1-370 and 57-1-460, which require the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) to promulgate new regulations describing its project selection process. This directive provides details of the engineering ranking process for interstate rehabilitation using the criteria approved by the SCDOT Commission (Commission) at its July 18, 2007 meeting. The engineering ranking of projects may be considered by the Commission in developing a project priority list.

This engineering directive details the process for ranking interstate rehabilitation needs based on an engineering perspective. All projects ranked and presented to the Commission since June 27, 2007 were selected using this process.

SCDOT has approximately 842 centerline miles of interstate. The miles of interstate are segmented based on pavement condition and pavement type. These segments will be ranked individually.

The following commission approved criteria, with weightings as determined by engineering staff, will be used when establishing the engineering ranking for interstate rehabilitation projects:

- ***Pavement condition (65%).*** Pavement condition is determined by evaluating the pavement distress level, rideability, and remaining service life.
- ***Average daily traffic (ADT) (10%).*** ADT is the average traffic volume per day, including trucks.
- ***Average daily truck traffic (ADTT) (10%).*** ADTT is the percentage of ADT that is truck traffic.
- ***Pavement maintenance costs (10%).*** Pavement maintenance costs are the total maintenance costs from the previous state fiscal year for the segment being evaluated.
- ***Location and significance to the community/local businesses (5%).*** This is a measure of a road's overall functional value to the local area, provided by the engineering district.

Using the weighted criteria, an engineering ranking for segments of interstate in need of repair will be produced on a statewide basis. Under the Interstate Maintenance Program, the highest ranked segments will be grouped into proposed construction contracts that are intended to minimize traffic disruptions and provide efficient contract management opportunities for SCDOT staff. The proposed contracts will be submitted to the Commission for approval and inclusion in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

In general, the number of projects submitted for Commission approval should be commensurate with the amount of funds available and the time required to advance the projects to construction. Once a project is approved by the Commission, it will retain its priority status until constructed or specifically addressed by the Commission.

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Deputy Secretary for Engineering

Effective Date: _____ January 13, 2009

Original signed by Deputy Secretary for Engineering Tony L. Chapman, P.E. January 13, 2009. All original engineering directives maintained by the Office of the Deputy Secretary for Engineering.