



Florida Department of Transportation

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GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

ERIK FENNIMAN
INTERIM SECRETARY

December 20, 2018

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

Re: State Specifications Office
Section: **570**
Proposed Specification: **5700100 Performance Turf.**

Dear Mr. Nguyen:

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

The changes are proposed by Jason Russell of the State Construction Office to modify the language.

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

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

Sincerely,

Signature on file

Dan Hurtado, P.E.
State Specifications Engineer

DH/dt

Attachment

cc: Florida Transportation Builders' Assoc.
State Construction Engineer

PERFORMANCE TURF.
(REV 10-30-18)

ARTICLE 570-1 is deleted and the following substituted:

570-1 Description.

Establish a growing, healthy turf over all areas designated in the Plans. Use sod in areas designated in the Plans to be sodded. Use seed, hydroseed, bonded fiber matrix, or sod in all other areas. Maintain performance turf areas until final acceptance of all contract work in accordance with Section 5-11 and the establishment requirements of 570-4 have been met.

ARTICLE 570-3 is deleted and the following substituted:

570-3 Construction Methods.

570-3.1 General: Remove all construction debris in performance turf areas. Incorporate stall performance turf installation into the project at the earliest practical time for erosion control and establishment.

Shape the areas to be planted to the plan typical sections and lines and grade shown in the ~~Contract Documents~~ Plans.

Except in areas where the Contract Documents requires specific types of grassturf to match adjoining private property, any species of grassturf designated in Section 981 may be used. ~~Use the methods and materials necessary to establish and maintain the initial grassing until acceptance of the Contract work in accordance with 5-11.~~ All of the permanent grassing performance turf material shall be in place prior to final acceptance.

The Department will only pay for replanting as necessary due to factors determined by the Engineer to be beyond control of the Contractor.

~~Complete~~ Install all grassing performance turf on shoulder areas prior to the placement of the friction course on adjacent pavement.

570-3.2 Seeding: At the Contractor's option, wildflower seed may be included in the performance turf seeding operation or performed separately from the performance turf seeding. Seed must produce visible seedlings within 45 days of planting.

Use of compost meeting the requirements of Section 987 as mulch is acceptable unless otherwise specified.

570-3.3 Sod: Place the sod on the prepared surface, with edges in close contact. Do not use sod which has been cut for more than 48 hours.

Place the sod to the edge of all landscape areas as shown in the Plans and as shown in the Design Standards.

Place rolled sod parallel with the roadway and cut any exposed netting even with the sod edge.

Monitor placed sod for growth of exotic or invasive pest plants and noxious weeds. If exotic or invasive pest plants and/or noxious weeds manifest themselves within 30 days of placement of the sod during the months April through October, within 60 days of placement of the sod during the months of November through March treat affected areas by means acceptable to the Department at no expense to the Department. If pest plants and/or noxious weeds manifest themselves after the time frames described above from date of

placement of sod, the Engineer, at his sole option, will determine if treatment is required and whether or not the Contractor will be compensated for such treatment. If compensation is provided, payment will be made as Unforeseeable Work as described in 4-4.

Remove and replace any sod as directed by the Engineer.

570-3.4 Hydroseeding: Use equipment specifically designed for mixing the mulch, seed, fertilizer, tackifier and dye, and applying the slurry uniformly over the areas to be hydroseeded.

Use mulch that does not contain reprocessed wood or paper fibers. Ensure that 50% of the fibers will be retained on a twenty-five mesh screen.

Mix fertilizer as required into the hydroseeding slurry.

Ensure that the dye does not contain growth or germination inhibiting chemicals.

When polyacrylamide is used as part of hydroseeding mix, only anionic polymer formulation with free acrylamide monomer residual content of less than 0.05% is allowed. Cationic polyacrylamide shall not be used in any concentration. Do not spray polyacrylamide containing mixtures onto pavement. These may include tackifiers, flocculants or moisture-holding compounds.

570-3.5 Bonded Fiber Matrix (BFM): Meet the minimum physical and performance criteria of this Specification for use of BFM in hydroseeding operations or temporary non-vegetative erosion and sediment control methods.

Provide evidence of product performance testing, manufacturer's certification of training and material samples to the Engineer at least 7 calendar days prior to installation.

Provide documentation to the Engineer of manufacturer's testing at an independent laboratory, demonstrating superior performance of BFM as measured by reduced water runoff, reduced soil loss and faster seed germination in comparison to erosion control blankets.

Use only BFMs that contain all components pre-packaged by the manufacturer to assure material performance. Deliver materials in UV and weather resistant factory labeled packaging. Store and handle products in strict compliance with the manufacturer's directions.

When polyacrylamide is used as part of hydroseeding mix, only anionic polymer formulation with free acrylamide monomer residual content of less than 0.05% is allowed. Cationic polyacrylamide shall not be used in any concentration. Do not spray polyacrylamide containing mixtures onto pavement. These may include tackifiers, flocculants or moisture-holding compounds.

Meet the following requirements after application of the formed matrix:

Ensure that the tackifier does not dissolve or disperse upon re-wetting.

Ensure that the matrix has no gaps between the product and the soil and that it provides 100% coverage of all disturbed soil areas after application.

Ensure that the matrix has no germination or growth inhibiting properties and does not form a water-repelling crust.

Ensure that the matrix is comprised of materials which are 100% biodegradable and 100% beneficial to plant growth.

Mix and apply the BFM in strict compliance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

Apply the BFM to geotechnically stable slopes at the manufacturer's recommended rates.

Degradation of BFM will occur naturally as a result of chemical and biological hydrolysis, UV exposure and temperature fluctuations. Re-application, as determined by the

Engineer, will be required if BFM-treated soils are disturbed or water quality or turbidity tests show the need for an additional application. ~~The work and materials for re-application, will be paid for as Unforeseeable Work.~~

570-3.6 Watering: Water all performance turf areas as necessary to produce a healthy and vigorous stand of turf. Ensure that the water used for turf irrigation meets the requirements of Section 983.

570-3.7 Fertilizing: Fertilize as necessary to promote turf growth and establishment based on soil testing ~~performed in accordance with Section 162~~. Refer to Section 982 for fertilizer rates.

For bid purposes, base estimated quantities on an initial application of 265 lbs/acre and one subsequent application of 135 lbs/acre of 16-0-8.

ARTICLE 570-4 is deleted and the following substituted:

570-4 Turf Establishment.

Perform all work necessary, including watering and fertilizing, to sustain an established turf ~~until final acceptance~~, free of noxious weeds at no additional expense to the Department. Provide the filling, leveling, and repairing of any washed or eroded areas, as ~~may be~~ necessary.

Established turf is defined as follows:

1. An established root system (leaf blades break before seedlings or sod can be pulled from the soil by hand).
2. No bare spots larger than one square foot.
3. No continuous ~~streaks~~ sod seams running perpendicular to the face of the slope.
4. No bare areas comprising more than 1% of any given 1,000 square foot area.
5. No deformation of the performance turf areas caused by mowing or other Contractor equipment.
6. No exposed sod netting.
7. No competing vegetation, exotic or invasive pests plants or noxious weeds.

Monitor performance turf areas and remove all competing vegetation, exotic or invasive pest plants, and noxious weeds (as listed by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council, Category I "List of Invasive Species", Current Edition, <http://www.fleppc.org>). Remove such vegetation regularly by manual, mechanical, or chemical control means, as necessary. When selecting herbicides, pay particular attention to ensure use of chemicals that will not harm desired turf or wildflower species. Use herbicides in accordance with 7-1.7.

If at the time that all other work on the project is completed, but all turf areas have not met the requirements for established turf set forth in 570-4, continuously maintain all turf areas until the requirements for established turf set forth in 570-4 have been met.

During ~~the entire~~ establishment ~~period~~ and until the performance turf is established in accordance with this ~~s~~Specification, continue the inspection, and maintenance, and documentation of erosion and sedimentation control items in accordance with Section 104. ~~Take responsibility for the proper~~ Removal and dispose of all erosion and sedimentation control items after the performance turf has been established.

Notify the Engineer, with a minimum of seven calendar days advance notice, to conduct inspections of the performance turf at approximate 90-day intervals during the establishment period to determine establishment. Results of such inspections will be made available to the

Contractor within seven calendar days of the date of inspection. Determination of an established turf will be based on the entire project and not in sections.

Upon the determination by the Engineer that the requirements of 570-4 have been met and an established turf has been achieved and all erosion and sedimentation control items have been removed, the Engineer will release the Contractor from any further responsibility provided for in this Specification.

The Contractor's establishment obligations of this specification will not apply to deficiencies due to the following factors, if found by the Engineer to be beyond the control of the Contractor, his subcontractors, vendors or suppliers:

1. Determination that the deficiency was due to the failure of other features of the Contract.

2. Determination that the deficiency was the responsibility of a third party performing work not included in the Contract or its actions.

The Department will only pay for replanting as necessary due to factors determined by the Department to be beyond the control of the Contractor.

ARTICLE 570-7 is deleted and the following substituted:

570-7 Failure to Perform.

Should the Contractor fail to timely submit any dispute to the Statewide Disputes Review Board, refuse to submit any dispute to the Statewide Disputes Review Board, fail to provide an established turf in accordance with 570-4 within ~~one year~~six months of final acceptance of the Contract in accordance with 5-11, or fail to compensate the Department for any remedial work performed by the Department in establishing a turf and other remedial work associated with lack of an established turf, including but not limited to, repair of shoulder or other areas due to erosion and removal of sediments deposited in roadside ditches and streams, as determined by the Statewide Disputes Review Board to be the Contractor's responsibility, the Department shall suspend, revoke or deny the Contractor's certificate of qualification under the terms of Section 337.16(d)(2), Florida Statutes, until the Contractor provides an established turf or makes full and complete payment for the remedial work performed by the Department. In no case shall the period of suspension, revocation, or denial of the Contractor's certificate of qualification be less than six months. Should the Contractor choose to challenge the Department's notification of intent for suspension, revocation or denial of qualification and the Department's action is upheld, the Contractor shall have its qualification suspended for a minimum of six months or until the remedial action is satisfactorily performed, whichever is longer.

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Install all performance turf on shoulder areas prior to the placement of the friction course on adjacent pavement.

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If at the time that all other work on the project is completed, but all turf areas have not met the requirements for established turf set forth in 570-4, continuously maintain all turf areas until the requirements for established turf set forth in 570-4 have been met.

During establishment and until the performance turf is established in accordance with this Section, continue the inspection, maintenance, and documentation of erosion and sedimentation control items in accordance with Section 104. Remove and dispose of all erosion and sedimentation control items after the performance turf has been established.

Notify the Engineer, with a minimum of seven calendar days advance notice, to conduct inspections of the performance turf at approximate 90-day intervals during the establishment period to determine establishment. Results of such inspections will be made available to the Contractor within seven calendar days of the date of inspection. Determination of an established turf will be based on the entire project and not in sections.

Upon the determination by the Engineer that the requirements of 570-4 have been met and an established turf has been achieved and all erosion and sedimentation control items have been removed, the Engineer will release the Contractor from any further responsibility provided for in this Specification.

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