Subject: S.O.P. USE OF FUNDS	Distribution A, B, C, D, E

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PURPOSE: To define the types of Projects eligible for expenditure of State Aid Funds.

1.   CONSTRUCTION:

Section 65-9-1 through 65-9-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, provides that State Aid Funds (State and Federal) shall be used for "Construction" (with the exception of "seal courses" and "maintenance projects") as defined hereinafter.

Construction is the building of new facilities where none existed or a "betterment" to an existing highway facility and which may include new construction, reconstruction, widening, straightening, surfacing or resurfacing of roads on the State Aid System.

2.   SEAL OR RESEAL COURSES:

2.1.   Background: "Seal" (or "reseal") courses applied to existing bituminous surfaces are considered to be part of the maintenance services.

From 1950 to 1962, this maintenance function (along with other maintenance services) was strictly a County responsibility. In 1962, the Legislature amended the maintenance section of the State Aid Act (Section 65-9-25) to permit the use of State Aid Funds to pay for these seal course applications, but limited such expenditures to ten percent (10%) of the State Aid Funds available to the County. The section was further amended by the Legislature in 1982, to delete the ten percent limitation.

2.2.   "Seal" or "Reseal" Courses Defined: "Seal courses", sometimes referred to as "seal coats" is hereby defined as that maintenance service consisting of an application of liquid asphalt with fine aggregate placed thereon, or a mixture of liquid asphalt and coarse sand applied to seal an existing asphalt surface or pavement against moisture to protect the life of the pavement or surface.

Seal or reseal courses usually range from 1/16 inch to 1/4 inch thickness and are not considered to add any structural value to the pavement and base structure.

2.3.   Project Number: Seal projects shall have "S" suffix added to the project number. Example: SAP-83(99)S.

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3.   MAINTENANCE:

3.1.   Background: Prior to 1982, maintenance functions (except for reseals) were solely the responsibility of the county(ies). In 1982 the Legislature revised section 65-9-25 to provide that:

> "State Aid Roads which were constructed in accordance with the then prevailing State Aid Standards and Specifications shall be eligible for State Aid Funds for maintenance, repair and reconstruction, subject to the prior written approval of such work by the State Aid Engineer and subject to the work being completed in accordance with the prior written approval".

3.2.   Scope of Maintenance Projects: In general, Maintenance Projects may include items of work that cannot normally be accomplished by the county's own forces using equipment owned by the county. Examples of Maintenance Projects are:

3.2.1.   Repair or rehabilitation of bridges.

3.2.2.   Pavement marking and erection of signs.

3.2.3.   Reseal projects with the combined value of widening, patching and/or leveling exceeding that of surface treatment items.

3.2.4.   Repairs or modifications to roadways that do not alter the section or function of the existing facility.

3.2.5.   Light overlay (1 ½ inches or less) that are intended to maintain or restore the original surface. Current criteria for new construction or 3-R design is not required.

3.3.   Project Number:

3.3.1.   Maintenance projects shall have a "M" suffix added to the project number. Example: SAP-83(99)M.

3.3.2.   Timber Pile Repair projects shall have a "TP" suffix added to the project number. Example: SAP-83(99)TP.