



## Florida Department of Transportation

**CHARLIE CRIST**  
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

**STEPHANIE KOPELOUSOS**  
SECRETARY

September 28, 2010

Monica Gourdine  
Program Operations Engineer  
Federal Highway Administration  
545 John Knox Road, Suite 200  
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Re: Office of Design, Specifications  
Section 580  
Proposed Specification: 5800500 Landscape Installation – Plant Establishment Period  
and Contractor’s Warranty.

Dear Ms. Gourdine:

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

These changes were proposed by Paul Steinman to require the warranty bond be provided prior to Final Acceptance of the project. The existing language did not state when the bond was to be provided.

Please review and transmit your comments, if any, within two weeks. Comments should be sent via Email to ST986RP or rudy.powell@dot.state.fl.us.

If you have any questions relating to this specification change, please call Rudy Powell, State Specifications Engineer at 414-4280.

Sincerely,

Rudy Powell, Jr., P.E.  
State Specifications Engineer

RP/cah

Attachment

cc: Gregory Jones, Chief Civil Litigation  
Florida Transportation Builders' Assoc.  
State Construction Engineer

**LANDSCAPE INSTALLATION.****(REV 8-9-10)**

ARTICLE 580-5 (Page 725-726) is deleted and the following substituted:

**580-5 Plant Establishment Period and Contractor's Warranty.**

Take responsibility for the proper maintenance, survival and condition of all plants for a period of one year after final acceptance in accordance with 5-11. Notify the Engineer upon completion of installation of all plants.

Mowing as part of the landscape work will be identified in the Contract Documents. Continue any mowing of the landscape areas specified in the Contract Documents throughout the establishment period.

*As a condition precedent to final acceptance in accordance with 5-11, provide a Warranty/Maintenance Bond to the Department in the amount of the total sums bid for all landscape items as evidence of warranty during this plant establishment period. The cost of the bond will not be paid separately, but will be included in the costs of other bid items.*

In addition to satisfying the provisions of Section 287.0935, Florida Statutes, the bonding company is required to have an A.M. Best rating of "A" or better. If the bonding company drops below the "A" rating during the Warranty/Maintenance Bond period, provide a new Warranty/Maintenance Bond for the balance of the establishment period from a bonding company with an "A" or better rating. In such event, all costs of the premium for the new Warranty/Maintenance Bond will be at the Contractor's expense.

The Engineer may conduct interim inspections of all landscape items during the plant establishment period, as well as at the end of the plant establishment period. As part of the warranty to the Department, and at no cost to the Department, replace all plants found not to meet minimum specifications as shown in 580-2.1.1 and 580-3.5 within ten days after each inspection.

Prior to the end of the establishment period *and after plant establishment has been verified*, remove all staking and guying from the project.

At the end of the establishment period, the Engineer will release the Contractor from further warranty work and responsibility provided all plants are established and all previous warranty and remedial work, if any, has been completed to the satisfaction of the Engineer.

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