Comments from internal/industry review

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Comments: (1-12-22, Industry)
The changes made to inspection of limerock base and asphalt do not make a lot of sense. The base inspections are being limited to 1 per every LOT, vs. the current requirement of 10 checks per lot. This creates an increased likelihood of deficiencies in the base surface, but then you increase the allowable overrun from 5% to 10%. While the reduced inspection requirements has a potential to decrease inspection costs, there is a higher potential for cost increase in materials especially on large scale projects such as the several miles of widening that are about to be let on the Turnpike system.

Name: Herb Potter
Response: Previous specification requirements (use of a template) became outdated and were not being implemented correctly, if at all. The new requirements are to check cross slope 1 per LOT with enforceable tolerances. We will evaluate the changes for effectiveness and adjust accordingly. Keep in mind we are making changes in several specs, including base and curb and gutter to address issues with additional asphalt used. Just as the current 105% limit is not always reached, neither will the 110%. We are getting the asphalt and are paying to ensure thickness is achieved and asphalt contractors are compensated. This is also more in line with allowable quantity tolerances for concrete pavement and base which pay up to an additional ¼” and ½” respectively.

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Comments: (1-31-22, Industry)
The asphalt pay items (Specs 2340900, 3340700, 3371100, and 3390700) are being changed to allow up to 110% OF THE ADJUSTED PLAN QUANTITY. This could affect performance measures on large paving projects with overruns due to this 110% adjustment and CPF’s.

Response: This has been discussed with State Construction Engineer and Director of Construction. We are making changes in several specs, including base and curb and gutter to address issues with additional asphalt used. Just as the current 105% limit is not always reached, neither will the 110%. We are getting the asphalt and are paying to ensure thickness is achieved and asphalt contractors are compensated. This is also more in line with allowable quantity tolerances for concrete pavement and base which pay up to an additional ¼” and ½” respectively.

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