



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

*Driving Indiana's Economic Growth*

## **Design Memorandum No. 17-08 Policy Change**

April 21, 2017

**TO:** All Design, Operations, and District Personnel, and Consultants

**FROM:** /s/Mike Bowman  
Mike Bowman  
Director  
TMD Operations

**SUBJECT:** 2017 Interstate Highways Congestion Policy (IHCP)

**SUPERSEDES:** Design Memo 14-12

**EFFECTIVE:** Ready for Contracts on or after March 7, 2017

The 2017 Interstate Highways Congestion Policy (IHCP) is now in effect and replaces the 2014 IHCP and all previous Interstate Lane Closure Policies and is required for contracts on the effective date shown above. This policy should be incorporated into daily operations and maintenance activities immediately.

All existing approved policy exceptions (“waivers”) to a prior IHCP remain valid.

The 2017 IHCP contains a number of key changes:

- The update reflects the changing role of the Work Zone Safety Section, which is transitioning from an emphasis on the Review and Approval process to an emphasis on Quality Assurance. Requests for IHCP Exceptions will now be submitted to the Technical Services Division of the applicable district. Policy Exception approvers have changed as discussed in Appendix C – Policy Exceptions. The list of specific district contacts for policy exceptions will be maintained on the Department’s Interstate Highway Congestion Policy webpage at <http://www.in.gov/indot/3383.htm>.

- This update provides for a simpler process to make minor changes to the policy. Tables and templates have been removed from the policy document into a separate documents so that they could be updated without requiring the entire policy to be updated. The Policy document now consists of two separate parts.
- Lane capacities in work zones (Table C-3) have been increased by approximately 10%.
- Appendix C has been rewritten to provide improved guidance and clarity on the preparation of exceptions.

A new mailing list has been established that will be used to notify subscribers of updates to the policy, associated tables, templates and tools provided on the IHCP website. Please sign up to the mailing list to keep abreast of updates to the policy. The IHCP and additional IHCP resources, including a link to sign up for the mailing list, are available from the webpage.

The Work Zone Safety Section will be holding training sessions on the preparation of an IHCP Exception. Those involved with the preparation of IHCP Exceptions are requested to attend the training which will be offered at four locations. See the attached flyer for additional information.

Questions regarding the IHCP should be directed to Mischa Kachler, Work Zone Safety Section Supervisor, at (317) 899-8604 or [mkachler@indot.in.gov](mailto:mkachler@indot.in.gov).