

5340000 SOUND BARRIERS
COMMENTS FROM INTERNAL/INDUSTRY REVIEW

Ghulam Mujtabe
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Comment: (Internal: 4-22-10)
534-4:

The changes describe that the panels listed on the QPL **may be used**. This indicates that the selection from QPL is not mandatory. The proposed changes should provide the other options for the selection of the panels in lieu of QPL or make it mandatory to use panels listed on QPL.

Response: If the Contractor elects to not build the soundwall according to the Design Standards (5200 Series), then an approved proprietary sound barrier listed on the QPL must be used. Additionally, this has been clarified by merging 534-5 into 534-4.

Gevin McDaniel

Comments: (Internal: 4-27-10)

Suggest making the following changes to 534-7(J). Deleting #7 will cause less confusion for the Contractor.

J. Erection Tolerances:

1. Variation from plumb: plus or minus 1/4 inch/post height
2. Panel alignment: plus or minus 1/4 inch
3. Top of panel elevation: plus or minus 3/4 inch
4. Elevation difference of adjacent panels: plus or minus 1/2 inch
5. Joint taper over panel length: plus or minus 1/2 inch
6. Top of collar elevation: plus or minus 3/4 inch
7. Post placement:
 - a. Variation from specified location plus or minus 1/2 inch
 - b. variation from specified elevation plus or minus 1/4 inch
8. Continuity of graphics, fracture fins, etc across joints: 1/4 inch

Response: Agree. Changes made.

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Comments: (6-3-10)

For consistency, would the Department consider adding Class V Coatings S400, Anti-Graffiti Coating S563, and Non-Shrink Grout S930 under the S534-2 Materials section?

Response: The main materials used for the construction of the sound wall elements are listed in this section. Supplemental material specifications are referenced in the text.

From the State Specifications Office: Agreed. No changes made.

Missy Hollis
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Comments: (6-3-10)

Please clarify payment for anti-graffiti coating, possibly with a sentence addition to 534-10 similar to "Anti-graffiti coating will be paid separately, in accordance with Section 563."

Response: Clarification will be added to the [Structures Manual, Volume 3](#). In addition, line H. in Article 534-6 will be deleted.

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Comments: (6-7-10)

Rudy, the revision for 534 should be clarified as follows:

534-4, include the below link for QPL **“Vendor Drawings”**, these drawings are Incidental Sound Wall products that have specific design variances/alternatives from a current or past project that are not in strict accordance to current indexes but have been approved by the Department. They can be used for future DOT projects as well after being added to this list.

<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/SpecificationsOffice/ProductEvaluation/QPL/QPLIndex.shtm>.

Department approved shop drawings for these items should be forwarded to the QPL office for addition to this list.

Also the statement regarding “provide written certification” should start as, “provide a Notarized Certification Statement from the approved producer to each project prior to the first shipment of any products to the job site”, this would be in accordance with M.M. section 8.2 and/or Specification 105-3.

Response: Vendor Drawings: It is my understanding that the Specifications Office wants to steer away from placing internet links into the language due to fact that they are subject to change at any time.

From the State Specifications Office: Agree with response above. No changes made. In addition, the requirements of the Materials Manual Volume II Section 8.2 are addressed in 105-3 and don't need to be repeated. This certification statement only applies if the contractor elects to use QPL products and is to ensure the products provided are those listed on the QPL. No changes made.

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Comments: (6-7-10)

1. I believe the item **534-6, letter J**, item 1 needs to be defined better. A percentage based upon a smart level would give an inspector something measurable with ease and a documentable target range. The 1/4" out over the post height could be interpreted as 1/4" per ft of height.

Response: 534-6.J.1 has been revised to read "1/4 inch/post height" to clarify that it is not 1/4" per foot. We agree that a percentage slope on a smart level would be easier, however, since the length of the posts varies, we need an absolute dimension to ensure proper panel seating. An equivalent percentage slope may be calculated and utilized for ease of placement on a project by project basis.

2. Another item I brought up was the type of lifter needs to be re-identified as either galvanized or stainless steel.

Response: The materials and treatment of lifting devices have been addressed in a forthcoming revision to Sections 400 and 450.

Ghulam Mujtaba
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Comments: (6-24-10)
Articles 534-4 and 534-5 require the following changes:

534-4 Approved Proprietary Sound Barrier Panels and Systems.

Use only approved proprietary panels or systems shown in Design Standards, Index Nos. 5200 thru 5204 that have been pre-determined by the Engineer to be in compliance with the project design and aesthetic criteria ~~and are listed on the QPL.~~

534-5 Product Certification.

Provide written certification from the manufacturer of the panels that the product meets the requirements of this Section ~~and is the same product listed on the QPL.~~

Response: These comments are on existing language, not on the proposed changes herein. Language has already been modified in this proposal. See proposed changes. Section 534-4 is only speaking to Proprietary Systems and Panels; therefore, they must be on the QPL. 534-5 has been combined with 534-4. No change made.

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Comments: (6-30-10)

1. 534-6(7) Construction Methods: The changes to the specification call for the contractor to stake the wall and establish final grades to use to create the shop drawings. This is impractical. Shop Drawings for the soundwall are usually created and submitted during the procurement period prior to the contractor mobilizing to the site. Often much of the product is manufactured

during the procurement period. The changes you are proposing would delay the process of beginning shop drawings until after the start date thereby delaying the project and making the procurement period obsolete.

Response: The proposed modifications have not changed the intent of the Specification. The requirement for staking the wall was already in the Specification. No change made.

2. 534-7(8) Test Wall: I would recommend adding a sentence that allows the CEI or the FDOT to waive this provision for proven past performance of experienced subcontractors. It can be subjective on their part...but we haven't done a test wall in years.

Response: The “test wall” will be part of the final structure. This provision does not add cost to the contractor, but gives the CEI or FDOT the authority needed to ensure the contractor is providing a quality product by meeting the specifications before the entire wall is built. No change made.

Ghulam Mujtaba
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Comments: (7-1-10)

A review of 534- 1 indicates that sound barrier walls should meet one of the following requirements:

1. Design Standards, Index Nos. 5200 thru 5204 or
2. Listed on the QPL

This indicates that the requirements of QPL items may be different than the requirements of Index 5200 thru 5204. But, Section 534-4 and 534-5 still require the QPL items to meet the requirements of Index 5200 thru 5204.

I recommend necessary changes should be made so that there will not be conflicts between the articles.

Response: 534-1 makes no mention of “requirements”; it simply states that the system must be constructed in accordance with either the Design Standards Index 5200-5207 or with QPL items. 534-4 is describing how manufacturers seek approval to list their items on the QPL. One prerequisite for approval is that they meet the requirements of the Design Standards Index 5200-5207. There is no conflict. No change made.
