

INFORMATION BULLETIN NO. 26-01

DATE: January 6, 2026

TO: Consultant Engineering Firms
ADOT Project Managers
Resident Engineers

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SUBJECT: New Federal Restrictions on Foreign Drones

Effective **December 22, 2025**, the *American Security Drone Act of 2023* (ASDA) and OMB Memorandum M-26-02 strictly prohibit the use of federal funds for UAS manufactured by covered foreign entities.

You may access both the ASDA and the OMB Memo directly here:

American Security Drone Act of 2023 (See Title XVIII, Subtitle B starting on page 557 of 974) - <https://www.congress.gov/118/plaws/publ31/PLAW-118publ31.pdf>
OMB Memorandum M-26-02 - <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/M-26-02-Ensuring-Government-Use-of-Secure-Unmanned-Aircraft-Systems-and-Supporting-United-States-Producers.pdf>

What You Need to Know:

- **The Ban:** You may no longer use FHWA funds (including grants, loans, or cooperative agreements) to procure, operate, or maintain "covered UAS" (including equipment from DJI, Autel, and other listed entities).
- **What is "Covered":** This includes any aircraft, flight controller, camera, or ground control station supplied by a manufacturer that is based in, or subject to the control of, a foreign adversary country, specifically the People's Republic of China.
- **Effective Date:** This prohibition applies to all costs incurred after **December 22, 2025**.

Required Actions:

1. **Stop Procurements:** Ensure no pending orders for this equipment will be paid for with federal funds.
2. **Cease Operations:** If your existing fleet includes these covered UAS, you must cease their operation, maintenance, or data processing on any FHWA funded project or grant.
3. **Segregate Assets:** We recommend physically quarantining these devices to prevent accidental use on federally funded projects.