



Florida Department of Transportation

RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

JARED W. PERDUE, P.E.
SECRETARY

September 15, 2022

Khoa Nguyen
Director, Office of Technical Services
Federal Highway Administration
3500 Financial Plaza, Suite 400
Tallahassee, Florida 32312

Re: State Specifications Office
Section: **630**
Proposed Specification: **6300204 Conduit.**

Dear Mr. Nguyen:

We are submitting, for your approval, two copies of the above referenced Supplemental Specification.

The changes are proposed by Matt DeWitt from the Traffic Engineering and Operations Office to modify message texts required on warning tape to reflect standardized markings and David Wagner from the State Construction Office to address embedded conduit that extends from the bridge to the proposed pull box and a new pay item option has been added to address under pavement, open trench.

Please review and transmit your comments, if any, within two weeks. Comments should be sent via email to daniel.strickland@dot.state.fl.us.

If you have any questions relating to this specification change, please call me at (850) 414-4130.

Sincerely,

Signature on file

Daniel Strickland, P.E.
State Specifications Engineer

DS/ra

Attachment

cc: Florida Transportation Builders' Assoc.
State Construction Engineer

CONDUIT**(REV ~~97-148~~-22)**

SUBARTICLE 630-2.4 is deleted and the following substituted:

630-2.4 Warning Tape: Ensure that the buried cable warning tape is flexible, elastic material 3 inches wide, 6 mil thick, intended for burial and use as an underground utility warning notice, and that the surface of the warning tape is coated and sealed to prevent deterioration caused by harsh soil elements. Ensure that the warning tape color follows the American Public Works Association color code for underground utilities and has the repeating message “CAUTION: FDOT CABLE, BURIED BELOW” or other wording approved by the Engineer, permanently printed on its surface. Ensure that the tape material and ink colors do not change when exposed to acids, alkalis, and other destructive chemical variances commonly found in Florida soils.

SUBARTICLE 630-3.1 is deleted and the following substituted:

630-3 Installation Requirements.

630-3.1 General: Install the conduit in accordance with NEC or National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) requirements and the Standard Plans. Consider the locations of conduit as shown in the Plans as approximate. Construct conduit runs as straight as ~~possible, and possible~~ and obtain the Engineer’s approval for all major deviations in conduit locations from those shown in the Plans. Include buried cable warning tape with all trenched conduit. Mark the location of the conduit system with route markers as shown in the Plans and approved by the Engineer. Ensure that all route markers used are new and consistent in appearance.

For conduit installed by directional bore, install in accordance with Section 555. For conduit installed by jack and bore, install in accordance with Section 556.

Use only intermediate galvanized metal conduit, rigid galvanized metal conduit, rigid aluminum conduit or PVC coated intermediate metal conduit for above-ground electrical power service installations and rigid galvanized metal conduit or rigid aluminum conduit for underground electrical power service installations. Meet the requirements of Section 562 for coating all field cut and threaded galvanized pipe.

Use Schedule 80 PVC or fiberglass reinforced epoxy conduit in or on structural elements.

For non-structural, above ground ITS communication and electrical conduit, use intermediate galvanized metal conduit, rigid galvanized metal conduit, or Schedule 80 PVC conduit.

Use HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 13.5, Schedule 80 HDPE, Schedule 40 HDPE, Schedule 80 PVC, or Schedule 40 PVC for underground installations of electrical conduit in earth for ITS electrical applications.

Use HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 11, Schedule 80 PVC₂ or Schedule 40 PVC for underground installations in earth or concrete for ITS and traffic control signal applications, except, use only HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 11 for blown fiber optic cable installations on limited access facilities.

Use HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 13.5, Schedule 80 PVC, or Schedule 40 PVC for underground installations of electrical conduit in earth for lighting applications and landscape irrigation applications.

Use HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 13.5, Schedule 80 PVC, Schedule 40 PVC, or rigid galvanized metal for underground installations of electrical conduit in concrete for lighting applications.

Use HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 11 for directional bores or Schedule 80 PVC for open trenching and conduits serving toll site vehicle detection loop pull boxes. Use the following for all underground toll site applications except for conduits serving vehicle detection loop pull boxes:

1. Rigid steel conduit coated with PVC or a bituminous coating extending 6 inches above finished grade for conduits entering or leaving the ground. Use threaded end and paint all exposed exterior conduit.

2. Rigid galvanized steel elbows and bends for HDPE and PVC conduit raceways longer than 200 feet in length or 2 inches trade size and larger.

Do not place more than the equivalent of three quarter bends or 270 degrees of bends, including the termination bends, between the two points of termination in the conduit, without a pull box. Obtain the Engineer's approval to use corrugated flexible conduits for short runs of 6 feet or less.

When a conduit installation changes from underground to above-ground, make the change a minimum of 6 inches below finished grade.

Install a No. 12 AWG pull wire or polypropylene cord inside the full length of all conduits. Ensure that a minimum of 24 inches of pull wire/cord is accessible at each conduit termination.

Ensure the conduit includes all required fittings and incidentals necessary to construct a complete installation.

When earth backfill and tamping is required, place backfill material as per Section 120 in layers approximately 12 inches ~~thick, and~~ **thick and** tamp each layer to a density equal to or greater than the adjacent soil.

When backfilling trenches in existing pavement, use a flowable fill meeting the requirements of Section 121.

Provide a standard clearance between underground control cable and electrical service cable or another parallel underground electrical service cable that meets NESC requirements.

Prevent the ingress of water, dirt, sand, and other foreign materials into the conduit prior to, during, and after construction. Seal the ends of conduit after wiring is complete with a moisture resistant sealant that is designed for this specific application.

SUBSRTICLE 630-3.3 is deleted and the following substituted:

630-3.3 Conduit Joints: Make conduit joints using materials as specified by the manufacturer. When conduit crosses an expansion joint of a structure and where shown in the Plans, install an expansion or expansion/deflection fitting as specified by the manufacturer. Certify that expansion/deflection fittings are rated to accommodate a minimum rotation of 30 degrees and that both the expansion and expansion/deflection fittings are rated to accommodate the anticipated longitudinal movement (minimum of 2 inches for expansion

Improve Safety, Enhance Mobility, Inspire Innovation

www.fdot.gov

fittings and 0.7 inches for expansion/deflection fittings). Ensure that all installed joints are waterproof. As an exception to the threaded coupling for intermediate metal conduit, at locations where it is not possible to screw the threaded coupling properly, the Contractor may use a waterproof slip-joint coupling approved by the Engineer. Secure the joint, and tighten threaded connections.

Prior to insertion into the coupling, clean, prime and coat the ends of PVC conduit with solvent-type cement as specified by the manufacturer.

For toll site conduit applications: Join lengths of smooth wall HDPE conduit using the Butt Fusion process or universal aluminum couplings. Use PVC to HDPE threaded transition couplings to join PVC conduit to HDPE conduit.

SUBSRTICLE 630-3.10 is deleted and the following substituted:

630-3.10 Route Markers: Install route markers for new fiber optic cable installations, replace route markers as shown in the Plans, and ensure the following:

1. Markers are ~~plumb~~ ~~and~~ level, and the notification information is clearly visible when viewed from the side facing the roadway.
2. Markers are set within the right of way.
3. Markers are placed at a 1 foot offset from the conduit system.
4. The top of the marker post is a minimum of 5 feet and maximum of 6 feet above the finish grade
5. Markers are spaced a maximum of 500 feet apart.
6. A clear line of sight is maintained from one marker to the next.
7. Markers are installed on both sides of the roadway at any crossing point where the conduit system changes to the opposite side of the roadway.
8. Markers are installed at the center point of any conduit run between two pull or splice boxes.
9. Markers are installed at gate locations when the conduit system is adjacent to a fence line.
10. Markers are installed on both sides of a stream, river, or other water crossing, and on both sides of aboveground attachments such as bridges and walls.

Remove and replace all marker posts damaged during installation at no additional cost. Ensure that route marker signs are labeled with a unique identification number, as detailed in the Plans or as approved by the Engineer. Provide as-built documentation at the completion of installation that includes identification number and location of all installed route markers and correlates the marker to the fiber optic infrastructure that it signifies.

Ensure that installation of ERMs includes connection of the route marker to the locate wire associated with the conduit run that the markers identify. Install locate wire through the base of the marker and terminate the locate wires to connectors mounted on the terminal board inside the marker. Install an underground magnesium anode a minimum of 10 feet away from the marker and perpendicular to the conduit system. Terminate the anode lead on the connector mounted on the terminal board inside the marker. Install the bond straps between the anode connector and all locate wire connectors to provide cathodic protection for the locate wire conductor.

ARTICLE 630-4 is deleted and the following substituted:

630-4 Method of Measurement.

The Contract unit price per foot of conduit, furnished and installed, will include furnishing all hardware and materials and all testing as specified in this Section and the Contract Documents, and all labor, casings, removal of excavated materials and spoils, removal and disposal of drilling fluids, locate wire, trenching, boring, backfilling, flowable fill and restoration materials necessary for a complete and accepted installation.

Payment for conduit placed underground will be based on the horizontal length of the trench or bore measured in a straight line between the centers of pull boxes, cabinets, poles, etc., in linear feet, regardless of the length or number of conduits installed. No allowance will be made for sweeps or vertical distances below the ground.

Payment for conduit placed aboveground or bridge mounted will be based on the actual length of conduit installed.

~~Payment for conduit embedded in concrete will be based on the length of each conduit run measured in a straight line between centers of junction boxes, regardless of the length of conduit installed, and will include all expansion and expansion/deflection fittings. Conduit that does not both begin and end at a junction box will be considered incidental to their related items of work.~~ Payment for each individual conduit run embedded in concrete barriers or traffic railings, as shown in Standard Plans, Index 630-010, will be based on the length of the concrete barrier or traffic railing section that includes the conduit, regardless of the actual length of conduit installed. This length is limited by the begin and end of the concrete barrier or traffic railing run and includes the portions of the conduit exiting the structure towards the ends of the concrete barrier or traffic railing as shown in the Standard Plans. This includes all expansion and expansion/deflection fittings, but no allowance will be made for sweeps or vertical distances below the ground.

Payment for conduit embedded in miscellaneous concrete structures will be based on the length of each individual conduit run, measured in a straight line between centers of junction boxes, regardless of the length of conduit installed, and will include all expansion and expansion/deflection fittings. Conduit that does not both begin and end at a junction box will be considered incidental to their related items of work.

Payment for replacement of route markers, per each, will be made only for those markers identified in the Plans.

ARTICLE 630-5 is deleted and the following substituted:

630-5 Basis of Payment.

Price and payment will be full compensation for all work specified in this Section.

Payment for conduit placed under existing turf will be made as open trench.

Payment for conduit placed under existing pavement (roadway, driveways, or sidewalk) will be made as directional bore, unless specifically identified as open trench. If conduit is being placed under both existing turf and existing pavement between two pull boxes, payment for the total pull box-to-pull box length will be made as directional bore. Payment for conduit placed by jack & bore will be made as jack & bore, for the total pull box to pull box length.

Payment for conduit embedded in concrete structures or traffic railings will be made as embedded conduit.

No additional payment will be made for multiple conduits in the same trench.

No payment adjustment will be made if the Contractor chooses to use an alternative method approved by the Engineer.

No payment will be made for failed bore paths, injection of excavatable flowable fill, products taken out of service, or incomplete installations.

Payment for replacement of route markers will include all the work, labor, equipment, and materials specified in this Section. No separate payment for route markers will be made for new conduit installation.

Payment will be made under:

Item No. 630- 2- Conduit - per foot.

Item No. 630- 3- Replace Route Marker for Existing Conduit - per each.

CONDUIT (REV 9-14-22)

SUBARTICLE 630-2.4 is deleted and the following substituted:

630-2.4 Warning Tape: Ensure that the buried cable warning tape is flexible, elastic material 3 inches wide, 6 mil thick, intended for burial and use as an underground utility warning notice, and that the surface of the warning tape is coated and sealed to prevent deterioration caused by harsh soil elements. Ensure that the warning tape color follows the American Public Works Association color code for underground utilities and has the repeating message “CAUTION: FDOT CABLE BURIED BELOW” or other wording approved by the Engineer, permanently printed on its surface. Ensure that the tape material and ink colors do not change when exposed to acids, alkalis, and other destructive chemical variances commonly found in Florida soils.

SUBARTICLE 630-3.1 is deleted and the following substituted:

630-3 Installation Requirements.

630-3.1 General: Install the conduit in accordance with NEC or National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) requirements and the Standard Plans. Consider the locations of conduit as shown in the Plans as approximate. Construct conduit runs as straight as possible and obtain the Engineer’s approval for all major deviations in conduit locations from those shown in the Plans. Include buried cable warning tape with all trenched conduit. Mark the location of the conduit system with route markers as shown in the Plans and approved by the Engineer. Ensure that all route markers used are new and consistent in appearance.

For conduit installed by directional bore, install in accordance with Section 555. For conduit installed by jack and bore, install in accordance with Section 556.

Use only intermediate galvanized metal conduit, rigid galvanized metal conduit, rigid aluminum conduit or PVC coated intermediate metal conduit for above-ground electrical power service installations and rigid galvanized metal conduit or rigid aluminum conduit for underground electrical power service installations. Meet the requirements of Section 562 for coating all field cut and threaded galvanized pipe.

Use Schedule 80 PVC or fiberglass reinforced epoxy conduit in or on structural elements.

For non-structural, above ground ITS communication and electrical conduit, use intermediate galvanized metal conduit, rigid galvanized metal conduit, or Schedule 80 PVC conduit.

Use HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 13.5, Schedule 80 HDPE, Schedule 40 HDPE, Schedule 80 PVC, or Schedule 40 PVC for underground installations of electrical conduit in earth for ITS electrical applications.

Use HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 11, Schedule 80 PVC, or Schedule 40 PVC for underground installations in earth or concrete for ITS and traffic control signal applications, except, use only HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 11 for blown fiber optic cable installations on limited access facilities.

Use HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 13.5, Schedule 80 PVC, or Schedule 40 PVC for underground installations of electrical conduit in earth for lighting applications and landscape irrigation applications.

Use HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 13.5, Schedule 80 PVC, Schedule 40 PVC, or rigid galvanized metal for underground installations of electrical conduit in concrete for lighting applications.

Use HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 11 for directional bores or Schedule 80 PVC for open trenching and conduits serving toll site vehicle detection loop pull boxes. Use the following for all underground toll site applications except for conduits serving vehicle detection loop pull boxes:

1. Rigid steel conduit coated with PVC or a bituminous coating extending 6 inches above finished grade for conduits entering or leaving the ground. Use threaded end and paint all exposed exterior conduit.

2. Rigid galvanized steel elbows and bends for HDPE and PVC conduit raceways longer than 200 feet in length or 2 inches trade size and larger.

Do not place more than the equivalent of three quarter bends or 270 degrees of bends, including the termination bends, between the two points of termination in the conduit, without a pull box. Obtain the Engineer's approval to use corrugated flexible conduits for short runs of 6 feet or less.

When a conduit installation changes from underground to above-ground, make the change a minimum of 6 inches below finished grade.

Install a No. 12 AWG pull wire or polypropylene cord inside the full length of all conduits. Ensure that a minimum of 24 inches of pull wire/cord is accessible at each conduit termination.

Ensure the conduit includes all required fittings and incidentals necessary to construct a complete installation.

When earth backfill and tamping is required, place backfill material as per Section 120 in layers approximately 12 inches thick and tamp each layer to a density equal to or greater than the adjacent soil.

When backfilling trenches in existing pavement, use a flowable fill meeting the requirements of Section 121.

Provide a standard clearance between underground control cable and electrical service cable or another parallel underground electrical service cable that meets NESC requirements.

Prevent the ingress of water, dirt, sand, and other foreign materials into the conduit prior to, during, and after construction. Seal the ends of conduit after wiring is complete with a moisture resistant sealant that is designed for this specific application.

SUBSRTICLE 630-3.3 is deleted and the following substituted:

630-3.3 Conduit Joints: Make conduit joints using materials as specified by the manufacturer. When conduit crosses an expansion joint of a structure and where shown in the Plans, install an expansion or expansion/deflection fitting as specified by the manufacturer. Certify that expansion/deflection fittings are rated to accommodate a minimum rotation of 30 degrees and that both the expansion and expansion/deflection fittings are rated to accommodate the anticipated longitudinal movement (minimum of 2 inches for expansion

Improve Safety, Enhance Mobility, Inspire Innovation

www.fdot.gov

fittings and 0.7 inches for expansion/deflection fittings). Ensure that all installed joints are waterproof. As an exception to the threaded coupling for intermediate metal conduit, at locations where it is not possible to screw the threaded coupling properly, the Contractor may use a waterproof slip-joint coupling approved by the Engineer. Secure the joint and tighten threaded connections.

Prior to insertion into the coupling, clean, prime and coat the ends of PVC conduit with solvent-type cement as specified by the manufacturer.

For toll site conduit applications: Join lengths of smooth wall HDPE conduit using the Butt Fusion process or universal aluminum couplings. Use PVC to HDPE threaded transition couplings to join PVC conduit to HDPE conduit.

SUBSRTICLE 630-3.10 is deleted and the following substituted:

630-3.10 Route Markers: Install route markers for new fiber optic cable installations, replace route markers as shown in the Plans, and ensure the following:

1. Markers are plumb, level, and the notification information is clearly visible when viewed from the side facing the roadway.
2. Markers are set within the right of way.
3. Markers are placed at a 1 foot offset from the conduit system.
4. The top of the marker post is a minimum of 5 feet and maximum of 6 feet above the finish grade
5. Markers are spaced a maximum of 500 feet apart.
6. A clear line of sight is maintained from one marker to the next.
7. Markers are installed on both sides of the roadway at any crossing point where the conduit system changes to the opposite side of the roadway.
8. Markers are installed at the center point of any conduit run between two pull or splice boxes.
9. Markers are installed at gate locations when the conduit system is adjacent to a fence line.
10. Markers are installed on both sides of a stream, river, or other water crossing, and on both sides of aboveground attachments such as bridges and walls.

Remove and replace all marker posts damaged during installation at no additional cost. Ensure that route marker signs are labeled with a unique identification number, as detailed in the Plans or as approved by the Engineer. Provide as-built documentation at the completion of installation that includes identification number and location of all installed route markers and correlates the marker to the fiber optic infrastructure that it signifies.

Ensure that installation of ERMs includes connection of the route marker to the locate wire associated with the conduit run that the markers identify. Install locate wire through the base of the marker and terminate the locate wires to connectors mounted on the terminal board inside the marker. Install an underground magnesium anode a minimum of 10 feet away from the marker and perpendicular to the conduit system. Terminate the anode lead on the connector mounted on the terminal board inside the marker. Install the bond straps between the anode connector and all locate wire connectors to provide cathodic protection for the locate wire conductor.

ARTICLE 630-4 is deleted and the following substituted:

630-4 Method of Measurement.

The Contract unit price per foot of conduit, furnished and installed, will include furnishing all hardware and materials and all testing as specified in this Section and the Contract Documents, and all labor, casings, removal of excavated materials and spoils, removal and disposal of drilling fluids, locate wire, trenching, boring, backfilling, flowable fill and restoration materials necessary for a complete and accepted installation.

Payment for conduit placed underground will be based on the horizontal length of the trench or bore measured in a straight line between the centers of pull boxes, cabinets, poles, etc., in linear feet, regardless of the length or number of conduits installed. No allowance will be made for sweeps or vertical distances below the ground.

Payment for conduit placed aboveground or bridge mounted will be based on the actual length of conduit installed.

Payment for each individual conduit run embedded in concrete barriers or traffic railings, as shown in Standard Plans, Index 630-010, will be based on the length of the concrete barrier or traffic railing section that includes the conduit, regardless of the actual length of conduit installed. This length is limited by the begin and end of the concrete barrier or traffic railing run and includes the portions of the conduit exiting the structure towards the ends of the concrete barrier or traffic railing as shown in the Standard Plans. This includes all expansion and expansion/deflection fittings, but no allowance will be made for sweeps or vertical distances below the ground.

Payment for conduit embedded in miscellaneous concrete structures will be based on the length of each individual conduit run, measured in a straight line between centers of junction boxes, regardless of the length of conduit installed, and will include all expansion and expansion/deflection fittings. Conduit that does not both begin and end at a junction box will be considered incidental to their related items of work.

Payment for replacement of route markers, per each, will be made only for those markers identified in the Plans.

ARTICLE 630-5 is deleted and the following substituted:

630-5 Basis of Payment.

Price and payment will be full compensation for all work specified in this Section.

Payment for conduit placed under existing turf will be made as open trench.

Payment for conduit placed under existing pavement (roadway, driveways, or sidewalk) will be made as directional bore, unless specifically identified as open trench. If conduit is being placed under both existing turf and existing pavement between two pull boxes, payment for the total pull box-to-pull box length will be made as directional bore. Payment for conduit placed by jack & bore will be made as jack & bore, for the total pull box to pull box length.

Payment for conduit embedded in concrete structures or traffic railings will be made as embedded conduit.

No additional payment will be made for multiple conduits in the same trench.

No payment adjustment will be made if the Contractor chooses to use an alternative method approved by the Engineer.

No payment will be made for failed bore paths, injection of excavatable flowable fill, products taken out of service, or incomplete installations.

Payment for replacement of route markers will include all the work, labor, equipment, and materials specified in this Section. No separate payment for route markers will be made for new conduit installation.

Payment will be made under:

Item No. 630- 2- Conduit - per foot.

Item No. 630- 3- Replace Route Marker for Existing Conduit - per each.