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**Information Technology – Geographic Information  
Framework Data Content Standard  
Part 7c: Roads**

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172 **Foreword**

173 Geographic information, also known as geospatial information, both underlies and is the subject  
174 of much of the political, economic, environmental, and security activities of the United States. In  
175 recognition of this, the United States Office of Management and Budget issued Circular A-16  
176 (revised 2002), which established the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) as a  
177 coordinating organization.

178 Work on this standard started under the Geospatial One-Stop e-Government initiative. The  
179 standard was developed with the support of the member agencies and organizations of the  
180 FGDC and aids in fulfilling a primary objective of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI),  
181 that is, creation of common geographic base data for seven critical data themes. The seven core  
182 data themes are considered framework data of critical importance to the spatial data  
183 infrastructure.

184 The increasing need to coordinate collection of new data, identify applicability of existing data,  
185 and exchange data at the national level led to the submission of this standard to the ANSI  
186 process to become an American National Standard. The national standard contained in this  
187 document and its parts was sponsored by Technical Committee L1, Geographic Information  
188 Systems, of the InterNational Committee for Information Technology Standards (INCITS), an  
189 ANSI-accredited standards development organization.

190 As the Geographic Information Framework Data Content Standard was developed using public  
191 funds, the U.S. Government will be free to publish and distribute its contents to the public, as  
192 provided through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), Part 5 United States Code, Section 552,  
193 as amended by Public Law No. 104-231, "Electronic Freedom of Information Act Amendments of  
194 1996".

195 **Introduction**

196 The primary purpose of the Geographic Information Framework Data Content Standard, Part 7c:  
197 Roads is to support the exchange of transportation data related to road networks. This part of the  
198 standard also seeks to establish a common baseline for the content of road transportation  
199 databases for public agencies and private enterprises. It seeks to decrease the costs of acquiring  
200 and exchanging road transportation data for Federal, State, Tribal, local, and other governmental  
201 agency users and creators of road transportation data. Benefits of adopting the part also include  
202 the long-term improvement of the geospatial transportation base data, improved integration of  
203 safety and enforcement data, and streamlined maintenance procedures.

204 This part of the Framework Data Content Standard was preceded in development by the National  
205 Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Framework Transportation Identification Standard and the  
206 National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) 20-27(2). The Transportation  
207 Identification Standard served as the starting point for this part of the standard but surpasses it by  
208 adding support for linear events.

## 209 **Framework Data Content Standard – Roads**

### 210 **1 Scope**

211 The Geographic Information Framework Data Content Standard, Part 7c: Roads defines the  
212 components of a model for describing roads which, along with Air (Part 7a), Rail (Part 7b), Transit  
213 (Part 7d), and Inland Waterways (Part 7e), is one of five modes that compose the Transportation  
214 theme of the digital geospatial data framework. The primary purpose of this part of the standard  
215 is to support the exchange of transportation data related to road systems. It is the intent of the  
216 Roads part to develop a consensus around a set of common definitions for real world features in  
217 order to advance the goals of the NSDI. It is the intent of the part to set a common baseline that  
218 will foster the widest possible set of applications of road data for both user and producer. It is  
219 also intended to foster improvements in the common spatial data infrastructure through enhanced  
220 data sharing and the reduction of redundant data production.

221 There are a number of issues common to the transportation domain that are covered in the  
222 Transportation Base (Part 7) part of the standard because of their broader applications. Some of  
223 these issues and their relevance for the Road part are discussed in the informative annexes of  
224 the Transportation Base.

225 At a high level, the road model described in the standard is made up of features that can have  
226 geographic locations and characteristics. These features can be interconnected in various ways  
227 to represent road networks for path finding/routing applications. While the design team has  
228 considered the need for path finding applications, the level of data required by such applications  
229 is beyond the scope of many organizations. Specifically, many State and local government  
230 agencies do not have adequate data for routing purposes and they do not have the budget to  
231 create and maintain this data. It is expected that the content in the Roads part will support the  
232 development of specialized networks for routing applications, but this level of information is not a  
233 requirement.

234 This part of the Framework Data Content Standard can be implemented using a variety of  
235 software packages and is designed to accommodate data with or without geometry. While this  
236 document touches on implementation issues, it is not intended to serve as an implementation  
237 specification. It is designed to accommodate data associated with the complete road system at  
238 all levels of service and all functional classes that may be defined by a data-providing agency. It  
239 also accommodates assets associated with roads that are typically used for navigation, safety,  
240 and measurement.

241 To accommodate multi-modal transportation systems, TranPoints and TranPaths are instantiable,  
242 whereas TranSegs are not. This allows the linear segments of each mode to be mode-specific  
243 (for example, RoadSeg) but allows them to be connected to segments from other modes. A  
244 multi-modal node such as a passenger rail station could be used to connect RoadSegs and  
245 RailSegs. In this case, it would be represented as a TranPoint instead of a RoadPoint or  
246 RailPoint. Alternatively, it could be modeled as both a RoadPoint and a RailPoint, with the two  
247 being equivalent. A TranPath instance would be able to use RoadSegs and RailSegs to define a  
248 multi-modal route.

249 The Roads part of the standard applies to NSDI framework transportation data produced or  
250 disseminated by or for the Federal Government. According to Executive Order 12906,  
251 Coordinating Geographic Data Acquisition and Access: The National Spatial Data Infrastructure,  
252 Federal agencies collecting or producing geospatial data, either directly or indirectly (for example,  
253 through grants, partnerships, or contracts with other entities), shall ensure, prior to obligating  
254 funds for such activities, that data will be collected in a manner that meets all relevant standards  
255 adopted through the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) process.

256 The Roads part relies extensively on ISO 19133 for linear referencing. Linear reference systems  
257 (LRS) are, in the strictest sense, not central to this part of the standard and also are complex  
258 enough to warrant separate treatment. Users should refer to Annex B of the Transportation Base  
259 (Part 7) part of the standard for information on linear reference systems. The use of LRS is not

260 added simply to support the requirements of departments of transportation; LRS is used as a  
261 technique to transfer road information between systems in a simple, flexible data structure that  
262 does not impose a specific segmentation scheme on the data being exchanged. LRS is used in  
263 this part of the standard to support the exchange of asset information such as sign locations and  
264 pavement condition, as well as to support the placement of transportation statistics such as traffic  
265 counts or accident data along the roads, or the number of lanes, or speed limits.

266 A linkage between this part of the standard and appropriate ISO standards for representing  
267 spatial features using the Unified Modeling Language (UML) has been developed. These upper-  
268 level classes are not necessarily unique to roads, or even to transportation. A specific road  
269 profile of those standards has been assembled as the base classes for this model, primarily to  
270 take advantage of geometry, topology, and metadata standards. Additional work by ISO TC211  
271 and TC204 to harmonize Geographic Data Files (GDF) and linear referencing standards is in  
272 progress in parallel with the development of this standard. Annex B in the Base Document (Part  
273 0) contains a brief explanation of UML diagrams.

## 274 **2 Conformance**

275 This thematic part includes a data dictionary/model based on the conceptual schema presented  
276 below. To conform to this part, the user shall satisfy the requirements of the data  
277 dictionary/model. The user's conforming dataset shall include a value for each mandatory  
278 element and a value for each conditional element for which the condition is true. It may contain  
279 values for any optional element. The data type of each value shall be that specified for the  
280 element in the data dictionary/model and the value shall lie within the specified domain. This part  
281 only specifies the special requirements of conformance for a dataset containing information on  
282 the road system. Conformance to this part requires additional actions specified in the Base  
283 Document (Part 0) and Transportation Base (Part 7).

## 284 **3 Normative references**

285 Annex A of the Base Document (Part 0) lists normative references applicable to two or more parts  
286 of the standard, including those other than the transportation parts. Informative references  
287 applicable to two or more transportation parts only are listed in Annex C of the Transportation  
288 Base (Part 7). Annex D of the Base Document lists informative references applicable to two or  
289 more of the parts, including those other than the transportation parts.

## 290 **4 Maintenance authority**

### 291 **4.1 Level of responsibility**

292 The FGDC is the responsible organization for coordinating work on all parts of the Geographic  
293 Information Framework Data Content Standard. The United States Department of Transportation  
294 (USDOT), working with the FGDC, is the responsible organization for coordinating work on the  
295 Geographic Information Framework Data Content Standard, Part 7: Transportation Base and  
296 subparts (Parts 7a, 7b, 7c, and 7d, excluding 7e) and is directly responsible for development and  
297 maintenance of the transportation parts (excluding 7e) of the Framework Data Content Standard.

298 The FGDC shall be the sole organization responsible for direct coordination with the InterNational  
299 Committee for Information Technology Standards (INCITS) concerning any maintenance or any  
300 other requirements mandated by INCITS or ANSI affecting any part of this standard.

### 301 **4.2 Contact information**

302 Address questions concerning this part of the standard to:

303 Federal Geographic Data Committee Secretariat  
304 c/o U.S. Geological Survey  
305 590 National Center  
306 Reston, Virginia 20192 USA

307 Telephone: (703) 648-5514  
308 Facsimile: (703) 648-5755  
309 Internet (electronic mail): [gdc@fgdc.gov](mailto:gdc@fgdc.gov)  
310 WWW Home Page: <http://fgdc.gov>

## 311 **5 Terms and definitions**

312 Definitions applicable to the Roads part are listed here. Other definitions, applicable to multiple  
313 transportation parts of the standard are defined in the Transportation Base (Part 7). More general  
314 terms can be found in the Base Document (Part 0) of the standard. Users are advised to consult  
315 these documents for a complete set of definitions.

### 316 **5.1** 317 **anchor section**

318 section of road between two anchor points

319 NOTE Anchor sections state the official surface length of a road segment [NCHRP 20-27(2)]

### 320 **5.2** 321 **equivalence relationship (between road points)**

322 correlation used to indicate that a road point in one dataset is equivalent to (that is to say, has the  
323 same physical location as) one or more road points in another dataset

### 324 **5.3** 325 **equivalence relationship (between road segments)**

326 correlation used to indicate that a road segment in one dataset is equivalent to (that is to say,  
327 represents the same part of the physical road system as) one or more, whole or partial, road  
328 segments in another dataset

### 329 **5.4** 330 **road feature**

331 entity that constitutes the road system

### 332 **5.5** 333 **road path**

334 ordered list of whole or partial sections of physical road (that is to say, road segments)

335 EXAMPLE An administrative route, such as Interstate 95, or a delivery route.

## 336 **6 Symbols, abbreviated terms, and notations**

337 Symbols, abbreviations, and notations common to two or more transportation parts are listed in  
338 the Transportation Base (Part 7). Symbols, abbreviations, and notations applicable to multiple  
339 parts, including the transportation parts, are listed in the Base Document (Part 0).

## 340 **7 Road system model**

### 341 **7.1 Road system**

342 The road system model describes the geographic locations, interconnectedness, and  
343 characteristics of the street and roads in the larger transportation system. The transportation  
344 system includes physical and non-physical components representing all modes of travel that  
345 allow the movement of goods, services, and people between locations.

346 The road infrastructure is a physical component of the entire transportation system, generally  
347 consisting of public ways with perhaps a number of carriageways that are possibly paved.

348 The focus of this part of the standard is to define a way to encode segments, their start and end  
349 points, and their attributes, which may have different values associated with different parts of a  
350 segment. The model has three main components:

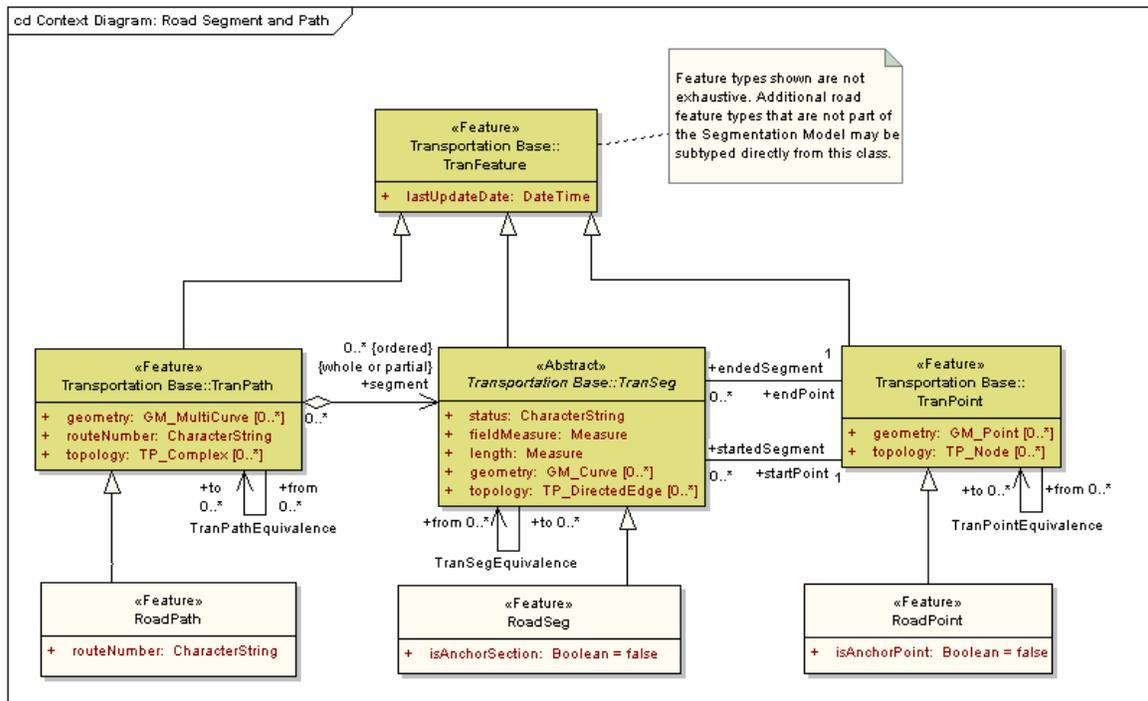
- 351 • A road segmentation model, which defines the representation of the physical segments of  
352 the road network (road segments), their connectivity (road points), and their usage (road  
353 paths)
- 354 • An event model, which defines a method to model attributes that may have values that  
355 change from one part of a segment to another and to linearly locate features along road  
356 segments or paths
- 357 • A linear reference model, which defines how locations are specified along linear features.  
358 Strictly speaking, the linear reference model is not a part of this model, but is referenced  
359 because of the part it plays in handling the attribution for road features. The linear  
360 reference model is described in full in Annex B of the Transportation Base

## 361 7.2 Road segmentation model

### 362 7.2.1 Introduction

363 A road feature is any type of transportation feature that is part of the road system. It is a type of  
364 transportation feature.

365



366

367

368 **Figure 1 – Context diagram: Relationship of road features to Transportation Base (Part 7)**  
369 **model**

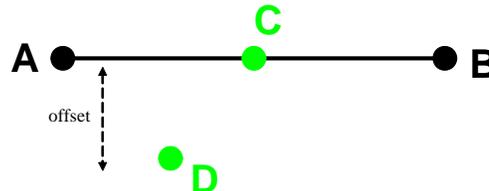
370

371 To ensure maximum utility in a variety of contexts, this road model does not prescribe any  
372 specific business rules for the segmentation of the road system. The road network is the set of  
373 road features and their topological relationships which together define all possible movements  
374 through the road system. The road network can be broken up into segments called RoadSegs.  
375 RoadSegs represent individual pieces of the physical road network, such as that part of Main

376 Street which exists between First Avenue and Second Avenue. RoadSegs are topologically  
377 connected by RoadPoints. RoadPoints serve to connect two RoadSegs. RoadPaths prescribe a  
378 usage of part of the road network. They represent a path through a set of whole or partial  
379 RoadSegs, such as Route 66 or Washington Avenue. RoadSeg, RoadPoint, and RoadPath are  
380 specializations of the transportation feature classes TranSeg, TranPoint, and TranPath,  
381 respectively (see Figure 1). All other real world entities comprising the road system are  
382 represented as road features.

### 383 7.2.2 RoadPoint

384 RoadPoint is the specified location of an endpoint of a RoadSeg. This relationship is illustrated in  
385 Figure 2, where two RoadPoints, A and B, bound a RoadSeg. Point C represents the location of  
386 some real world entity such as an intersection or a bridge somewhere along the RoadSeg. Point  
387 D represents the location of another entity along the RoadSeg, but offset a lateral distance to one  
388 side. Because C and D do not terminate or represent the topological connection between  
389 RoadSegs, they shall not be represented as RoadPoints. Instead, if they represent real world  
390 entities (with attributes), they shall be represented as road features. FeatureEvents can be used  
391 to define their location along and optionally offset from a RoadSeg. Alternatively, Points C and D  
392 can be represented as AttributeEvents if they represent attributes instead of entities, such as the  
393 start of a bridge. This is explained further in the event model section below.



394

395 **Figure 2 – RoadPoints bounding a RoadSeg (A, B) and non-RoadPoints (C, D)**

396

397 RoadPoints can have geometry of type GM\_Point and topology attribute of type TP\_Node. Both  
398 GM\_Point and TP\_Node are inherited from TranPoint and defined in ISO 19107.

### 399 7.2.3 Anchor point

400 An anchor point represents a physical location in the field that can be unambiguously described  
401 so that it can be clearly located in the real world using the point description. An anchor point is a  
402 link between the computer representation of the road system and the real world. An anchor point  
403 shall occur at the ends of an anchor section. There is no requirement to include anchor points in  
404 the dataset being transferred, so all RoadPoints are not necessarily anchor points. Figure 1  
405 shows that RoadPoint has a Boolean attribute (isAnchorPoint) indicating whether the point is  
406 considered an anchor point.

### 407 7.2.4 RoadSeg

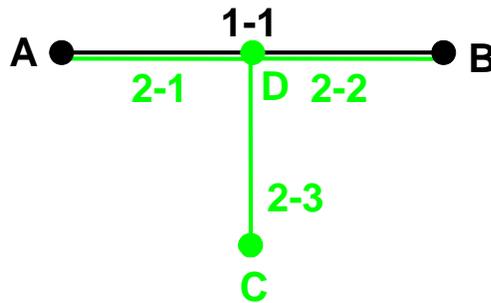
408 RoadSeg represents a continuous nonbranching linear section of a road, which means that  
409 RoadSeg represents a road segment. RoadSeg is a specified directed path between two  
410 RoadPoints along a physical road that identifies a unique segment of that system. Each segment  
411 has an identifier, with points used to start and end segments. It is important to note here that a  
412 RoadSeg does not necessarily have to be an entire road. It could be a single lane or a  
413 carriageway. Furthermore, a segment is not defined as a line on a map, but as a segment of  
414 physical road, of which the beginning, end, and length are determined by transportation agencies  
415 based on their business needs. The agencies determine where the junctions of segments are  
416 placed.

417 RoadSeg extends TranSeg and is depicted in Figure 1. Because it extends TranSeg, RoadSeg  
418 inherits all properties from TranSeg including optional geometry of type GM\_Curve as defined in

419 ISO 19107. According to ISO 19107, GM\_Curve extends GM\_OrientableCurve and therefore  
420 has direction. RoadSeg also can have a topology of type TP\_DirectedEdge, as defined in ISO  
421 19107. The reason TP\_DirectedEdge has been introduced is to facilitate the representation of  
422 feature topology through its combinatorial structures independent of its geometry. For example,  
423 in the implementation of this model, a data provider may choose to represent only the geometry  
424 of a RoadSeg, which implies a direction inherited from GM\_OrientableCurve. Another data  
425 provider may choose not to supply road feature geometry and only provide the orientation of the  
426 RoadSeg using its topology attribute.

### 427 7.2.5 Road segment equivalence

428 Different transportation agencies may define their segments differently. In Figure 3, one agency  
429 has defined segment 1-1 extending from A to B. Another agency can represent the same section  
430 of road using two road segments, 2-1 and 2-2, with road points "A" and "B" and a new point "D."  
431 The equivalence relationship on the RoadSeg class provides the ability to indicate that a segment  
432 is equivalent to one or more other segments. For example, segments 2-1 and 2-2 are equivalent  
433 to segment 1-1. The concepts of equivalency are described in detail in Annex A of the  
434 Transportation Base.



435

436

**Figure 3 – Creating subsegments from main segments**

437

### 438 7.2.6 Anchor section

439 An anchor section represents a section of road between two known and recoverable locations,  
440 that is to say, anchor points. RoadSeg has a Boolean attribute indicating whether the segment is  
441 an anchor section. Anchor sections state the official length of a road segment. Anchor points say  
442 where the anchor section starts and ends. The function of anchor sections is to support the  
443 collection of data by providing an "all distances measured on this piece of road shall add up to  
444 this length" checksum. Figure 1 shows that RoadSeg has an attribute to indicate whether it is an  
445 anchor section.

### 446 7.2.7 RoadPath

447 Because it is a path through the physical road network, RoadPath may be an ordered list of whole  
448 or partial RoadSegs it uses, which may or may not be contiguous. RoadPath extends TranPath  
449 as shown in Figure 1. An example of RoadPath is an Interstate highway such as Interstate 40.  
450 The geometry of RoadPath is GM\_MultiCurve, to allow for discontinuities in the path. The  
451 topology of RoadPath is TP\_Complex and routeNumber is a character string.

452 **7.2.8 Attributes for road system**

453 Listed below in Table 1 are the road system objects and their attributes.

454

455

**Table 1 – Road system objects**

Line	Name/Role Name	Definition	Obligation/ Condition	Maximum Occurrence	Data Type	Domain
1	RoadPath	Linear, possibly discontinuous portion of the road system that may be a collection of RoadSeg instances			<<Feature>>	Lines 2-11
2	Framework::Feature::identifier	Feature identifier for the RoadPath	M	1	<<DataType>> Framework::Identifier	Unrestricted
3	Framework::Feature::metadata	Structured or unstructured metadata as defined by the community of practice	O	1	CharacterString	May be text or structured metadata fragment
4	Framework::Feature::attribute	Producer-defined attribute for inclusion in transfer	O	*	<<DataType>> Framework::Extended Attributes	Unrestricted
5	Transportation Base:: TranFeature::lastUpdateDate	Timestamp indicating when the RoadPath object was last edited	M	1	DateTime	Valid historical or current date and time
6	Transportation Base:: TranPath::geometry	Geometric representation of the instantiated RoadPath entity	O	*	<<Type>> GM_MultiCurve	Defined in ISO 19107
7	Transportation Base:: TranPath::topology	Topological representation	O	*	<<Type>> TP_Complex	Defined in ISO 19107
8	routeNumber	Public RoadPath identifier	M	1	CharacterString	Unrestricted
9	Role name: segment	Road segment feature used by the RoadPath	O	*	<<Abstract>> TransportationBase:: TranSeg	Whole or partial RoadSeg
10	Role name: from	Source RoadPath in equivalency	C/Part of equivalency?	*	<<Feature>> TransportationBase::	Unrestricted

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Line	Name/Role Name	Definition	Obligation/ Condition	Maximum Occurrence	Data Type	Domain
					TranPath	
11	Role name: to	Destination RoadPath in equivalency	C/Part of equivalency?	*	<<Feature>> TransportationBase:: TranPath	Unrestricted
12	RoadPoint	RoadSeg terminus (start, end)			<<Feature>>	Lines 13-23
13	Framework::Feature::identifier	Feature identifier for the RoadPoint	M	1	<<DataType>> Framework::Identifier	Unrestricted
14	Framework::Feature::metadata	Structured or unstructured metadata as defined by the community of practice	O	1	CharacterString	May be text or structured metadata fragment
15	Framework::Feature::attribute	Producer-defined attribute for inclusion in transfer	O	*	<<DataType>> Framework:: ExtendedAttributes	Unrestricted
16	Transportation Base:: TranFeature::lastUpdateDate	Timestamp indicating when the RoadPoint object was last edited.	M	1	DateTime	Valid historical or current date and time
17	Transportation Base:: TranFeature:geometry	Geometric representation of the instantiated road point entity	O	*	<<Type>> GM_Point	Defined in ISO 19107
18	Transportation Base:: TranFeature:topology	Topological representation	O	*	<<Type>> TP_Node	Defined in ISO 19107
19	isAnchorPoint	Indicates whether RoadPoint is an anchor point	M	1	Boolean	True/False, Yes/No, 1/0; default = False
20	Role name: startedSegment	Segment that starts at the road point	C/RoadSeg starts at RoadPoint?	*	<<Abstract>> TransportationBase:: TransSeg	Unrestricted
21	Role name: endedSegment	Segment that ends at the road point	C/RoadSeg ends at RoadPoint?	*	<<Abstract>> TransportationBase:: TransSeg	Unrestricted
22	Role name: from	Source RoadPoint in equivalency	C/Part of equivalency?	*	<<Feature>> TransportationBase:: TranPath	Unrestricted

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Line	Name/Role Name	Definition	Obligation/Condition	Maximum Occurrence	Data Type	Domain
					TranPoint	
23	Role name: to	Destination RoadPoint in equivalency	C/Part of equivalency?	*	<<Feature>> TransportationBase:: TranPoint	Unrestricted
24	RoadSeg	Linear, continuous, non-branching portion of the road system			<<Feature>>	Lines 25-38
25	Framework::Feature::identifier	Feature identifier for the RoadSeg	M	1	<<DataType>> Framework::Identifier	Unrestricted
26	Framework::Feature::metadata	Structured or unstructured metadata as defined by the community of practice	O	1	CharacterString	May be text or structured metadata fragment
27	Framework::Feature::attribute	Producer-defined attribute for inclusion in transfer	O	*	<<DataType>> Framework:: ExtendedAttributes	Unrestricted
28	Transportation Base:: TranFeature::lastUpdateDate	Timestamp indicating when the RoadSeg object was last edited	M	1	DateTime	Valid historical or current date and time
29	Transportation Base:: TranSeg::status	Status of segment entity; for example, proposed, under construction, open to traffic, abandoned, and so on	M	1	CharacterString	Unrestricted
30	Transportation Base:: TranSeg::fieldMeasure	Length of segment, as determined in the field; if isAnchorSection = True, then this is the official length of the segment for the LRS	M	1	Measure	Defined in ISO 19103
31	Transportation Base:: TranSeg::length	length of the RoadSeg feature, which may differ from the field measured length due to differences in calculation	M	1	Measure	Unrestricted
32	Transportation Base:: TranSeg::geometry	Geometric representation of the instantiated segment entity	O	*	<<Type>> GM_Curve	Defined in ISO 19107

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Line	Name/Role Name	Definition	Obligation/ Condition	Maximum Occurrence	Data Type	Domain
33	Transportation Base:: TranSeg::topology	Topological representation	O	*	<<Type>> TP_DirectedEdge	Defined in ISO 19107
34	isAnchorSection	Indicates whether road segment is an anchor section	M	1	Boolean	True/False, Yes/No, 1/0; default = False
35	Role name: startPoint	RoadPoint corresponding to segment start	M	1	<<Feature>> TransportationBase:: TranPoint	Unrestricted
36	Role name: endPoint	RoadPoint corresponding to segment end	M	1	<<Feature>> TransportationBase:: TranPoint	Unrestricted
37	Role name: from	Source RoadSeg in equivalence	C/Part of equivalency?	*	<<Abstract>> TransportationBase:: TranSeg	Unrestricted
38	Role name: to	Destination RoadSeg in equivalence	C/Part of equivalency?	*	<<Abstract>> TransportationBase:: TranSeg	Unrestricted

456 **7.3 The event model**

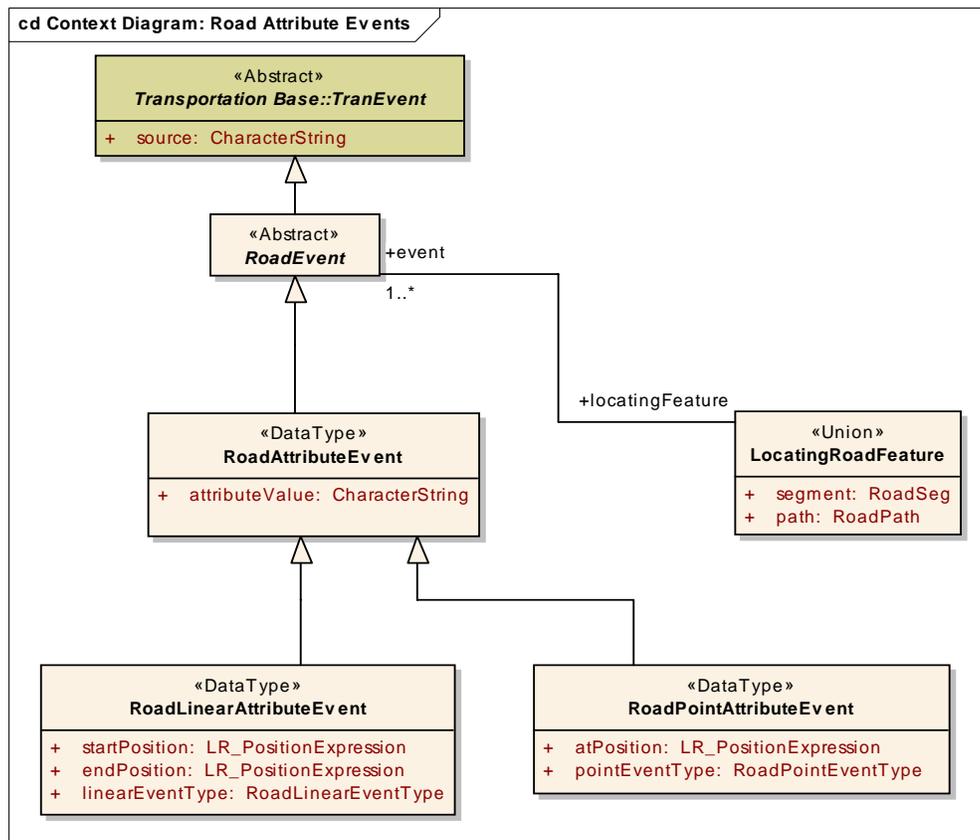
457 **7.3.1 Introduction**

458 Transportation events are the mechanism by which attributes or entities can be linearly located  
459 along either a TranSeg or a TranPath linear feature. Refer to the transportation event model in  
460 the Transportation Base for a more detailed overview of the transportation event model.  
461 Transportation events can be either attribute events or feature events. Within the Roads part,  
462 events specific to the road system are supported as specializations of transportation attribute and  
463 feature events.

464 **7.3.2 RoadAttributeEvent**

465 If an attribute value of a linear feature has a single, constant value along the entire length of the  
466 feature (for example, status and fieldMeasure), the attribute exists at the feature (RoadSeg or  
467 RoadPath) level and it is sufficient to store this single value with the feature. If the value of the  
468 attribute can change along the length of the linear feature (for example, speed limit, number of  
469 lanes); the location where each change occurs must also be specified. To accomplish this,  
470 RoadAttributeEvents are used.

471



472

473

474

**Figure 4 – RoadAttributeEvent model**

475

476 Each RoadAttributeEvent specifies a particular value for an attribute of a linear feature along with  
477 the location along that feature for which the value applies. RoadAttributeEvents are subtyped into  
478 point and linear events. A RoadPointAttributeEvent event occurs at a single position along a  
479 RoadSeg or RoadPath. This position is called an “at” position. RoadLinearAttributeEvents apply

480 to a length of the RoadSeg or RoadPath. This interval is defined by a “start” and an “end”  
481 position on the RoadSeg or RoadPath. The “at”, “start”, and “end” positions used to locate an  
482 event are specified using a linearly referenced position expression. This expression specifies the  
483 linear reference method used to perform the measurement, the linear feature (RoadSeg or  
484 RoadPath) being measured, the measurement along the feature, and optionally the measurement  
485 laterally offset to either side. See Annex B of the Transportation Base for more details.

#### 486 **7.3.2.1 RoadLinearAttributeEvent**

487 RoadLinearAttributeEvents provide the means of specifying the value and location of a single  
488 segment or path attribute that may apply only to part of the segment or path. The value of the  
489 segment or path attribute is specified as the attributeValue, inherited from RoadAttributeEvent.  
490 The location interval along which the value applies is specified by a “start” and “end” position  
491 along the segment or path, using linearly referenced position expressions explained in Annex B of  
492 the Transportation Base. The name of the attribute is specified by the linearEvent attribute of  
493 RoadLinearAttributeEvent. A non-exhaustive code list of RoadLinearEventType values is  
494 supplied (see Figure 6). An example of a RoadLinearAttributeEvent is the speed limit of a road.  
495 The RoadLinearEventType value is “speedRestriction”. An attributeValue of 55 MPH might apply  
496 for only part of the road segment, delineated by “start” and “end” positions along the road  
497 segment. RoadLinearAttributeEvents have no geometry of their own but instead inherit any  
498 geometry which may have been defined for the segment or path to which they apply.

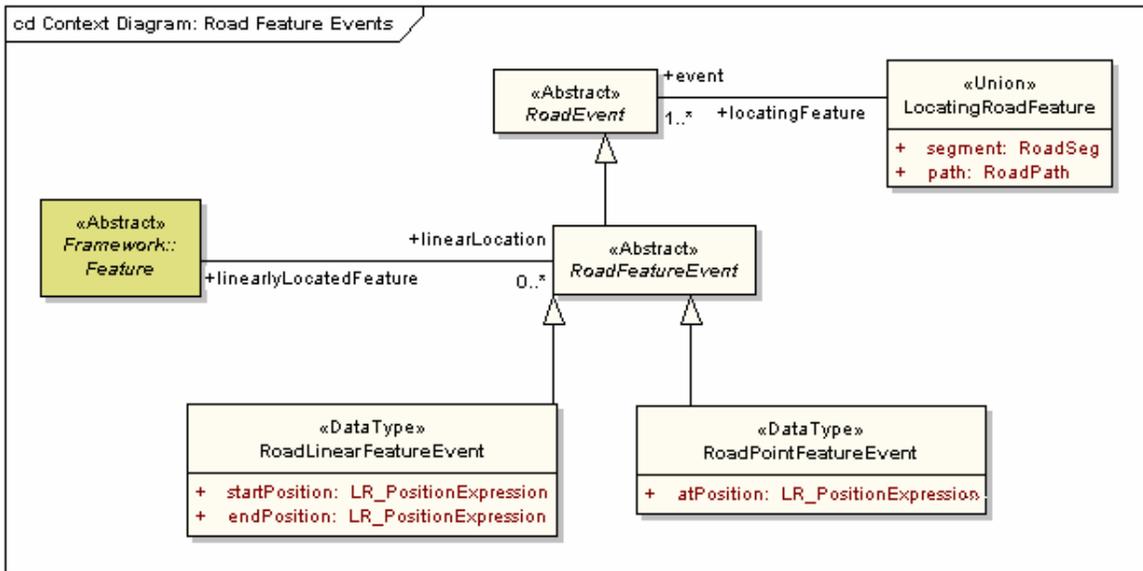
#### 499 **7.3.2.2 RoadPointAttributeEvent**

500 RoadPointAttributeEvent provides the means of specifying the value and location of a single  
501 segment or path attribute that has a particular value only at a single point along the segment or  
502 path. The value of the segment or path attribute is specified as the attributeValue, inherited from  
503 RoadAttributeEvent. The point location is specified by an “at” position along the segment or path,  
504 using a linearly referenced position expression explained in Annex B of the Transportation Base.  
505 The name of the attribute is specified by the pointEvent attribute of RoadPointAttributeEvent. A  
506 non-exhaustive code list of RoadPointEventType values is supplied (see Figure 6). An example  
507 of a RoadPointAttributeEvent is a stop sign along a road. The RoadPointEventType value is  
508 “sign”. An attributeValue of “stop” specifies the type of sign. The sign is located at a position  
509 along the road segment. The position expression allows the sign to be located at a position  
510 laterally offset from the center of the road. If more information is needed about the sign, the sign  
511 shall instead be represented as a feature and then linearly located with a  
512 RoadPointFeatureEvent. RoadPointAttributeEvents can also be used to specify where something  
513 like a pedestrian cross walk crosses the segment or path. RoadPointAttributeEvents have a  
514 linear location along a segment or path but have no explicit geospatial coordinate location of their  
515 own. This can be obtained from any geometry which may have been defined for the segment or  
516 path to which the RoadPointAttributeEvent applies.

#### 517 **7.3.3 RoadFeatureEvent**

518 Features can have attributes, each with a single, constant value. One of these attributes can be  
519 the geometry of the feature. For example, a street sign road feature can have a height attribute  
520 and a point geometry. This feature can also be linearly located along one or more RoadSegs or  
521 RoadPaths. Each such linear location is specified by a RoadFeatureEvent. The  
522 RoadFeatureEvent linearly locates any feature along a RoadSeg or RoadPath.  
523 RoadFeatureEvents are subtyped into RoadPointFeatureEvents and RoadLinearFeatureEvents.  
524 A RoadPointFeatureEvent occurs at a single position along a RoadSeg or RoadPath. This  
525 position is called an “at” position. RoadLinearFeatureEvents apply to a length of the RoadSeg or  
526 RoadPath. This interval is defined by a “start” and an “end” position on the RoadSeg or  
527 RoadPath. The “at”, “start”, and “end” positions used to locate an event are specified using a  
528 linearly referenced position expression. This expression specifies the linear reference method  
529 used to perform the measurement, the linear feature (RoadSeg or RoadPath) being measured,  
530 the measurement along the feature, and optionally the measurement laterally offset to either side.  
531 See Annex B of the Transportation Base for more details.

532



533

534

535

Figure 5 – RoadFeatureEvent model

536

537 **7.3.3.1 RoadLinearFeatureEvent**

538 A RoadLinearFeatureEvent provides the means of specifying a linear location for a feature as a  
 539 length along a segment or path. All of the feature’s attributes, including optional geometry, are  
 540 included with the feature. The RoadLinearFeatureEvent is only attributed with the linear location.  
 541 There are no restrictions on the type of feature being located. The feature can be linear, like  
 542 guardrail. Guardrail attributes, like date installed or manufacturer, are kept with the guardrail  
 543 feature. The location where the guardrail begins along the roadway is kept with the  
 544 RoadLinearFeatureEvent, specified as the “start” position; the location where the guardrail ends  
 545 is specified by the “end” position. The “start” and “end” positions each use a linearly referenced  
 546 position expression explained in Annex B of the Transportation Base. The guardrail feature may  
 547 not have geometry of its own, but instead rely on the geometry of the locating segment or path.  
 548 Features with area geometries, like a county, are also supported. In this case, the  
 549 RoadLinearFeatureEvent depicts what part of the segment or path is in the county.

550 **7.3.3.2 RoadPointFeatureEvent**

551 A RoadPointFeatureEvent provides the means of specifying a linear location for a feature as a  
 552 single point location along a segment or path. All of the feature’s attributes, including optional  
 553 geometry, are included with the feature. The RoadPointFeatureEvent is only attributed with the  
 554 linear location of the feature along a segment or path, specified by a single “at” position along the  
 555 segment or path using a linearly referenced position expression explained in Annex B of the  
 556 Transportation Base. There are no restrictions on the type of feature being located. The feature  
 557 can have a point footprint, like a stop sign. Sign attributes, like date installed or height, are kept  
 558 with the sign feature. The sign feature may not have geometry of its own, but instead rely on the  
 559 geometry of the locating segment or path. Features with linear geometries, like a county  
 560 boundary, are also supported. In this case, the RoadPointFeatureEvent depicts where the  
 561 segment or path crosses the county boundary (that is to say, the county changes).



562  
 563

Figure 6 – RoadPointEvent and RoadLinearEvent code lists

564 **7.3.4 RoadAttributeEvent data dictionary**

565 Listed below in Table 2 are the RoadAttributeEvent objects and their associated attributes.

566

567

**Table 2 – RoadAttributeEvent data dictionary**

Line	Name/Role Name	Definition	Obligation/ Condition	Maximum Occurrence	Data Type	Domain
39	RoadEvent	Mechanism for locating an attribute value or feature along a road			<<Abstract>>	Lines 40-41
40	Transportation Base:: TranEvent::source	Supplier of the event object	M	1	CharacterString	Unrestricted
41	Role name: locatingFeature	Road feature to which event is referenced	M	1	<<Union>> LocatingRoadFeature	RoadSeg or RoadPath
42	RoadAttributeEvent	Mechanism for locating an attribute value along a road			<<DataType>>	Line 43
43	attributeValue	Value of the attribute at the specified location	M	1	CharacterString	Unrestricted
44	RoadLinearAttributeEvent	Mechanism for locating an attribute value for an interval along a road			<<DataType>>	Lines 45-47
45	startPosition	Starting location along the road for the attribute value	M	1	<<Type>> LR_PositionExpression	Defined in ISO 19133
46	endPosition	Ending location along the road for the attribute value	M	1	<<Type>> LR_PositionExpression	Defined in ISO 19133
47	linearEventType	Name of the attribute	M	1	<<CodeList>> RoadLinearEventType	Restricted to values in the code list RoadLinearEventType (see Figure 6)
48	RoadPointAttributeEvent	Mechanism for locating an attribute value at a single point along a road			<<DataType>>	Lines 49-50
49	atPosition	Point location along the road at	M	1	<<Type>>	Defined in ISO 19133

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Line	Name/Role Name	Definition	Obligation/Condition	Maximum Occurrence	Data Type	Domain
		which the attribute value applies			LR_PositionExpression	
50	pointEvent	Name of the attribute	M	1	<<CodeList>> RoadPointEventType	Restricted to the values in the code list RoadPointEventType (see Figure 6)
51	RoadFeatureEvent	Mechanism for locating a feature along a road			<<Abstract>>	Line 52
52	Role name: linearlyLocatedFeature	Feature that is located along the road	M	1	<<Feature>> Framework:: Feature	Unrestricted
53	RoadLinearFeatureEvent	Mechanism for locating a feature along an interval along a road			<<DataType>>	Lines 54-55
54	startPosition	Starting location along the road for the feature	M	1	<<Type>> LR_PositionExpression	Defined in ISO 19133
55	endPosition	Ending location along the road for the feature	M	1	<<Type>> LR_PositionExpression	Defined in ISO 19133
56	RoadPointFeatureEvent	Mechanism for locating a feature at a single point along a road			<<DataType>>	Line 57
57	atPosition	Point location along the road at which the feature is located	M	1	<<Type>> LR_PositionExpression	Defined in ISO 19133
58	LocatingRoadFeature	Road feature used to locate a road event			<<Union>>	Lines 59-61
59	segment	The RoadSeg used to locate a road event	C/If path is notspecified	1	RoadSeg	Unrestricted
60	path	The RoadPath used to locate a road event	C/If segment is not specified	1	RoadPath	Unrestricted
61	Role name: event	Road event located by the feature	M	*	<<Abstract>> RoadEvent	Unrestricted

568 **7.4 Code lists**

569 **7.4.1 RoadLinearEventType code list**

570 RoadLinearEventType is a non-exhaustive CodeList of values for the attribute linearEvent.

571

572

**Table 3 – CodeList for RoadLinearEventType**

Name	Definition
operationalStatus	
length	
routeNumber	
directionalPrefix	
directionalSuffix	
ownership	
addressInformation	
alternateName	
alternateNameBody	
alternateNameText	
alternateStreetName	
alternateStreetNameBody	
alternateStreetNameText	
averageVehicleSpeed	
directionOfTrafficFlow	
dividedRoadElement	
divider	
dividerType	
dividerWidth	
emergencyVehicleLane	
externalIdentifier	
firstHouseNumber	
formOfWay	
frequencyOfATrafficConnection	
functionalRoadClass	
houseNumberRange	
houseNumberStructure	

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Name	Definition
intermediateHouseNumber	
laneDependentValidity	
lastHouseNumber	
lateralOffset	
maxHeightAllowed	
maxLengthAllowed	
maxWeightAllowed	
maxNumberOfLanes	
maxTotalWeightAllowed	
maxWeightPerAxleAllowed	
maxWidthAllowed	
minNumberOfLanes	
minNumberOfOccupents	
mountainPass	
multiMediaAction	
multiMediaDescription	
multiMediaFileAttachment	
multiMediaFileAttachmentContext	
multiMediaFileAttachmentName	
multiMediaFileAttachmentType	
multiMediaTimeDomain	
nameComponent	
nameComponentLength	
nameComponentOffset	
nameComponentType	
namePrefix	
numberOfLanes	
openingPeriod	
pavedRoadSurfaceType	
pavementStatus	
postalCode	
removableBlockage	

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Name	Definition
roadGradient	
roadInclination	
scenicValue	
slipRoadType	
specialRestriction	
speedRestriction	
trafficFlow	
trafficFlowMeasure	
trafficFlowMeasurementType	
trafficFlowMeasurementUnit	
trafficJamSensitivity	
travelTime	
validityDirection	
validityPeriod	
vehicleType	
width	

573

574 **7.4.2 RoadPointEventType code list**

575 RoadPointEventType is a non-exhaustive CodeList of values for the attribute pointEvent.

576

577

**Table 4 – CodeList for RoadPointEventType**

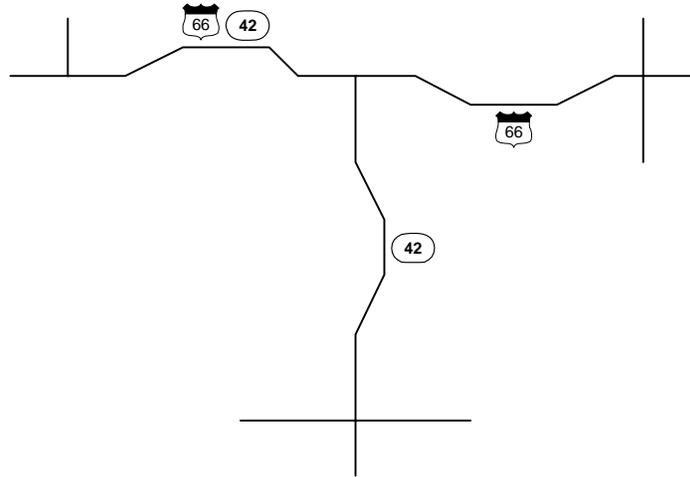
Name	Definition
pass	
tollbooth	
tollCharge	
maxElevation	
sign	

578

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581

### Annex A (informative) Road example

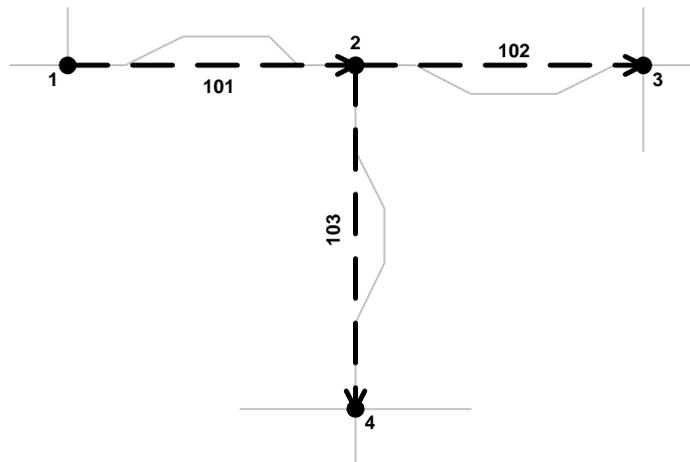
582 The map in Figure A.1 depicts a set of roads which are to be exchanged using this part of the  
583 standard.  
584



585  
586  
587

Figure A.1 – Road example

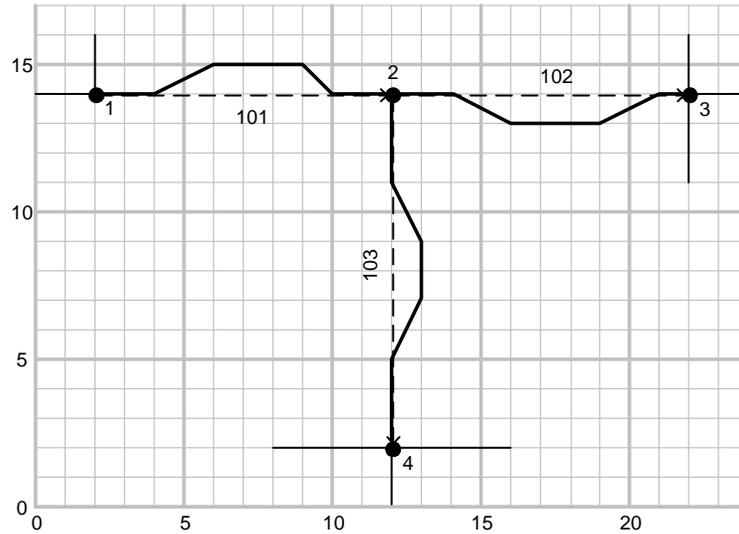
588  
589 The data supplier chooses to create a segmentation model based on splitting the physical roads  
590 at all intersection locations. Road points are defined at these intersection locations. These are  
591 represented by road points 1, 2, 3, and 4 in Figure A.2. Road segments represent the physical  
592 roads between these road points. Road segment 101 starts at road point 1 and ends at road  
593 point 2; 102 from 2 to 3; and 103 from 2 to 4.



594  
595  
596

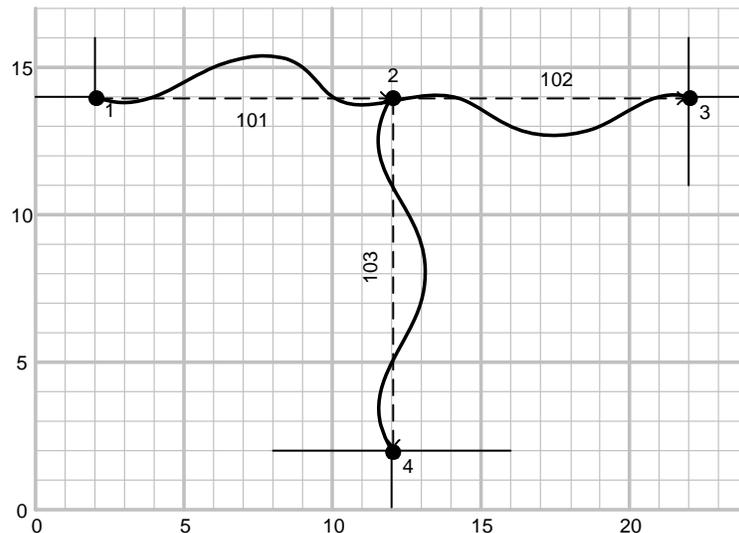
Figure A.2 – Road points and road segments

597 The road segments are depicted as straight lines in Figure A.2 to highlight the fact that they are  
598 not geometric shapes; they merely represent the physical roadway. Any number of geometric  
599 shapes can be associated with each road segment to represent its physical shape and location at  
600 varying levels of precision. Figure A.3 shows an approximate, linestring geometry for the road  
601 segments which may be sufficient for GIS applications. Figure A.4 shows a more precise, curve  
602 geometry which might be used for engineering design and construction.  
603



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**Figure A.3 – Approximate GIS linestring geometry**



608  
609  
610

**Figure A.4 – More precise engineering curve geometry**

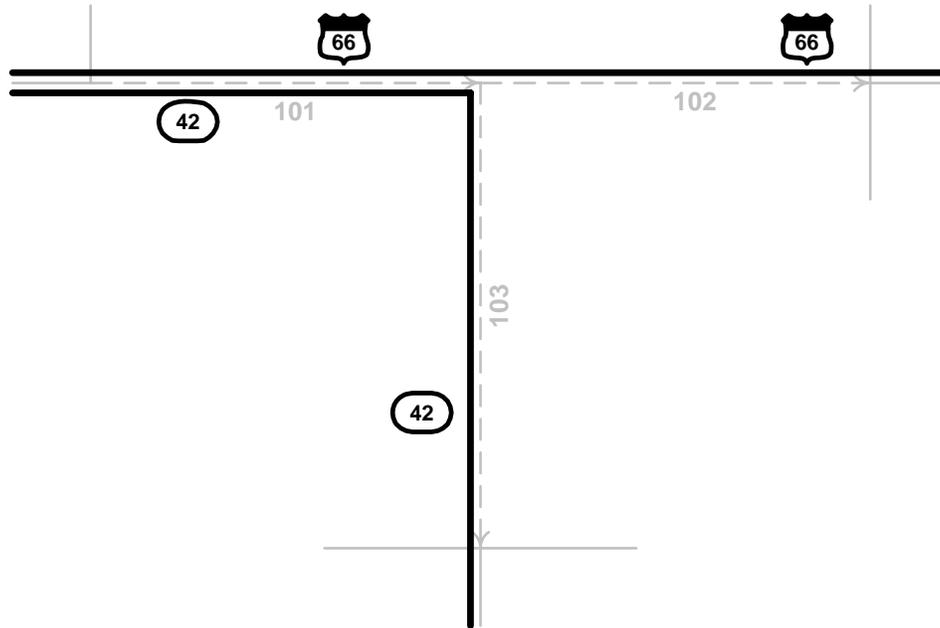
611 Regardless of the associated geometry, each road segment is attributed with a length value for  
612 use in linearly referenced calculations. Additionally, each road segment has a field measure  
613 value equal to the actual length of the physical road in the field.  
614

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615 The rationale for segmentation is up to the data provider. It would have been acceptable to have  
616 alternatively defined a single road segment, 100, between road points 1 and 3 in a different  
617 dataset. Road segment 100 could then be equivalenced to segments 101 and 102. Alternative  
618 road points could have been defined at locations other than intersections, if the segmentation  
619 strategy was something other than intersection to intersection.

620 Road paths are used to represent a usage of the road segments, such as for administrative  
621 routes. In Figure A.5, U.S. Route 66 follows the physical road represented by road segments 101  
622 and 102. State Highway 42 also uses 101 but then makes a right turn and follows road segment  
623 103.

624



625

626

627

**Figure A.5 – Road paths**

628

629 Because Route 66 uses the entire road segments and because its direction of increasing mileage  
630 matches the direction of the underlying road segments, it is sufficient to define the association  
631 between Route 66 and road segments 101 and 102 as a simple list.

632 Because a road path can use partial as well as whole road segments, a more sophisticated  
633 mapping may be used. One way to achieve this is to use linear referencing to define matching  
634 locations on the path and the participating segments. Table A.1 shows the road segment  
635 mappings for paths 66 and 42. Positions along the paths are expressed using a milepoint linear  
636 reference method, where locations are measured in miles from the start of the path (see Figure  
637 A.6). Positions along road segments are defined using a percentage linear reference method,  
638 where locations are expressed as a percentage of the length attribute of the road segment, in the  
639 direction from its start to end road points.

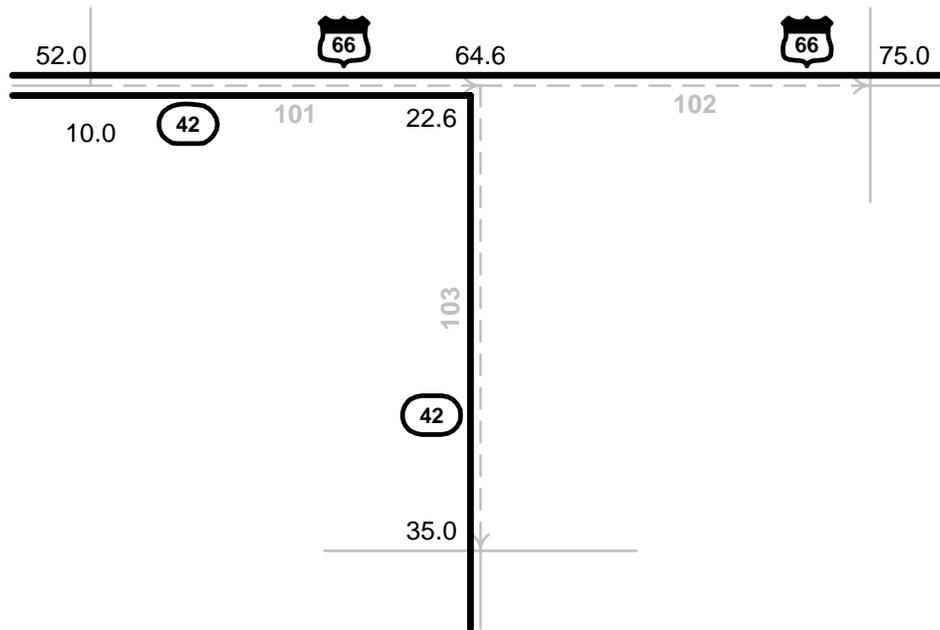
640

641

**Table A.1 – Road path to road segment mappings**

Road Path	Milepoint	Road Segment	Percentage
Route 66	52.0	101	0
	64.6	101	100
	64.6	102	0
	75.0	102	100
Highway 42	10.0	101	0
	22.6	101	100
	22.6	103	0
	35.0	103	100

642  
643



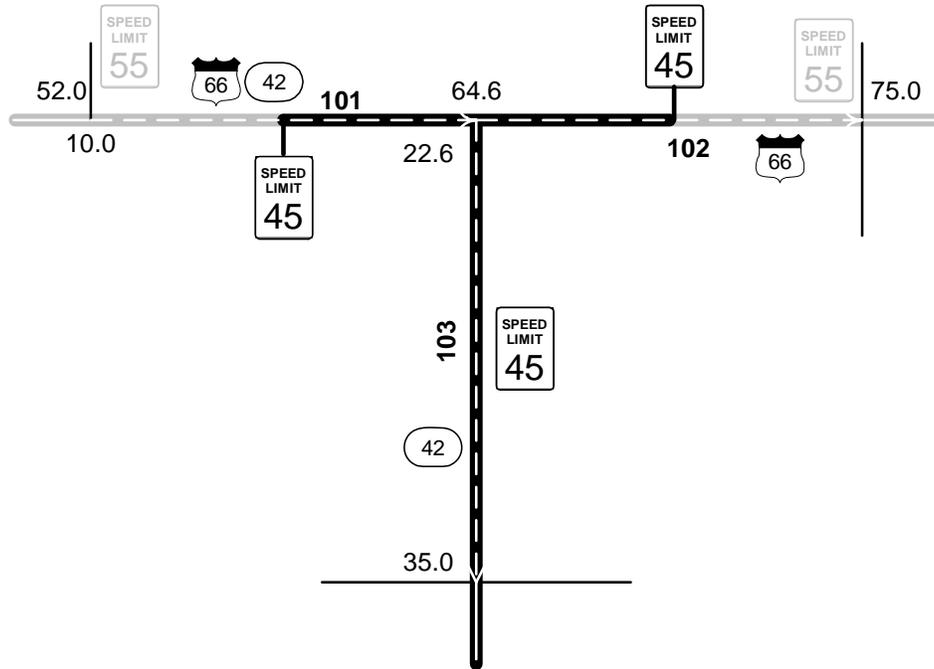
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**Figure A.6 – Routes with milepoint values**

648 Attributes can be defined directly for segments and paths if they apply to the entire segment or  
649 path, respectively. Examples of these are road segment length and road path route number.  
650 Often, attributes can change value along the length of the segment or path. This is encoded as  
651 road attribute events.

652 Speed limit is an example of the linear type of road attribute event; the speed limit can have  
653 different values at different locations along a road segment or road path (see Figure A.7). The  
654 speed limit attribute events can be defined against road paths using a milepoint linear reference  
655 method as in Table A.2.

656



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661

**Figure A.7 – Speed limit road linear attribute events**

**Table A.2 – Road path speed limit linear attribute events**

Road Path	Speed Limit Value	From Position Milepoint	To Position Milepoint
Route 66	55	52.0	58.3
	45	58.3	69.8
	55	69.8	75.0
Highway 42	55	10.0	16.3
	45	16.3	35.0

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Alternatively, since speed limit is functionally dependent upon the road segment rather than the routes that use it, speed limit road attribute events could be defined against the underlying road segments as in Table A.3. This way, a speed limit value is defined once but then usable by all routes using the road segment. This normalized approach facilitates edits to speed limit values – there is only one occurrence to be edited. It also makes it possible to give roads without route designations a speed limit value(s).

670

**Table A.3 – Road segment speed limit linear attribute events**

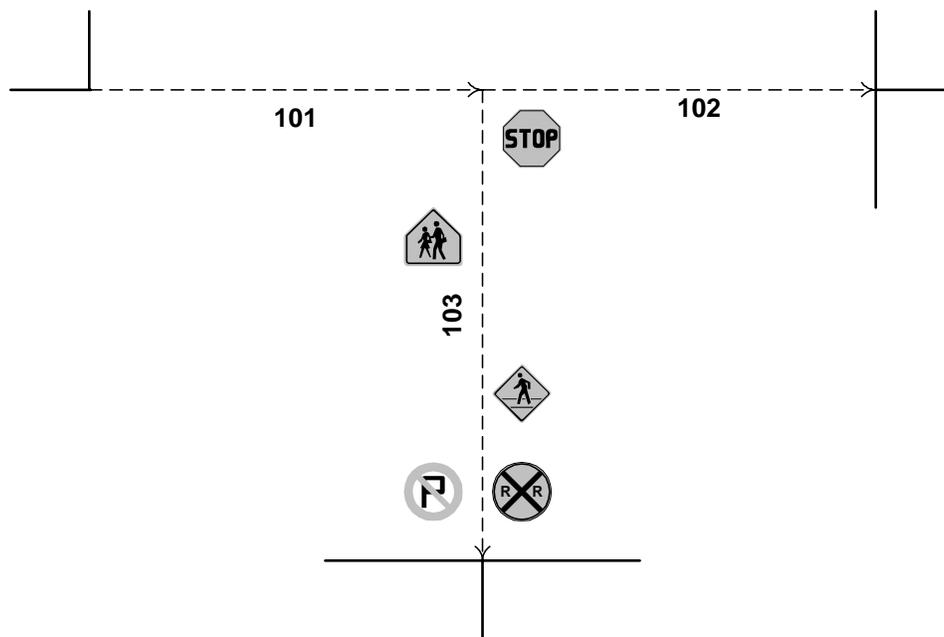
Road Segment	Speed Limit Value	From Position Percentage	To Position Percentage
101	55	0	50
	45	50	100
102	45	0	50
	55	50	100
103	45	0	100

671

672

673 Road attribute events may occur at a single point along the road. An example of this point type of  
 674 road attribute event is “sign”. This event is characterized by the value of the attribute, in this case  
 675 the type of sign, and an “at” position defining its linearly referenced location. For the stop sign in  
 676 Figure A.8, the value is “stop” and the “at” position is {road segment 103, percentage/feet, 0.1, left  
 677 curb, -5.0}. The position expression shown within the curly braces is, in accordance with ISO  
 678 19133, comprised of the linear element being measured (road segment 103), the linear  
 679 referencing method (percentage with offsets measured in feet), a distance of 0.1% along the  
 680 length of road segment 103 in the direction from road point 2 to 4, an offset referent equal to “left  
 681 curb”, and an offset distance of 5.0 feet to the left of, that is, from the back of the curb.

682



683

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685

**Figure A.8 – Road segment point events**

686

687 If more information needs to be exchanged about the stop sign, then it can be encoded with a  
 688 point feature (rather than attribute) event. This event has the same at position as defined above.  
 689 Instead of an attribute value, it has an association to a sign feature. This feature can have  
 690 whatever attributes are appropriate, for example authority = “DOT”, identifier = 1073625,  
 691 description = “stop sign”, last update date = 1992-1-9, installed date = 1991-7-11, height = 5’6”,

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692 and GM\_Point = (12.01, 13.99). Notice that, as a feature, the stop sign can have its own  
693 geometry, independent of its linearly referenced location along road segment 103.

694 Figure A.8 has additional point attribute or feature events, such as a pedestrian crosswalk or a  
695 railroad crossing. School zones and no parking areas would more likely be encoded as linear  
696 attribute or feature events.