DATE: September 28, 2011

TO: District Estimates Coordinators and District Design Engineers

FROM: Phillip Greg Davis, State Estimates Engineer

COPIES TO: Brian Blanchard, Duane Brautigam and David Sadler

SUBJECT: Crash Cushions

ISSUE BACKGROUND: The Department has been discussing options with the highway construction industry for payment of repairs to crash cushions. While some crash cushions can be repaired with labor and minor parts, others require significant repairs and/or replacement parts. By removing separate payment for repairs, the Department hopes to encourage the use of crash cushions which are more cost effective over the product’s useful life.

Currently, the supplemental specification for Section 102 allows for repairs at cost + 20%. On selected projects with specific work mixes, a special provision (SP1021312) removes the additional payment for repairs; all repair costs are included in the pay item.

Section 544 of the specifications is similarly written. Supplemental specification 544 allows for repairs at cost + 20%, and a special provision (SP5440400) removes the additional payment for repairs; all repair costs are included in the pay item. Similar to temporary crash cushions, the special provision is only used on selected projects with specific work mix types.

To assist with tracking the effectiveness of the changes, separate pay items have been established for use on selected projects with less than 50 attenuator locations, when the special provisions are used.

IMPLEMENTATION: Effective with the January 2012 letting, the special provisions will be used “on projects with less than 50 crash cushions and one of the following work mix types: Add Lanes and Reconstruction, Add Lanes and Rehab Pavement, Interchanges and New Road Construction”. A separate pay item will be used with the special provision for these selected projects. Projects that do not meet the requirement for the special provision will continue to use the existing pay items.

Update Pay Items: Update pay items as necessary.

102-89- 7 Temporary Crash Cushion, Redirective Option, LO
102-89-17 Temporary Crash Cushion, Redirective Option, less than 50, LO

544-75- AA Crash Cushion, EA
544-75-1AA Crash Cushion less than 50, EA

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Update Plans: Update the Proposal Summary of Quantities (Transport report) in the plans.

Specifications: Specifications are available with the January 2012 workbook.

If you have any questions regarding the above items, please contact Melissa Hollis at 850-414-4182.