

# Design Standards Letter

**Letter Number: G-1969-17**

**Letter Date: 03/14/1969**

**Effective Date: 03/14/1969**

**Section/Plan No.: None**

**Subject: Public Hearing Instructions**

## Body

-----  
ALL DIVISION AND DISTRICT ENGINEERS

Attached are instructions to meet recent requirements which are to be followed in advertising and conducting public hearings. The instructions cover the requirements and procedures for corridor (location) public hearings and design public hearings.

Previous instructions concerning hearings are found in several letters and in materials distributed at District Engineers' meetings as well as in the Design Manual. It is the intent of the "Public Hearing Instructions" to consolidate these previous instructions along with the necessary information concerning the two-hearing procedure. Generally, two public hearings will be required. The instructions cover conditions under which one combined public hearing will be satisfactory.

Your attention is directed to the fact that we will no longer advertise offering the opportunity for a public hearing. If a project meets the requirements for a public hearing as contained in the instructions, a public hearing will be held. We believe that this will save some time and will provide better public relations.

The instructions require that each District maintain a list upon which agencies may enroll to receive notices of hearings. We are attaching a basic list of certain Federal and State agencies which should be informed of all highway public hearings held in the State. Each District will be responsible for completing its list of regional and local agencies. As agencies are added to your list, please keep other Districts informed when the agencies' area of interest affects their Districts.

We are currently working with the Bureau of Public Roads regarding the application of these instructions to active projects. We are suggesting to them that we not be required to conduct design public hearings on projects on which the final strip map was approved prior to February 1, 1969. We are also suggesting to them that corridor public hearings and other items in the instructions not be required on those projects on which either the opportunity for a public hearing was offered or public hearings conducted prior to February 1, 1969. You

will be advised of the decision on these active projects on a project by project basis.

Therefore, these instructions will not apply on projects where locations were advertised or public hearings conducted before February 1, 1969, and will not apply for design public hearings on projects where final strip maps were approved prior to February 1, 1969.

These instructions are effective immediately. Please feel free to contact this office with any questions that may arise.

Leland D. Fletcher  
Division Engineer  
Surveys and Plans