



DISASTER/EMERGENCY SUPPORT AND FHWA EMERGENCY RELIEF

Purpose

This policy delegates responsibilities and procedures in the event of a disaster or emergency where the Federal-aid System (State and/or Local Highway Systems) sustains damage requiring Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) support and that allows ITD to apply for Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Emergency Relief (ER) funds.

Legal Authority

- Idaho Code 40-310(4) - The Board shall construct, repair and maintain state highways and statewide transportation systems.
- Idaho Code 40-310(6) - The Board shall cause to be made and kept studies and plans for the repair and maintenance of state highways, as so far as practical, of all highways in the state.
- Idaho Code 40-708(1) – In the event of an emergency, two or more units of government may share jointly the costs of highways and bridges.
- 23 United States Code Section 125 – Emergency Relief.
- Idaho Code Title 46, Chapter 10 – State Disaster Preparedness Act.
- Executive Order 2019-15 – Governor directing state agencies to establish emergency/disaster plans.

Support

ITD shall support the disaster/emergency services of state and/or local agencies. The Emergency Management Planner (EMP) shall be responsible for overall coordination of ITD emergency planning, training, exercises, response, damage estimation, mitigation and claims.

The EMP will assist in the coordination of funding requests for repairs to local routes as applicable under the FHWA ER process.

When emergencies or other unusual circumstances overwhelm the capabilities of state or local agencies, ITD can be requested to respond with disaster/emergency support. The Department shall notify the EMP to make notifications to the Idaho Office of Emergency Management (IOEM) and/or FHWA, as appropriate. Notification to IOEM can also be made by the IOEM Area Field Officer. Response to emergency plans and procedures outside of ITD facilities can be activated by Executive Order of the Governor. Upon issuance of an Executive Order by the Governor that involves disaster/emergency support:

- The District Engineers shall provide the response staff and assistance as requested by an IOEM “Mission Assignment” prior to, during, and after a natural or human-caused disaster, or terrorist attack. Disaster/emergency support includes life-saving assistance, traffic control, or operational work that directly affects the State Highway System

- The Division of Motor Vehicles Administrator may authorize the issuance of disaster relief waivers, as needed, in accordance with Board Policy 4074, Suspension of Motor Vehicle Procedures during Disaster Relief Operations.
- The Division of Aeronautics Administrator shall coordinate airspace restrictions or control; aerial transportation of material or personnel in state-owned aircraft; aerial communications relay services; and activation and coordination of air search and rescue operations.

In the event the Federal Aid System (state and/or local highway systems) sustains damage that allows ITD to apply for FHWA ER funds, the following responsibilities and procedures shall be in effect:

Following a disaster, the EMP shall:

- Function as ITD's primary Headquarters contact for emergency coordination;
- Act as the liaison with the FHWA division office for securing emergency repair funds;
- Collect the Detailed Damage Inspection Reports from the affected district(s); and
- Collect and document Disaster Costs in equipment, materials and manpower for possible reimbursement.

Following a disaster, the ITD Chief Operations Officer (COO) and team shall:

- Coordinate with FHWA for completion of permanent repairs;
- Obtain permanent repair work authorizations;
- Assist district scoping and funding needs assessments to expedite repair completion;
- Prepare the obligated authority requests and project programming for submittal to the FHWA, and;
- Communicate with federal, state, and local agency partners to ensure effective district emergency response and recovery.

Following a disaster, the District Engineers shall:

- Confirm the initial emergency repair and debris clearance project limits;
- Assist FHWA in conducting and completing the Detailed Damage Inspection Reports;
- Administer permanent and initial emergency repair projects; and
- Provide detailed information to the EMP for documentation purposes.

Signed

Brian W. Ness
Director

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