



## **Geographic Information Framework Data Content Standard**

### **Part 7c: Transportation - Roads**

May 2008

## **Federal Geographic Data Committee**

Established by Office of Management and Budget Circular A-16, the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) promotes the coordinated development, use, sharing, and dissemination of geographic data.

The FGDC is composed of representatives from the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Housing and Urban Development, the Interior, Justice, Labor, State, and Transportation, the Treasury, and Veteran Affairs; the Environmental Protection Agency; the Federal Communications Commission; the General Services Administration; the Library of Congress; the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; the National Archives and Records Administration; the National Science Foundation; the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; the Office of Personnel Management; the Small Business Administration; the Smithsonian Institution; the Social Security Administration; the Tennessee Valley Authority; and the U.S. Agency for International Development. Additional Federal agencies participate on FGDC subcommittees and working groups. The Department of the Interior chairs the committee.

FGDC subcommittees work on issues related to data categories coordinated under the circular. Subcommittees establish and implement standards for data content, quality, and transfer; encourage the exchange of information and the transfer of data; and organize the collection of geographic data to reduce duplication of effort. Working groups are established for issues that transcend data categories.

For more information about the committee, or to be added to the committee's newsletter mailing list, please contact:

Federal Geographic Data Committee Secretariat  
c/o U.S. Geological Survey  
590 National Center  
Reston, Virginia 22092  
Facsimile: (703) 648-5755  
Internet (electronic mail): [fgdc@usgs.gov](mailto:fgdc@usgs.gov)  
World Wide Web: <http://www.fgdc.gov>

## Contents

Introduction.....	vi
1 Scope .....	1
2 Conformance.....	2
3 Normative references.....	2
4 Maintenance authority .....	2
4.1 Level of responsibility.....	2
4.2 Contact information .....	2
5 Terms and definitions .....	2
6 Symbols, abbreviated terms, and notations.....	3
7 Road system model.....	3
7.1 Road system .....	3
7.2 Road segmentation model.....	4
7.2.1 Introduction.....	4
7.2.2 RoadPoint.....	5
7.2.3 Anchor point .....	5
7.2.4 RoadSeg .....	5
7.2.5 Road segment equivalence .....	6
7.2.6 Anchor section .....	6
7.2.7 RoadPath .....	6
7.2.8 Attributes for road system.....	7
7.3 The event model .....	11
7.3.1 Introduction.....	11
7.3.2 RoadAttributeEvent.....	11
7.3.3 RoadFeatureEvent.....	12
7.3.4 RoadAttributeEvent data dictionary .....	15
7.4 Code lists.....	17
7.4.1 RoadLinearEventType code list.....	18
7.4.2 RoadPointEventType code list.....	21
Annex A (informative) Road example.....	22
Annex B (informative) Bibliography .....	29
Figures	
Figure 1 – Relationship of road features to Transportation Base (Part 7) model.....	4
Figure 2 – RoadPoints bounding a RoadSeg (A, B) and non-RoadPoints (C, D).....	5
Figure 3 – Road segment equivalence .....	6
Figure 4 – RoadAttributeEvent model .....	11
Figure 5 – RoadFeatureEvent model .....	13
Figure 6 – RoadPointEventType and RoadLinearEventType code lists .....	17
Figure A.1 – Road example.....	22
Figure A.2 – Road points and road segments .....	22
Figure A.3 – Approximate GIS linestring geometry .....	23
Figure A.4 – More precise engineering curve geometry .....	23
Figure A.5 – Road paths .....	24

---

<b>Figure A.6 – Routes with milepoint values .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Figure A.7 – Speed limit road linear attribute events .....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Figure A.8 – Road segment point events .....</b>	<b>27</b>

**Tables**

<b>Table 1 – Data dictionary for road system .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Table 2 – Data dictionary for RoadAttributeEvent .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Table 3 – CodeList for RoadLinearEventType.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Table 4 – CodeList for RoadPointEventType.....</b>	<b>21</b>

<b>Table A.1 – Road path to road segment mappings.....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Table A.2 – Road path speed limit linear attribute events .....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Table A.3 – Road segment speed limit linear attribute events .....</b>	<b>27</b>

## Foreword

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

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

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

## **Introduction**

The primary purpose of this part of the Geographic Information Framework Data Content Standard is to support the exchange of road transportation data. This part seeks to establish a common baseline for the semantic content of road transportation databases for public agencies and private enterprises. It also seeks to decrease the costs and simplify the exchange of road transportation data among local, Tribal, State, and Federal users and producers. That, in turn, discourages duplicative data collection. Benefits of adopting this part of the standard also include the long-term improvement of the geospatial road transportation data within the community, improved integration of safety, emergency response, and enforcement data, and streamlined maintenance procedures.

This part of the Framework Data Content Standard was preceded in development by the FGDC NSDI Framework Transportation Identification Standard and the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) 20-27(2).

## 1 Scope

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

There are a number of issues common to the transportation domain that are covered in the Transportation Base (Part 7) part of the standard because of their broader applications. Some of these issues and their relevance for the Roads part are discussed in Annex A of the Transportation Base.

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

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

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

The Roads part relies extensively on ISO 19133 for linear referencing. Linear reference systems (LRS) are, in the strictest sense, not central to this part of the standard and also are complex enough to warrant separate treatment. Users should refer to Annex B of the Transportation Base (Part 7) part of the standard for information on linear reference systems. The use of LRS is not added simply to support the requirements of departments of transportation; LRS is used as a technique to transfer road information between systems in a simple, flexible data structure that does not impose a specific segmentation scheme on the data being exchanged. LRS is used in this part of the standard to support the exchange of asset information such as sign locations and pavement condition, as well as to support the placement of transportation statistics such as traffic counts or accident data along the roads, or the number of lanes, or speed limits.

A linkage between this part of the standard and appropriate ISO standards for representing spatial features using the Unified Modeling Language (UML) has been developed. These upper-level classes are not necessarily unique to roads, or even to transportation. A specific road

---

profile of those standards has been assembled as the base classes for this model, primarily to take advantage of geometry, topology, and metadata standards. Additional work by ISO TC211 and TC204 to harmonize Geographic Data Files (GDF) and linear referencing standards is in progress in parallel with the development of this standard. Annex B in the Base Document (Part 0) contains a brief explanation of UML diagrams.

## **2 Conformance**

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

## **3 Normative references**

Annex A of the Base Document (Part 0) lists normative references applicable to two or more parts of the standard, including those other than the transportation parts. No additional normative references are specified in the Transportation Base (Part 7). Informative references applicable to the Roads part only are listed in Annex B. Informative references applicable to two or more transportation parts only are listed in Annex C of the Transportation Base. Annex D of the Base Document lists informative references applicable to two or more of the parts, including those other than the transportation parts.

## **4 Maintenance authority**

### **4.1 Level of responsibility**

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

### **4.2 Contact information**

Address questions concerning this part of the standard to:

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

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

## **5 Terms and definitions**

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



## **5.1 anchor section**

section of road between two anchor points

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

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

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

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

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

## **5.4 road feature**

entity that constitutes the road system

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

## **5.5 road path**

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

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

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

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

# **7 Road system model**

## **7.1 Road system**

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

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

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

- A road segmentation model, which defines the representation of the physical segments of the road network (road segments), their connectivity (road points), and their usage (road paths)

- An event model, which defines a method to model attributes that may have values that change from one part of a segment to another and to linearly locate features along road segments or paths
- A linear reference model, which defines how locations are specified along linear features. Strictly speaking, the linear reference model is not a part of this model, but is referenced because of the part it plays in handling the attribution for road features. The linear reference model is described in full in Annex B of the Transportation Base

## 7.2 Road segmentation model

### 7.2.1 Introduction

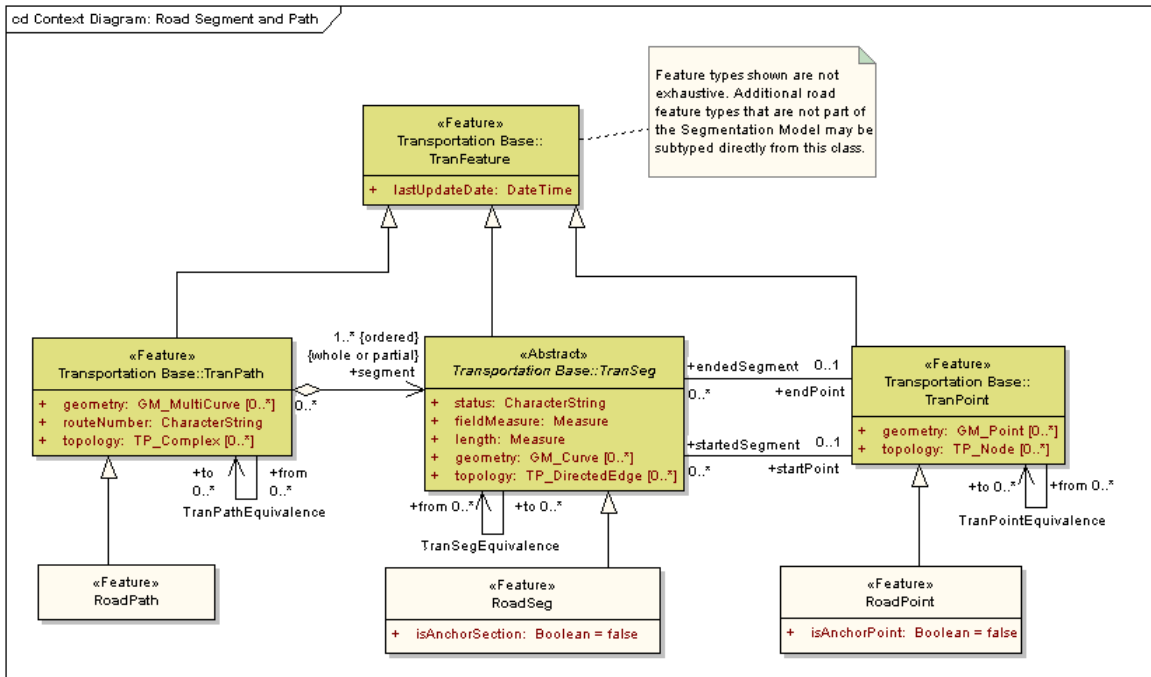
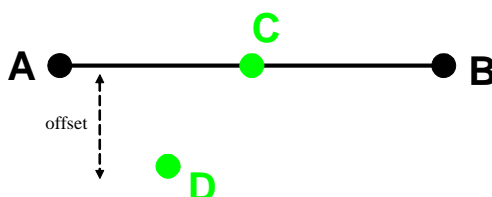


Figure 1 – Relationship of road features to Transportation Base (Part 7) model

To ensure maximum utility in a variety of contexts, this road model does not prescribe any specific business rules for the segmentation of the road system. The road network is the set of road features and their topological relationships which together define all possible movements through the road system. The road network can be broken up into segments called RoadSegs. RoadSegs represent individual pieces of the physical road network, such as that part of Main Street which exists between First Avenue and Second Avenue. It is highly recommended that RoadSegs be topologically connected by RoadPoints. RoadPoints serve to connect two RoadSegs. RoadPaths prescribe a usage of part of the road network, such as Route 66 or Washington Avenue. They represent a path through a set of whole or partial RoadSegs. RoadSeg, RoadPoint, and RoadPath are specializations of the transportation feature classes TranSeg, TranPoint, and TranPath, respectively (see Figure 1). All other real world entities comprising the road system are represented as road features.

## 7.2.2 RoadPoint

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



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

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

## 7.2.3 Anchor point

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

## 7.2.4 RoadSeg

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

RoadSeg extends TranSeg and is depicted in Figure 1. Because it extends TranSeg, RoadSeg inherits all properties from TranSeg including optional geometry of type GM\_Curve as defined in ISO 19107. According to ISO 19107, GM\_Curve extends GM\_OrientableCurve and therefore has direction. RoadSeg also can have a topology of type TP\_DirectedEdge, as defined in ISO 19107. The reason TP\_DirectedEdge has been introduced is to facilitate the representation of feature topology through its combinatorial structures independent of its geometry. For example, in the implementation of this model, a data provider may choose to represent only the geometry

of a RoadSeg, which implies a direction inherited from GM\_OrientableCurve. Another data provider may choose not to supply road feature geometry and only provide the orientation of the RoadSeg using its topology attribute.

### 7.2.5 Road segment equivalence

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

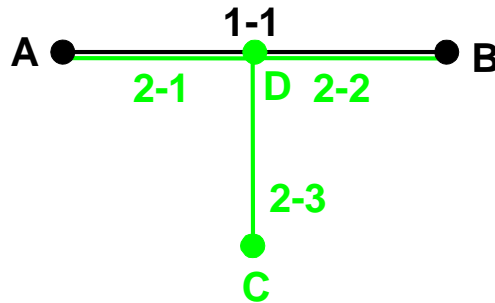


Figure 3 – Road segment equivalence

### 7.2.6 Anchor section

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

### 7.2.7 RoadPath

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

**7.2.8 Attributes for road system**

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

**Table 1 – Data dictionary for road system**

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 Attribute	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	Transportation Base::TranPath::routeNumber	Public RoadPath identifier	M	1	CharacterString	Unrestricted
9	Role name: segment	Road segment feature used by the RoadPath	M	*	<<Abstract>> TransportationBase::TranSeg	Whole or partial RoadSeg

Line	Name/Role Name	Definition	Obligation/ Condition	Maximum Occurrence	Data Type	Domain
10	Role name: from	Source RoadPath in equivalency	C/part of equivalency?	*	<<Feature>> TransportationBase:: TranPath	Whole or partial RoadPaths
11	Role name: to	Destination RoadPath in equivalency	C/part of equivalency?	*	<<Feature>> TransportationBase:: TranPath	Whole or partial RoadPaths
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:: ExtendedAttribute	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

Line	Name/Role Name	Definition	Obligation/Condition	Maximum Occurrence	Data Type	Domain
22	Role name: from	Source RoadPoint in equivalency	C/part of equivalency?	*	<<Feature>> TransportationBase:: TranPoint	Unrestricted
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:: ExtendedAttribute	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

Line	Name/Role Name	Definition	Obligation/ Condition	Maximum Occurrence	Data Type	Domain
32	Transportation Base:: TranSeg::geometry	Geometric representation of the instantiated segment entity	O	*	<<Type>> GM_Curve	Defined in ISO 19107
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	O	1	<<Feature>> TransportationBase:: TranPoint	Unrestricted
36	Role name: endPoint	RoadPoint corresponding to segment end	O	1	<<Feature>> TransportationBase:: TranPoint	Unrestricted
37	Role name: from	Source RoadSeg in equivalence	C/part of equivalency?	*	<<Abstract>> TransportationBase:: TranSeg	Whole or partial RoadSegs
38	Role name: to	Destination RoadSeg in equivalence	C/part of equivalency?	*	<<Abstract>> TransportationBase:: TranSeg	Whole or partial RoadSegs



### 7.3 The event model

#### 7.3.1 Introduction

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

#### 7.3.2 RoadAttributeEvent

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

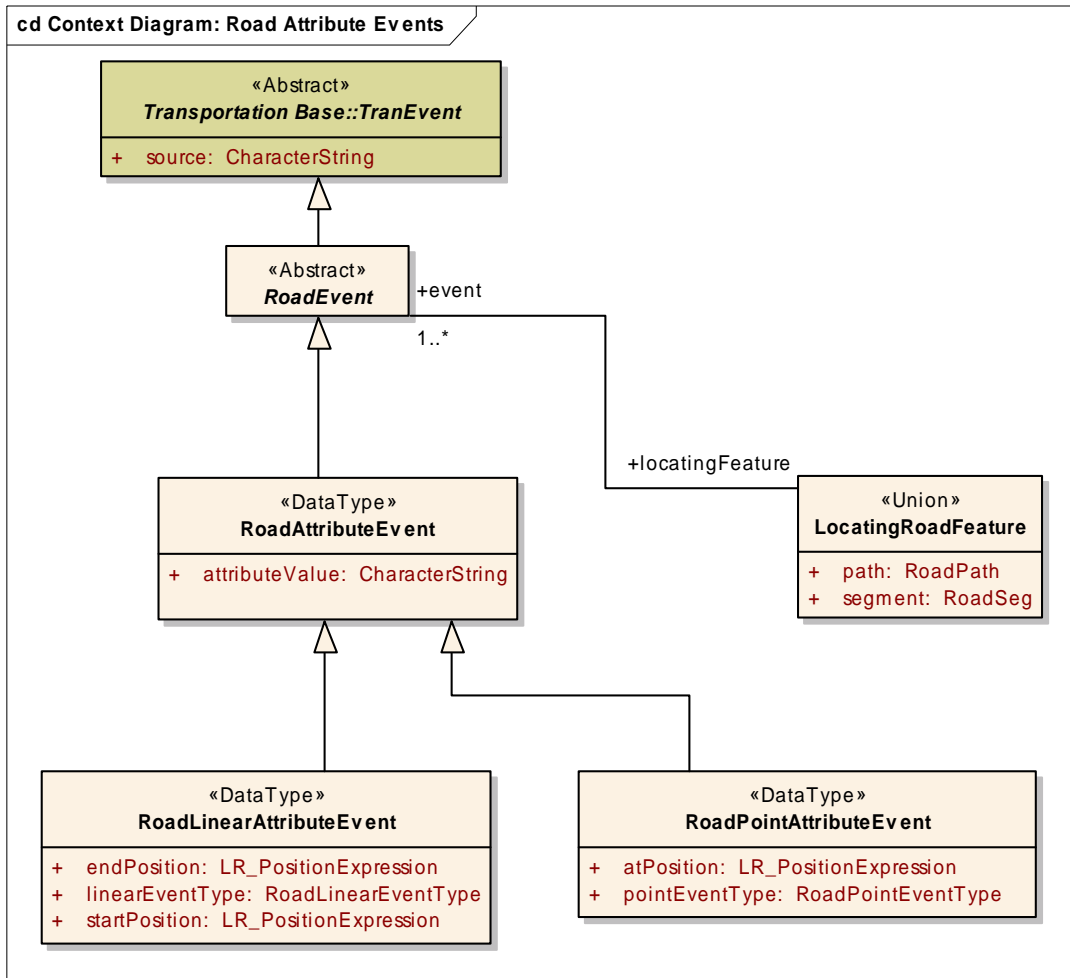


Figure 4 – RoadAttributeEvent model

Each `RoadAttributeEvent` specifies a particular value for an attribute of a linear feature along with the location along that feature for which the value applies. `RoadAttributeEvents` are subtyped into point and linear events. A `RoadPointAttributeEvent` event occurs at a single position along a `RoadSeg` or `RoadPath`. This position is called an “at” position. `RoadLinearAttributeEvents` apply to a length of the `RoadSeg` or `RoadPath`. This interval is defined by a “start” and an “end” position on the `RoadSeg` or `RoadPath`. The “at”, “start”, and “end” positions used to locate an event are specified using a linearly referenced position expression. This expression specifies the linear reference method used to perform the measurement, the linear feature (`RoadSeg` or `RoadPath`) being measured, the measurement along the feature, and optionally the measurement laterally offset to either side. See Annex B of the Transportation Base for more details.

#### **7.3.2.1 RoadLinearAttributeEvent**

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

#### **7.3.2.2 RoadPointAttributeEvent**

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

#### **7.3.3 RoadFeatureEvent**

Features can have attributes, each with a single, constant value. One of these attributes can be the geometry of the feature. For example, a street sign road feature can have a height attribute and a point geometry. This feature can also be linearly located along one or more `RoadSegs` or `RoadPaths`. Each such linear location is specified by a `RoadFeatureEvent`. The `RoadFeatureEvent` linearly locates any feature along a `RoadSeg` or `RoadPath`. `RoadFeatureEvents` are subtyped into `RoadPointFeatureEvents` and `RoadLinearFeatureEvents`. A `RoadPointFeatureEvent` occurs at a single position along a `RoadSeg` or `RoadPath`. This position is called an “at” position. `RoadLinearFeatureEvents` apply to a length of the `RoadSeg` or

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

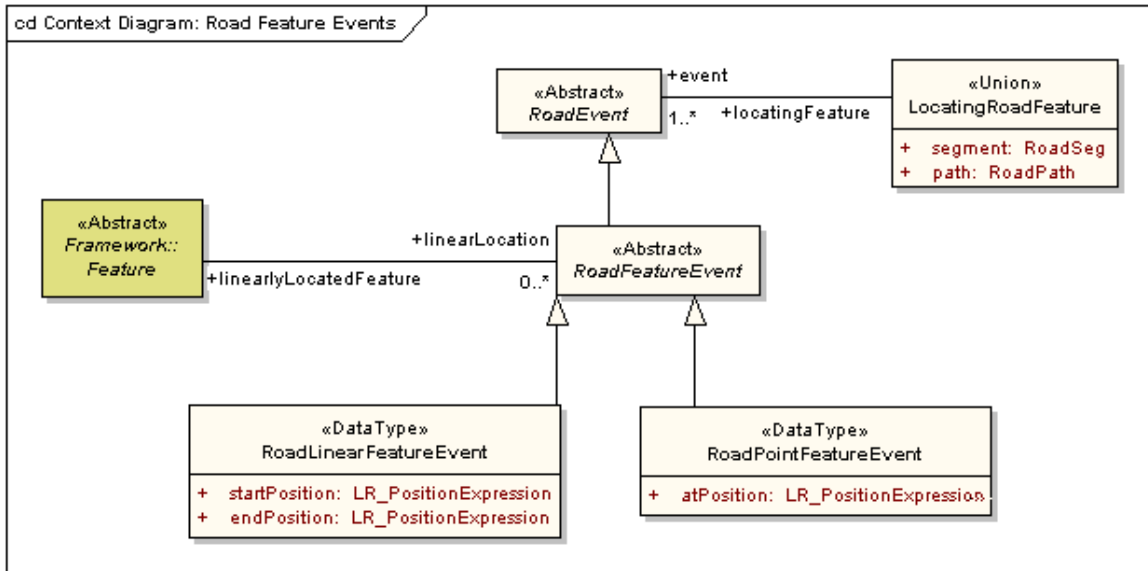


Figure 5 – RoadFeatureEvent model

### 7.3.3.1 RoadLinearFeatureEvent

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

### 7.3.3.2 RoadPointFeatureEvent

A RoadPointFeatureEvent provides the means of specifying a linear location for a feature as a single point location along a segment or path. All of the feature’s attributes, including optional geometry, are included with the feature. The RoadPointFeatureEvent is only attributed with the linear location of the feature along a segment or path, specified by a single “at” position along the segment or path using a linearly referenced position expression explained in Annex B of the Transportation Base. There are no restrictions on the type of feature being located. The feature can have a point footprint, like a stop sign. Sign attributes, like date installed or height, are kept

with the sign feature. The sign feature may not have geometry of its own, but instead rely on the geometry of the locating segment or path. Features with linear geometries, like a county boundary, are also supported. In this case, the RoadPointFeatureEvent depicts where the segment or path crosses the county boundary (that is to say, where the county changes).

### 7.3.4 RoadAttributeEvent data dictionary

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

**Table 2 – Data dictionary for RoadAttributeEvent**

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	Unrestricted
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	Unrestricted
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 which the attribute value applies	M	1	<<Type>> LR_PositionExpression	Defined in ISO 19133

Line	Name/Role Name	Definition	Obligation/ Condition	Maximum Occurrence	Data Type	Domain
50	pointEvent	Name of the attribute	M	1	<<CodeList>> RoadPointEventType	Unrestricted
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	RoadSeg used to locate a road event	C/if path is notspecified	1	RoadSeg	Unrestricted
60	path	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

## 7.4 Code lists



Figure 6 – RoadPointEventType and RoadLinearEventType code lists

### 7.4.1 RoadLinearEventType code list

RoadLinearEventType is a CodeList of values for the attribute linearEventType.

**Table 3 – CodeList for RoadLinearEventType**

Name	Definition
operationalStatus	Status of a roadway or part of a roadway; for example, proposed, under construction, open to traffic, abandoned, and so on
routeNumber	The route number of a road element, ferry element or chainage referencing section. The ID-number of a particular route in a given road network as Attributed by a national, sub-national or international organization (for example, the numbering of the departmental roads in France or the E-roads in Europe)
directionalPrefix	A geographic direction which is part of the official/alternate street name or route number of a road element or address area boundary element and which precedes the official/alternate street name body, route number body, street type prefix, or route type prefix
directionalSuffix	A geographic direction which is part of the official/alternate street name or route number of a road element or address area boundary element and which succeeds the official/alternate street name body, route number body, street type prefix, or route type prefix
ownership	Whether a road element is publicly or privately owned
addressInformation	The essential components of a street address
alternateName	The name of a feature that has no official status but is used or known by the general public
alternateNameBody	The part of the alternate name which has, compared to the prefix, most identifying power
alternateNameText	(A part of) an alternate name
alternateStreetName	The name of a road element or address area which has no official status but is used or known by the general public
alternateStreetNameBody	The part of the alternate name which has, compared to the prefix, most identifying power
alternateStreetNameText	(A part of) an alternate street name
averageVehicleSpeed	The average speed of vehicles traveling along a road element
directionOfTrafficFlow	The direction(s) of traffic flow allowed on a road element or ferry element or chainage referencing section
dividedRoadElement	An indication of the presence of a physical or legal divider which separates opposing lanes of traffic
divider	Information about the existence of a physical or legal divider along a road element which is not expressed by the individual features
dividerType	Classification of the divider along the road element
dividerWidth	The width of the divider along the road element



Name	Definition
emergencyVehicleLane	Indicates whether the associated road element has a separate emergency vehicle lane
externalIdentifier	A unique alphanumeric identifier ascribed to a particular feature
firstHouseNumber	The first house number along the road element or the address area boundary element
formOfWay	Certain aspects of the physical form that a road element takes. It is based on a number of certain physical and traffic properties
frequencyOfATrafficConnection	The time interval between two departures of a traffic connection
functionalRoadClass	A classification based on the importance of the role that the road element or ferry connection performs in the connectivity of the total road network
houseNumberRange	The set of house numbers that is related to one side of a particular road element or to a particular address area boundary element
houseNumberStructure	The type of house numbering method that is applied to one side of a particular Road Element or to a particular address area boundary element
intermediateHouseNumber	A house number along the road element or the address area boundary element, which is not the first or the last house number along that road or address area boundary element
laneDependentValidity	For which of the lanes of an associated road element the associated sub-attribute or relationship holds or does not hold
lastHouseNumber	The last house number along the road element or the address area boundary element
lateralOffset	An indication of the lateral position of a road furniture or structure feature
maxHeightAllowed	The maximum height limit of a vehicle that may use the road element, ferry connection or chainage referencing section. The limit is normally set by a physical obstruction such as a bridge or tunnel, or a legal restriction
maxLengthAllowed	The legal maximum length of a vehicle that may use the road element, ferry connection or chainage referencing section
maxNumberOfLanes	The maximum number of lanes existing on a road element
maxTotalWeightAllowed	The legal maximum total weight of a vehicle that may use the road element, ferry connection or chainage referencing section
maxWeightPerAxleAllowed	The legal maximum weight per axle of a vehicle that may use the road element, ferry connection or chainage referencing section
maxWidthAllowed	The maximum width limit of a vehicle that may use the road element, ferry connection or chainage referencing section. The limit is normally set by a physical obstruction such as a bridge or a legal restriction
minNumberOfLanes	The minimum number of lanes existing on a road element
minNumberOfOccupants	The minimum number of occupants of a vehicle which are required by traffic restriction
mountainPass	The existence, height and opening period of a road element which is considered as a mountain pass
multiMediaAction	A specification of what to do with the multi-media object
multiMediaDescription	A description of the multi-media object

Name	Definition
multiMediaFileAttachment	A multi-media file containing multi-media objects "decorating" the associated feature
multiMediaFileAttachmentContext	The context of the multi-media file attached to the feature
multiMediaFileAttachmentName	Name of the multi-media file attached to the feature
multiMediaFileAttachmentType	The type of the multi-media file attached to the feature
multiMediaTimeDomain	A specification when to perform the action indicated in the associated sub-attribute multi media action
nameComponent	The specification of a portion of a name which has a specific meaning
nameComponentLength	The length of a name component
nameComponentOffset	The offset of a name that represents the beginning of a name component
nameComponentType	The type of a name component
namePrefix	A part of the official or alternate name not belonging to the official/alternate name body, usually indicating the type of object the name refers to and which comes prior to the official/alternate name body
numberOfLanes	The number of lanes existing on a road element or chainage referencing section
openingPeriod	The period in which the function of an associated feature is available to the public
pavedRoadSurfaceType	The type of surface a paved road element has
pavementStatus	An indication of improvement applied to a road surface
postalCode	The official code of a postal area as defined by the national postal organization
removableBlockage	The way in which a removable barrier is to be removed
roadGradient	The road gradient percentage value on the road element
roadInclination	The transverse gradient of a road element
scenicValue	Whether a road element is regarded as scenic or not
slipRoadType	The type of slip road
specialRestriction	Special legal restrictions placed upon the use of a particular road element
speedRestriction	The maximum speed limit allocated to a road element
trafficFlow	Information about the traffic flow on road elements or chainage referencing sections
trafficFlowMeasure	The traffic flow on road elements or chainage referencing sections, expressed for instance by number of vehicles per day
trafficFlowMeasurementType	Classification of traffic flow measurement on road elements or chainage referencing sections
trafficFlowMeasurementUnit	Time unit over which the traffic flow measurement is recorded
trafficJamSensitivity	Probability of a traffic jam on a road element

Name	Definition
travelTime	The one-way travel time that a ferry connection takes to complete a journey
validityDirection	The direction for which the value defined in an associated sub-attribute attached at the line feature is valid
validityPeriod	The period, for which a value defined in an associated sub-attribute or relationship, is valid
vehicleType	The type of vehicle for which the information contained in an associated sub-attribute or relationship holds
width	The width of a road element or chainage referencing section, a lane or a road furniture or structure feature

#### 7.4.2 RoadPointEventType code list

RoadPointEventType is a CodeList of values for the attribute pointEventType.

**Table 4 – CodeList for RoadPointEventType**

Name	Definition
pass	Whether a road element is regarded as a mountain pass
tollbooth	Location where tolls are collected for the use of a transportation facility
tollCharge	Fee to be paid to travel on (a section of) a toll road
maxElevation	The height above sea level of the road at the crest of a hill or mountain pass
sign	A device at an identified location used to convey information to the reader

## Annex A (informative) Road example

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

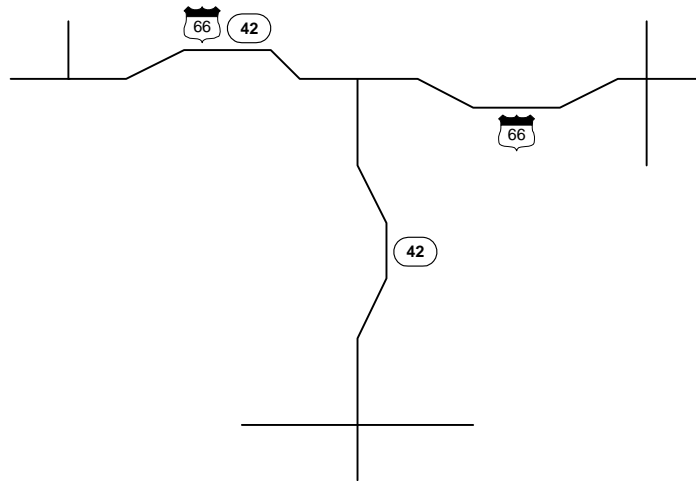


Figure A.1 – Road example

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

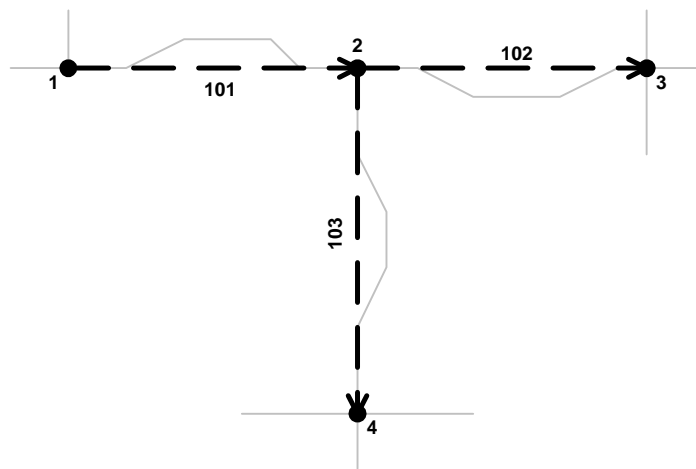
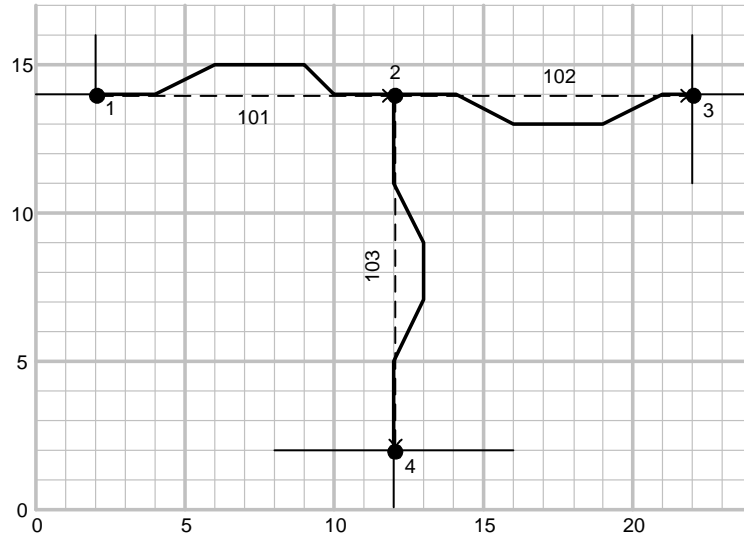
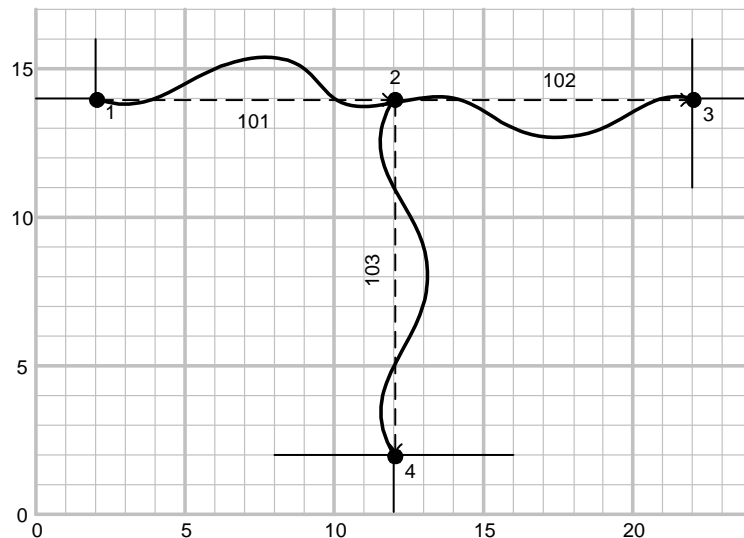


Figure A.2 – Road points and road segments

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



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

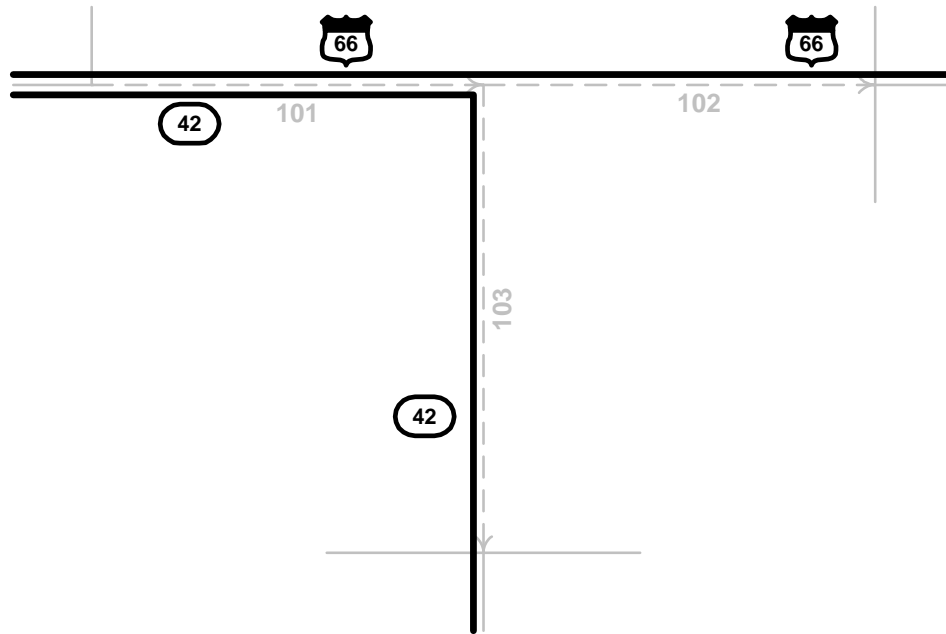


**Figure A.4 – More precise engineering curve geometry**

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

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

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



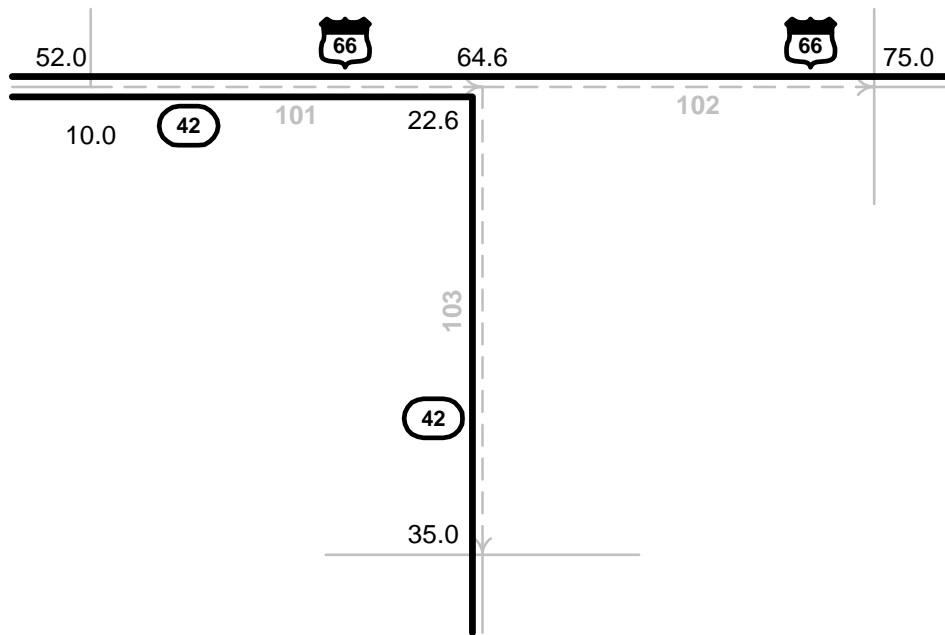
**Figure A.5 – Road paths**

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

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

**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



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

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

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

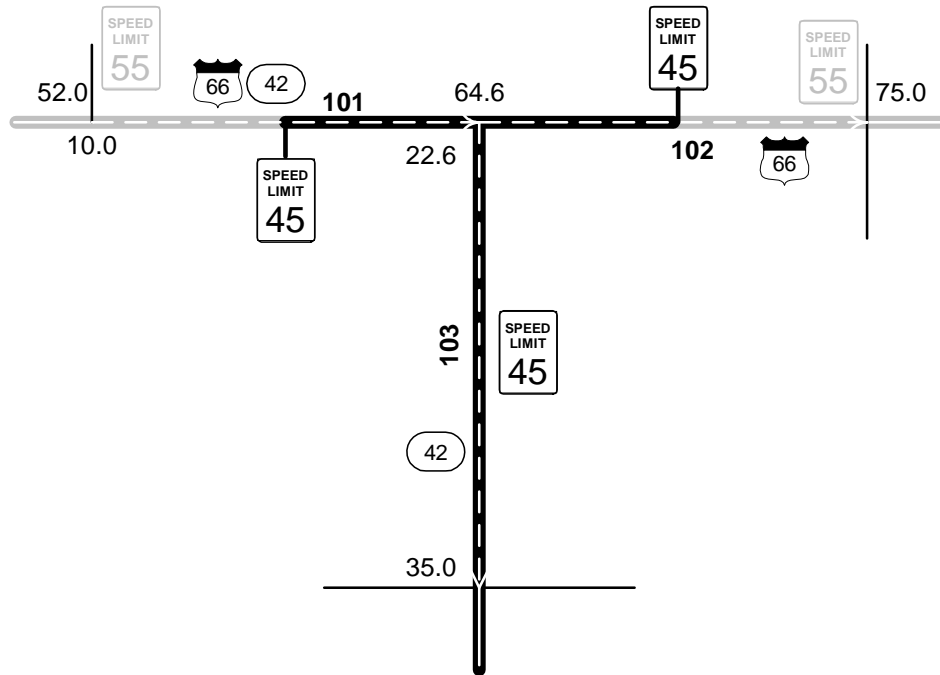


Figure A.7 – Speed limit road linear attribute events

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

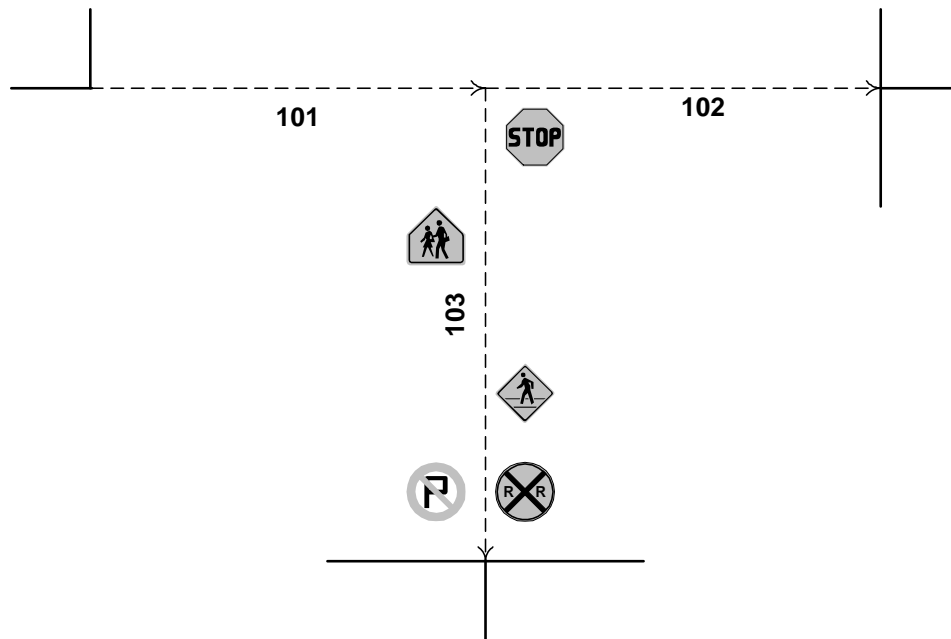
Alternatively, since speed limit is functionally dependent upon the road segment rather than the routes that use it, speed limit road attribute events could be defined against the underlying road segments as in Table A.3. This way, a speed limit value is defined once but then usable by all routes using 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).



**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

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



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

If more information needs to be exchanged about the stop sign, then it can be encoded with a point feature (rather than attribute) event. This event has the same at position as defined above. Instead of an attribute value, it has an association to a sign feature. This feature can have

whatever attributes are appropriate, for example authority = "DOT", identifier = 1073625, description = "stop sign", last update date = 1992-1-9, installed date = 1991-7-11, height = 5'6", and GM\_Point = (12.01, 13.99). Notice that, as a feature, the stop sign can have its own geometry, independent of its linearly referenced location along road segment 103.

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

## **Annex B (informative) Bibliography**

The following documents contain provisions that are relevant to this part of the Framework Data Content Standard. Informative references applicable to two or more transportation parts only are listed in Annex C of the Transportation Base (Part 7). Annex D of the Base Document (Part 0) lists informative references applicable to two or more of the parts of the standard, including the transportation parts. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document applies.

ANSI and ISO standards may be purchased through the ANSI eStandards Store at <http://webstore.ansi.org/ansidocstore/default.asp>, accessed October 2006.

Federal Geographic Data Committee, NSDI framework transportation identification standard, [http://www.fgdc.gov/standards/projects/FGDC-standards-projects/fr\\_trans\\_id/?searchterm=identification%20standard](http://www.fgdc.gov/standards/projects/FGDC-standards-projects/fr_trans_id/?searchterm=identification%20standard), accessed October 2006, (suspended)