

# Government of the District of Columbia

## Department of Transportation



March 15, 2024

Jim Tymon  
Executive Director  
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)  
555 12th Street NW, Suite 1000,  
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Withdrawal of two (2) Applications for Elimination of Establishment of two Interstate Routes

Dear Mr. Tymon:

In November 2020, The District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) submitted two (2) applications to AASHTO seeking the following changes:

1. Elimination of Interstate Route I-695 and Establishment of Interstate Route I-395, between the current I-395/I-695 interchange and terminate at the current I-695/I-295/DC-295 interchange.
2. Elimination of Interstate Route I-395 and Establishment of Interstate Route I-195, between the current I-395/I-695 interchange and terminate at the current New York Avenue NW (US Route 50).

These requests aimed to “reduce motorist confusion and improve safety along I-395 in Washington, DC” (see *Explanations and Reasons for the Request* in Attachment 1 and Attachment 2). In January 2021, AASHTO approved the request with the condition that the request is approved by FHWA. On April 23, 2021, FHWA DC Division Office approved the numbering changes to the Interstate System outlined in these applications (see Attachment 3). Consequently, U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration has updated the National Highway System (NHS) with the proposed changes and is currently reflected in the NHS map for District of Columbia (see Attachment 4). However, DDOT is yet to implement the changes on the route signing.

DDOT is requesting withdrawal of the aforementioned applications and temporarily revert to the old signage to eliminate unintended confusion and safety issues that could arise due to disparity between the updated NHS map and the currently signed configuration. DDOT anticipates completing relevant procurement, design, and construction activities in support of the proposed changes within the next 2-3 years. Following this, DDOT will re-submit the application for the proposed changes.

Enclosed you will find four (4) attachments that show the 2020 Applications, Approval from FHWA, and the 2023 NHS map for District of Columbia to support this withdrawal request.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Sharon Kershbaum  
Acting Director

Attachments:

1. Submitted Application to AASHTO Requesting Elimination of Interstate Route I-695 and Establishment of Interstate Route I-395 (November 18, 2020)
2. Submitted Application to AASHTO Requesting Elimination of Interstate Route I-395 and Establishment of Interstate Route I-195 (November 18, 2020)
3. Approval Letter from FHWA on the proposed changes (April 23, 2021)
4. NHS map for District of Columbia (dated: September 06, 2023)

cc: Richard Kenney, Chief Engineer, DDOT  
Ravindra D. Ganvir, Deputy Chief Engineer, DDOT

Enclosure-1: Submitted Application to AASHTO Requesting Elimination of Interstate Route I-695 and Establishment of Interstate Route I-395 (November 18, 2020)

Enclosure-2: Submitted Application to AASHTO Requesting Elimination of Interstate Route I-395 and Establishment of Interstate Route I-195 (November 18, 2020)

Enclosure-3: Approval Letter from FHWA on the proposed changes (April 23, 2021)

Enclosure-4: NHS map for District of Columbia (September 06, 2023)