Comments: (Industry 5-24-21)
When looking at the specifications, it seems unnecessary to specify anything regarding density of part A and B components or the viscosity of either component. The product should be allowed if it performs. These specifications are automatic limits from a formulation standpoint. Do these prescribed limits discourage innovation related to high-performing adhesives with a viscosity and/or density outside these specification limits? The performance properties of the mixed and cured product are what’s most important. While the density and viscosity limits may be inclusive what’s commercially available, that doesn’t mean a really good product needs to fall within that space. One fine example of RPM innovation is the 3M Series PSA 290. They are approved for PCC use only, but never were monitored for their efficacy by the department to potentially receive expanded use for such needs as spot fixing for AM Contractors or within an active construction work zone.
Response:
These specifications are per AASHTO T 237 and are utilized for Quality Assurance. Performance properties are evaluated as well as per AASHTO T 237 bond strength and shear strength. This does not discourage innovation as the Department tests innovative products on a regular basis.