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# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Amendments to the 2024 Edition of the Standard  
Specifications for Highways and Bridges



## **AMENDMENTS TO THE 2024 EDITION**

### **Notes**

For reference only, the following changes have been approved by the Department and incorporated into the 2025 edition of the *Standard Specifications for Highways and Bridges*.

This document is inclusive of the updates that were published as the *Supplemental Specifications*, dated September 30, 2024, and other standard specifications adopted through the last quarter of 2024.

To improve document accessibility and navigability, some subsection titles have been provided with additional numbering schema that had not existed in editions prior to 2025. These changes have not been specifically identified in this document.

This document is a companion to the *Standard Specifications for Highways and Bridges* but is not a part of the *Standard Specifications for Highways and Bridges* and is not a contract document. Any omissions contained herein are unintentional. In any case(s) where there are differences between the *Standard Specifications* and the changes listed below, the *Standard Specifications* shall prevail.

## **SECTION 1.00: DEFINITION OF TERMS**

### **Subsection 1.02: References, Abbreviations, Acronyms, Measurement Units and Symbols**

#### **1.02.B: Abbreviations and Acronyms**

Abbreviation for Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) added.

### **Subsection 1.03: Defined Terms**

In definition of “Party of the First Part,” reference to Massachusetts General Laws changed to MGL Chapter 6C, Section 4, Paragraph (b).

## **SECTION 2.00: PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS AND CONDITIONS**

### **Subsection 2.01: Proposal Forms and Plans**

#### **2.01.A: Prequalification Prior to Requesting Proposal Forms**

Reference to MGL Chapter 29, Section 8B change to MGL Chapter 81, Section 8B.

Reference to MGL Chapter 90, Section 34 changed to MGL Chapter 6C, Section 4, Paragraph (b).

#### **2.01.B: Issuance of Proposal Forms and Plans**

Reference to MGL Chapter 90, Section 34 changed to MGL Chapter 6C, Section 4, Paragraph (b).

## **SECTION 4.00: SCOPE OF WORK**

### **Subsection 4.01: Changed Conditions**

Reference to MGL Chapter 90, Section 34 changed to MGL Chapter 6C, Section 4, Paragraph (b).

### **Subsection 4.06: Increased or Decreased Contract Quantities**

*The following sentence has been added to the second paragraph:*

A demand for an equitable adjustment must be submitted to the other party within 30 days after beginning the work of the affected item that is greater than 25% above the bid quantity or within 30 days after completing the work when the actual quantity is 25% less than the bid quantity.

## **SECTION 7.00: LEGAL RELATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITY TO PUBLIC**

### **Subsection 7.08: Federal Participation (Applicable only to Contracts where the cost of any portion thereof is paid out of Federal Funds)**

Legal references have been limited to U.S. Code Title 23.

**Subsection 7.15: Claims Against Contractors for Payment of Labor, Materials and Other Purposes**

*This subsection has been changed in its entirety.*

**SECTION 9.00: MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT**

**Subsection 9.03: Payment for Extra Work**

**9.03.B: Payment for work or materials for which no price is contained in the Contract**

*Line 2 has been changed in its entirety.*

**Subsection 9.04: Partial Payments**

*The last sentence of the first paragraph has been changed to:*

No such estimates or payment shall be required to be made when, in the Engineer’s judgment, the work is not proceeding in accordance with the provisions of the Contract, or when the total value of the work completed since the last estimate amounts to less than \$5,000.00.

**SECTION 100: EARTHWORK, GRADING, DEMOLITION, RODENT CONTROL AND BORINGS**

**SUBSECTION 101: CLEARING AND GRUBBING**

**CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

**101.63: Disposition of Trees, Stumps and Brush**

*Updated Invasive Plants hyperlink to the following:*

[https://massnrc.org/mipag/speciesreviewed\\_alpha.htm](https://massnrc.org/mipag/speciesreviewed_alpha.htm)

**SUBSECTION 150: EMBANKMENT**

**CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

**150.62: Embankment Construction with Materials Other Than Rock**

*The fourth paragraph of this construction specification has been changed in its entirety.*

**SUBSECTION 160: CONTROLLED LOW-STRENGTH MATERIAL**

*This subsection has been added.*

## **SECTION 200: DRAINAGE**

### **SUBSECTION 201: BASINS, MANHOLES AND INLETS**

#### **MATERIALS**

##### **201.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

#### **CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

##### **201.60: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

##### **201.63: Placing Castings**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

#### **DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

##### **201.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

### **SUBSECTION 230: CULVERTS, STORM DRAINS, AND SEWER PIPES**

#### **MATERIALS**

##### **230.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

#### **CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

##### **230.60: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

#### **DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

##### **230.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

### **SUBSECTION 280: WATERWAYS**

#### **MATERIALS**

##### **280.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

**280.62: Cement Concrete Paving (Waterways)**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

**280.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

**SECTION 300: WATER SYSTEMS**

**SUBSECTION 301: WATER SYSTEMS**

**MATERIALS**

**301.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

**301.60: General**

**301.60.I: Thrust Blocks and Pipe Anchors**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

**301.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

**SECTION 400: SUB-BASE, BASE COURSES, SHOULDERS,  
PAVEMENTS AND BERMS**

**SUBSECTION 401: GRAVEL SUB-BASE**

**CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

**401.60: General**

*The last sentence of the first paragraph has been changed to:*

The specific density of the Gravel Sub-base shall be maintained by determining the number of passes of a roller required to produce a constant and uniform density, after conducting a series of tests using a nuclear device or the sand/volume method in accordance with AASHTO T 310, AASHTO T 191, or ASTM D8167.

## **SUBSECTION 402: DENSE GRADED CRUSHED STONE FOR SUB-BASE**

### **CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

#### **402.61: Spreading and Compacting**

*The last sentence of the first paragraph has been changed to:*

The specified density of the Dense Graded Crushed Stone shall be maintained by determining the number of passes of a roller required to produce a constant and uniform density, after conducting a series of tests using a nuclear device or the sand/volume method in accordance with AASHTO T 310, AASHTO T 191, or ASTM D8167.

## **SUBSECTION 403: RECLAIMED PAVEMENT FOR BASE COURSE AND/OR SUB-BASE**

### **CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

#### **403.64: Compaction and Dust Control**

*The second paragraph has been replaced in its entirety.*

## **SUBSECTION 404: RECLAIMED PAVEMENT BORROW MATERIAL**

### **CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

#### **404.60: General**

*The first paragraph has been replaced in its entirety.*

## **SUBSECTION 430: CEMENT CONCRETE BASE COURSE**

### **MATERIALS**

#### **430.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

### **CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

#### **430.60: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

#### **430.62: Fine Grading**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

#### **430.63: Joints**

References to “476.68: Joints, Paragraph C” and “476.68: Joints, Paragraph B” have been changed to “476.37: Joints.”

**430.64: Placing Concrete**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**430.66: Protection and Curing**

*This construction specification has been deleted.*

**DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

**430.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

**SUBSECTION 450: HOT MIX ASPHALT PAVEMENT**

**CONSTRUCTION PROCEDURES**

**450.40: General**

*The following paragraph has been added:*

Prior to placing hot mix asphalt the contractor shall provide notice to the Engineer at least 48 hours in advance of the work. The notice shall include the anticipated schedule, HMA tonnage, the type of mix, the mix provider, and plant location.

**SUBSECTION 460: HOT MIX ASPHALT PAVEMENT FOR LOCAL STREETS**

**CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

**460.40: General**

*The following paragraph has been added:*

Prior to placing hot mix asphalt the contractor shall provide notice to the Engineer at least 48 hours in advance of the work. The notice shall include the anticipated schedule, HMA tonnage, the type of mix, the mix provider, and plant location.

**SUBSECTION 466: STRESS ABSORBING MEMBRANE & STRESS ABSORBING  
MEMBRANE INTERLAYER**

**CONSTRUCTION PROCEDURES**

**466.40: General**

*The following paragraph has been added:*

Prior to placing stress absorbing membrane the contractor shall provide notice to the Engineer at least 48 hours in advance of the work. The notice shall include the anticipated schedule, tonnage, the type of mix, the mix provider, and plant location.



## **SUBSECTION 470: HOT MIX ASPHALT BERM**

### **CONSTRUCTION PROCEDURES**

#### **470.40: General**

*The following paragraph has been added:*

Prior to placing hot mix asphalt the contractor shall provide notice to the Engineer at least 48 hours in advance of the work. The notice shall include the anticipated schedule, HMA tonnage, the type of mix, the mix provider, and plant location.

## **SUBSECTION 472: TEMPORARY ASPHALT PATCHING**

### **CONSTRUCTION PROCEDURES**

#### **472.40: General**

*The following paragraph has been added:*

Prior to placing hot mix asphalt the contractor shall provide notice to the Engineer at least 48 hours in advance of the work. The notice shall include the anticipated schedule, HMA tonnage, the type of mix, the mix provider, and plant location.

## **SUBSECTION 476: CEMENT CONCRETE PAVEMENT**

*This Subsection has been replaced in its entirety.*

## **SUBSECTION 485: GRANITE RUBBLE BLOCK PAVEMENT**

### **MATERIALS**

#### **485.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

### **CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

#### **485.60: General**

*The following paragraph was added:*

The Contractor shall construct the cement concrete base course in accordance with Subsection 430: Cement Concrete Base Course.

#### **485.62: Placing Concrete**

*The second paragraph was replaced with the following:*

The concrete shall be struck off and float-finished. Placing of sand cushion and laying of granite rubble blocks shall not be done until after the final curing period of the concrete base course.

**DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

**485.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

**SUBSECTION 486: ULTRATHIN BONDED OVERLAY**

**CONSTRUCTION PROCEDURES**

**486.40: General**

*The following paragraph has been added:*

Prior to placing ultrathin bonded overlay the contractor shall provide notice to the Engineer at least 48 hours in advance of the work. The notice shall include the anticipated schedule, tonnage, the type of mix, the mix provider, and plant location.

**SECTION 500: CURB AND EDGING**

**SUBSECTION 501: CURB, CURB INLETS, CURB CORNERS AND EDGING**

**MATERIALS**

**501.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

**501.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

**SECTION 600: HIGHWAY GUARD, FENCES AND WALLS**

**SUBSECTION 628: IMPACT ATTENUATORS**

**MATERIALS**

**628.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

**628.60: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

**628.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

**SUBSECTION 629: CONCRETE BARRIER**

**MATERIALS**

**629.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

**629.60: General**

*The first paragraph has been replaced with:*

Concrete barrier shall be either precast or cast-in-place and conform to the requirements specified herein.

**629.61: Precast Barrier**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**629.62: Cast-in-Place Barrier**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**629.63: Concrete Median Barrier Cap**

*The following paragraph has added:*

The Contractor shall construct concrete median barrier caps in accordance with 629.62: Cast-in-Place Barrier and the requirements specified herein.

**629.65: Finishing, Curing, and Protective Sealing**

*This construction specification has been deleted.*

**DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

**629.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

**SUBSECTION 685: STONE MASONRY WALL**

**MATERIALS**

**685.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

**685.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

**SUBSECTION 690: WALLS REMOVED AND REBUILT**

**MATERIALS**

**690.40: General**

*The last paragraph has been replaced with the following:*

Mortar shall meet the requirements of M4.04.0: Cementitious, Grout, Mortar, and Concrete Products.

**DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

**690.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

**SECTION 700: INCIDENTAL WORK**

**SUBSECTION 701: CEMENT CONCRETE SIDEWALKS, PEDESTRIAN CURB  
RAMPS, AND DRIVEWAYS**

*This Subsection has been replaced in its entirety.*

**SUBSECTION 702: HOT MIX ASPHALT SIDEWALKS AND DRIVEWAYS**

**CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

**702.40: General**

*The following paragraph has been added:*

Prior to placing hot mix asphalt the contractor shall provide notice to the Engineer at least 48 hours in advance of the work. The notice shall include the anticipated schedule, HMA tonnage, the type of mix, the mix provider, and plant location.

**SUBSECTION 751: LOAM**

**MATERIALS**

**751.40: General**

**751.40.A: Samples and Submittals**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

## **SECTION 800: TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES**

### **SUBSECTION 801: CONDUIT, MANHOLES, HANDHOLES, PULL BOXES AND FOUNDATIONS**

#### **MATERIALS**

##### **801.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

#### **CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

##### **801.61: Electric Manholes, Handholes, Pull Boxes and Junction Boxes**

##### **801.61.B: Cast in Place Concrete Units**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

#### **DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

##### **801.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

### **SUBSECTION 815: TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS**

#### **CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

##### **815.61: Painting**

*This construction specification has been deleted.*

### **SUBSECTION 825: RECTANGULAR RAPID FLASHING BEACONS**

*This subsection has been added.*

### **SUBSECTION 840: SIGN SUPPORTS**

#### **MATERIALS**

##### **840.30: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

**840.60: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

**840.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

**SUBSECTION 860: REFLECTORIZED PAVEMENT MARKINGS**

**MATERIALS**

**860.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**SECTION 900: STRUCTURES**

**SUBSECTION 901: CEMENT CONCRETE**

*This subsection has replaced in its entirety.*

**SUBSECTION 902: ULTRA-HIGH PERFORMANCE CONCRETE**

*This subsection has been added.*

**SUBSECTION 922: ELASTOMERIC BEARING PADS**

*This subsection has been added.*

**SUBSECTION 940: DRIVEN PILES**

**MATERIALS**

**940.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

**940.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

## **SUBSECTION 945: DRILLED SHAFTS**

### **MATERIALS**

#### **945.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

### **DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

#### **945.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

## **SUBSECTION 970: DAMP-PROOFING**

### **MATERIALS**

#### **970.30: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

### **CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

#### **970.40: General**

*The second sentence of the second paragraph has been changed to:*

All holes in concrete surfaces shall be satisfactorily filled with mortar before damp-proofing is applied.

## **SUBSECTION 972: STRIP SEAL BRIDGE JOINT SYSTEM**

### **MATERIALS**

#### **972.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

## **SUBSECTION 983: REVETMENT**

### **MATERIALS**

#### **983.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

#### **983.64: Special Slope Paving Under Bridges**

##### **983.64.B: Quarry Stone or Precast Concrete Blocks**

*The third sentence has been changed to:*

Mortar shall then be placed in the joints to the top of the paved surface.

**983.65: Channel Paving and Grouted Channel Paving**

*The third sentence in the second paragraph has been changed to:*

The grout shall conform to M4.04.0: Grout, Mortar, and Concrete Products.

**SUBSECTION 996: NOISE BARRIER STRUCTURE  
MATERIALS**

**996.40: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**CONSTRUCTION METHODS**

**996.60: General**

*This construction specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE**

**996.70: General**

*This construction specification has been added.*

**SECTION M4: CEMENT CONCRETE AND RELATED MATERIALS**

*This section has been renamed and replaced in its entirety.*

**SECTION M5: PIPE, CULVERT SECTIONS AND CONDUIT**

**M5.01.0: Joint Materials for Pipe**

*The second bullet has been changed to:*

Mortar shall conform to the requirements of M4.04.0: Grout, Mortar and Concrete Products.

**SECTION M7: PAINTS, PROTECTIVE COATINGS AND PAVEMENT  
MARKINGS**

**M7.01.0: Pavement Markings**

*This materials specification has been deleted.*

**M7.01.03: Liquid Thermoplastic Striping Material**

*This materials specification has been renamed from M7.01.3.*

**M7.01.03.A: General**

*The first bullet point has been changed to:*

Glass Beads (Pre-Mix) used in the manufacture of thermoplastic shall be uncoated and meet the requirements of AASHTO M 247, Type I and M7.01.07: Glass Beads.



**M7.01.04: Fast Drying White and Yellow Waterborne Traffic Paint**

*This materials specification has been added.*

**M7.01.03: Glass Beads**

**M7.01.07.B: Packaging**

*The first sentence has been changed to:*

The beads shall be packaged in 50-lb or greater polyethylene-lined burlap paper bags or equal container; such containers guaranteed to furnish dry and undamaged beads.

**SECTION M8: METALS AND RELATED MATERIALS**

**M8.18.1: Traffic Signal Supports**

*This material specification has been replaced in its entirety.*

**SECTION M9: MISCELLANEOUS MATERIALS**

**M9.14.5: Elastomeric Bearing Pads**

*This material specification has been renamed and replaced in its entirety.*

**SECTION M10: TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES**

**M10.05.0: Traffic Signal Structures (General)**

*This materials specification has been added.*

**M10.05.1: Signal Posts and Bases**

*This materials specification has been added.*

**M10.11.0: RRFB Assemblies**

*This materials specification has been added.*