

5700000 PERFORMANCE TURF
COMMENTS FROM INDUSTRY REVIEW

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Comments:

Just one comment. When the statement "*Take responsibility for litter removal and mowing turf within the project limits in accordance with Section 107.*" Is added then the entire section applies. Co might want to address payment such that there will not be any misunderstanding about how to be paid.

Response:

Name: Chris Sweitzer
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Comments:

The proposed change to 570-4 says to mow per 107. 107-2 says "The areas and limits of mowing have been previously established and are distinguishable in the field. Where landscaping has been established or natural landscape has been preserved, mow conforming to the established mowing contours." Newly reconstructed areas will not have previously established mowing contours, so this might give the Contractor a chance to say he doesn't have to mow these areas. Does "establish" in 570-4 mean the same thing as it does in 107-2? It seems to me that in 570-4 establish refers to plant growth and health while in 107-2 the meaning leans more toward something being defined or created. Could this cause some confusion?

Response:

Brad Hamilton
Estimator
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Comments:

We at Dieter's Sod Service are in favor of the new proposed specifications separating the Roadside Litter Removal and Mowing out of the Performance Turf.

We would also like to see the **Watering** broken out as this is done on a per occurrence basis that varies per job and season. This way all general contractors that are bidding the job are comparing “apples to apples” on the overall phase keeping the numbers more consistent. The way it is setup now is that one GC could be including 5 Waterings vs. another that may be including 10 Waterings which may price them out of the job.

1070000 - Roadside Litter Removal and Mowing

5700000 - Performance Turf

<http://www2.dot.state.fl.us/SpecificationsEstimates/Development/IndustryReview.aspx>

Response:

Thanks for the comments but no to adding a watering pay item for turf, or for landscaping. This was changed because of abuse and misuse that cost the Department significant \$.

David A. Sadler

Director, Office of Construction

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Comments:

I strongly support mowing, litter pick up being removed from the 570 - Performance Turf specification, as the quantities of mowing tend to be vastly different from the performance turf areas. These areas are rarely known by the GC's at the time of the bidding process.

I would like to request to the Department to consider making **Watering** a separate pay item as well.

The current specification “ **570-3.6 Watering:** *Water all turf areas as necessary to produce a healthy and vigorous stand of turf.*”, is not consistent.

Many engineers still insist to pre-water prior to installing sod. While other jobs never need water.

If watering were a separate pay item as in the past (*before 2007*), the Performance Turf price would be reduced and the Department would only have to pay water when needed or requested.

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Response:

Thanks for the comments but no to adding a watering pay item for turf, or for landscaping. This was changed because of abuse and misuse that cost the Department significant \$.

David A. Sadler
Director, Office of Construction
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Comments:

Take responsibility for litter removal and mowing turf within the project limits in accordance with Section 107. Question 1. Does the responsibility for litter removal and mowing start with the first contract day and last until final acceptance? Or does it continue throughout the turf establishment period? If mowing and litter removal should continue through the establishment period will it be paid for under Section 107 or is the contractor responsible for these costs? Will the contractor be paid for mowing and litter removal of undisturbed areas and areas requiring turf establishment or just undisturbed areas? 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. Question 2: Does this paragraph require that all areas, including undisturbed areas, be mowed and include litter removal? Or is the contractor responsible to maintain only the areas where new turf is being established? In summary, there needs to be clear direction in the specifications about when and where the contractor will be compensated by the department for mowing and litter removal. Also, clearly define when and where the contractor will be responsible for costs associated with mowing and litter removal.

Response:

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Comments:

I have received the following comments from the D2 Construction Residencies for the above mentioned Specification change:

1) I'm not a proponent of "Performance Turf". The specification ties final acceptance of the project to the requirements for fully established turf. If rigidly enforced, a person could find bare spots of 1 sq. ft. or larger on any significant grassed acreage; therefore, we may never achieve "final acceptance". However, since the specification will remain, removal of mowing throughout the ROW as part of the performance turf spec. is clearly the way to go. I suggest checking the grammar in section 570-7, the tenth and eleventh line.

Response:

Eddy Scott
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Specifications / Design Review
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Comments:

I've got a good many comments and a few questions concerning the changes to mowing and litter removal. Spec 104, 107 and 570 were under review but I also included comments on 580 regarding this subject. I did discuss briefly with Paul Steinman and Larry Ritchie to get a better idea on the intent of the changes before I commented. As always I appreciate the chance to comment.

1. 570-4 (Turf Establishment) Suggest changing "Take responsibility for litter removal and mowing turf within the project limits in accordance with Section 107." to "Take responsibility for litter removal and mowing turf in accordance with Section 107". The areas defined as "project limits" for mowing and litter removal should be covered in 107.
2. 570-4 (Turf Establishment) Suggest removing "(once every seven days and after each ½ inch of rain)". It's the same inspection period covered in 104 and is already referenced in the same sentence.

The word "maintain" is found in 570-1, 570-3.1 and 570-4. Should maintaining turf be defined in 570 to exclude mowing and litter removal?

580

1. 580-5 (Plant Establishment Period and Contractor's Warranty) Do any of the requirements for mowing found in 107 apply? If so it should be referenced here. Same goes for litter removal.
2. 580-5 (Plant Establishment Period and Contractor's Warranty) Will some mowing still be paid for under 580? If so does 107 need to state so? Please consider paying for all mowing one way to reduce confusion. Same goes for litter removal. To mitigate concern of mowing damage to landscaping perhaps include specific language in 107 to address or for projects with landscaping require that all mowing is to be performed by or under the direction of the landscaping contractor.

Response:

Comments:

Response:

Comments:

Response:
