



## Florida Department of Transportation

**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

**ANANTH PRASAD, P.E.**  
SECRETARY

February 15, 2012

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

Re: Office of Design, Specifications  
Section 120LAP  
Proposed Specification: 120LAP Earthwork for LAP (Off-System)

Dear Ms. Gourdine:

We are submitting, for your approval, two copies of the above referenced Local Agency Program specifications ("Big 4").

These changes were proposed by Susan Blazo in the State Materials Office to define acceptance testing as performed by the Local Agency.

Please review and transmit your comments, if any, within two weeks. Comments should be sent via Email to SP965RP 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,

Signature on File

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

RP/ft

Attachment

cc: Calvin Johnson, Chief Civil Litigation  
Florida Transportation Builders' Assoc.  
State Construction Engineer

**EARTHWORK AND RELATED OPERATIONS FOR LAP (OFF-SYSTEM).**  
(REV ~~47-58-111-23-12~~) (~~FA 4-15-11~~)

**SECTION 120**  
**EARTHWORK AND RELATED OPERATIONS FOR LAP (OFF-SYSTEM)**

**120-1 Description.**

**120-1.1 General:** Perform ~~Earthwork~~*earthwork* and ~~Related~~*related* ~~Operations~~*operations* based on the type of work specified in the Contract and the Earthwork Categories as defined below. Meet the applicable requirements for materials, equipment and construction as specified.

Earthwork and ~~Related~~*related* ~~Operations~~*operations* consists of excavation for the construction of the roadway, excavation for structures and pipe, constructing backfill around structures and pipe, and constructing embankments as required for the roadway, ditches, and channel changes.

**120-1.2 Earthwork Categories:** Performance of Earthwork Operations will fall into one of the following Earthwork Categories:

**120-1.2.1 Earthwork Category 1:** Includes the earthwork and related operations associated with the construction of sidewalks and bike paths along with any drainage structures associated with these facilities.

**120-1.2.2 Earthwork Category 2:** Includes the earthwork and related operations associated with the construction of turn lanes and other non-mainline traffic lanes, widening, roadway shoulders, concrete box culverts, retaining walls, and other drainage structures on the non-mainline pavement.

**120-1.2.3 Earthwork Category 3:** Includes the earthwork and related operations associated with the construction of new mainline pavement, along with concrete box culverts, retaining walls, and other drainage structures on the mainline pavement.

**120-2 Classes of Excavation.**

**120-2.1 Excavation of Unsuitable Material:** Excavation of unsuitable material consists of the removal of muck, clay, rock or any other material that is unsuitable in its original position and that is excavated below the finished grading template. For stabilized bases and sand bituminous road mixes, the finished grading template is the top of the finished base, shoulders and slopes. For all other bases and rigid pavement, the finished grading template is the finished shoulder and slope lines and bottom of completed base or rigid pavement.

**120-2.2 Lateral Ditch Excavation:** Lateral ~~Ditch~~*ditch* ~~Excavation~~*excavation* consists of all excavation of inlet and outlet ditches to structures and roadway, changes in channels of streams, and ditches parallel to the roadway right-of-way. Dress lateral ditches to the grade and cross-section shown in the plans.

**120-2.3 Channel Excavation:** Channel ~~Excavation~~*excavation* consists of the excavation and satisfactory disposal of all materials from the limits of the channel as shown in the plans.

**120-2.4 Excavation for Structures and Pipe:** Excavation for ~~Structures~~*structures* consists of the excavation for bridge foundations, box culverts, pipe culverts,

storm sewers and all other pipe lines, retaining walls, headwalls for pipe culverts and drains, catch basins, drop inlets, manholes, and similar structures.

### **120-3 Excavation Requirements.**

**120-3.1 Excavation and Replacement of Unsuitable Materials:** Where rock, muck, clay, or other material within the limits of the roadway is unsuitable in its original position, excavate such material to the cross-sections shown in the plans or indicated by the Engineer, and backfill with suitable material. Shape backfill materials to the required cross-sections. Where the removal of plastic soils below the finished earthwork grade is required, meet a construction tolerance of  $\pm$  *plus or minus* 0.2 foot in depth and  $\pm$  *plus or minus* 6 inches (each side) in width.

**120-3.2 Lateral Ditch Excavation:** Excavate inlet and outlet ditches to structures and roadway, changes in channels of streams and ditches parallel to the roadway. Dress lateral ditches to the grade and cross-section shown in the plans.

**120-3.3 Channel Excavation:** Excavate and dispose of all materials from the limits of the channel as shown in the plans. Excavate for bridge foundations, box culverts, pipe culverts, storm sewers and all other pipe lines, retaining walls, headwalls for pipe culverts and drains, catch basins, drop inlets, manholes, and similar structures.

#### **120-3.4 Excavation for Structures and Pipe.**

**120-3.4.1 Requirements for all Excavation:** Excavate foundation pits to permit the placing of the full widths and lengths of footings shown in the plans, with full horizontal beds. Do not round or undercut corners or edges of footings. Perform all excavation to foundation materials, satisfactory to the Engineer, regardless of the elevation shown on the plans. Perform all excavation in stream beds to a depth at least 4 feet below the permanent bed of the stream, unless a firm footing can be established on solid rock before such depth is reached, and excavate to such additional depth as may be necessary to eliminate any danger of undermining. Wherever rock bottom is secured, excavate in such manner as to allow the solid rock to be exposed and prepared in horizontal beds for receiving the masonry. Remove all loose and disintegrated rock or thin strata. Have the Engineer inspect and approve all foundation excavations prior to placing masonry.

#### **120-3.4.2 Earth Excavation:**

**120-3.4.2.1 Foundation Material other than the Rock:** When masonry is to rest on an excavated surface other than rock, take special care to avoid disturbing the bottom of the excavation, and do not remove the final foundation material to grade until just before placing the masonry. In case the foundation material is soft or mucky, the Engineer may require excavation to a greater depth and to backfill to grade with approved material.

**120-3.4.2.2 Foundation Piles:** Where foundation piles are used, complete the excavation of each pit before driving the piles. After the driving is completed, remove all loose and displaced material, leaving a smooth, solid, and level bed to receive the masonry.

**120-3.4.2.3 Removal of Obstructions:** Remove boulders, logs, or any unforeseen obstacles encountered in excavating.

**120-3.4.3 Rock Excavation:** Clean all rock and other hard foundation material, remove all loose material, and cut all rock to a firm surface. Either level, step

vertically and horizontally, or serrate the rock, as may be directed by the Engineer. Clean out all seams, and fill them with concrete or mortar.

**120-3.4.4 Pipe Trench Excavation:** Excavate trenches for pipe culverts and storm sewers to the elevation of the bottom of the pipe and to a width sufficient to provide adequate working room. Remove soil not meeting the classification specified as suitable backfill material in 120-8.3.2.2 to a depth of 4 inches below the bottom of the pipe elevation. Remove rock, boulders or other hard lumpy or unyielding material to a depth of 12 inches below the bottom of the pipe elevation. Remove muck or other soft material to a depth necessary to establish a firm foundation. Where the soils permit, ensure that the trench sides are vertical up to at least the mid-point of the pipe.

For pipe lines placed above the natural ground line, place and compact the embankment, prior to excavation of the trench, to an elevation at least 2 feet above the top of the pipe and to a width equal to four pipe diameters, and then excavate the trench to the required grade.

#### **120-4 Disposal of Surplus and Unsuitable Material.**

**120-4.1 Ownership of Excavated Materials:** Dispose of surplus and excavated materials as shown in the plans or, if the plans do not indicate the method of disposal, take ownership of the materials and dispose of them outside the right-of-way.

**120-4.2 Disposal of Muck on Side Slopes:** As an exception to the provisions of 120-4.1, when approved by the Engineer, muck (A-8 material) may be placed on the slopes, or stored alongside the roadway, provided there is a clear distance of at least 6 feet between the roadway grading limits and the muck, and the muck is dressed to present a neat appearance. In addition, this material may also be disposed of by placing it on the slopes where, in the opinion of the Engineer, this will result in an aesthetically pleasing appearance and will have no detrimental effect on the adjacent developments. Where the Engineer permits the disposal of muck or other unsuitable material inside the right-of-way limits, do not place such material in a manner which will impede the inflow or outfall of any channel or of side ditches. The Engineer will determine the limits adjacent to channels within which such materials may be disposed.

**120-4.3 Disposal of Paving Materials:** Unless otherwise noted, take ownership of paving materials, such as paving brick, asphalt block, concrete slab, sidewalk, curb and gutter, etc., excavated in the removal of existing pavements, and dispose of them outside the right-of-way. If the materials are to remain the property of the Agency, place them in neat piles as directed. Existing limerock base that is removed may be incorporated in the stabilized portion of the subgrade. If the construction sequence will allow, incorporate all existing limerock base into the project as allowed by the Contract Documents.

**120-4.4 Disposal Areas:** Where the Contract Documents require disposal of excavated materials outside the right-of-way, and the disposal area is not indicated in the Contract Documents, furnish the disposal area without additional compensation.

Provide areas for disposal of removed paving materials out of sight of the project and at least 300 feet from the nearest roadway right-of-way line of any road. If the materials are buried, disregard the 300 foot limitation.

## **120-5 Materials for Embankment.**

**120-5.1 General Requirements for Embankment Materials:** Construct embankments using suitable materials excavated from the roadway or delivered to the jobsite from authorized borrow pits.

Construct the embankment using maximum particle sizes (~~in any dimension~~) as follows:

In top 12 inches: 3 1/2 inches (in any dimension).

12 to 24 inches: 6 inches (in any dimension).

In the depth below 24 inches: not to exceed 12 inches (in any dimension) or the compacted thickness of the layer being placed, whichever is less.

Spread all material so that the larger particles are separated from each other to minimize voids between them during compaction. Compact around these rocks in accordance with 120-7.2.

When and where approved by the Engineer, larger rocks (not to exceed 18 inches in any dimension) may be placed outside the one to two slope and at least 4 feet or more below the bottom of the base. Compact around these rocks to a firmness equal to that of the supporting soil. Where constructing embankments adjacent to bridge end bents or abutments, do not place rock larger than 3 1/2 inches in diameter within 3 feet of the location of any end-bent piling.

**120-5.2 Use of Materials Excavated From the Roadway and Appurtenances:** Assume responsibility for determining the suitability of excavated material for use on the project in accordance with the applicable Contract Documents. Consider the sequence of work and maintenance of traffic phasing in the determination of the availability of this material.

**120-5.3 Authorization for Use of Borrow:** Use borrow only when sufficient quantities of suitable material are not available from roadway and drainage excavation, to properly construct ~~construct~~ the embankment, subgrade, and shoulders, and to complete the backfilling of structures and pipe. Do not use borrow material until so ordered by the Engineer, and then only use material from approved borrow pits.

**120-5.3.1 Haul Routes for Borrow Pits:** Provide and maintain, at no expense to the Agency, all necessary roads for hauling the borrow material. Where borrow area haul roads or trails are used by others, do not cause such roads or trails to deteriorate in condition.

Arrange for the use of all non-public haul routes crossing the property of any railroad. Incur any expense for the use of such haul routes. Establish haul routes which will direct construction vehicles away from developed areas when feasible, and keep noise from hauling operations to a minimum. Advise the Engineer in writing of all proposed haul routes.

**120-5.3.2 Borrow Material for Shoulder Build-up:** When so indicated in the plans, furnish borrow material with a specific minimum bearing value, for building up of existing shoulders. Blend materials as necessary to achieve this specified minimum bearing value prior to placing the materials on the shoulders. Take samples of this borrow material at the pit or blended stockpile.

**120-5.4 Materials Used at Pipes, Culverts, etc.:** Construct embankments over and around pipes, culverts, and bridge foundations with selected materials.

## **120-6 Embankment Construction.**

**120-6.1 General:** Construct embankments in sections of not less than 300 feet in length or for the full length of the embankment.

### **120-6.2 Dry Fill Method:**

**120-6.2.1 General:** Construct embankments to meet compaction requirements in 120-7 and in accordance with the acceptance program requirements in 120-9. Restrict the compacted thickness of the last embankment lift to 6 inches maximum.

As far as practicable, distribute traffic over the work during the construction of embankments so as to cover the maximum area of the surface of each layer.

Construct embankment in the dry whenever normal dewatering equipment and methods can accomplish the needed dewatering.

#### **120-6.2.1.1 For A-3 and A-2-4 Materials with up to 15% fines:**

Construct the embankment in successive layers with lifts up to a maximum compacted thickness of 12 inches. Ensure the percentage of fines passing the No. 200 US Standard sieve in the A-2-4 material does not exceed 15%.

**120-6.2.1.2 For A-1 Plastic materials (As designated in FDOT Design Standard Index 505) and A-2-4 Materials with greater than 15% fines:** Construct the embankment in successive layers with lifts up to a maximum compacted thickness of 6 inches.

**120-6.2.1.3 Equipment and Methods:** Provide normal dewatering equipment including, but not limited to, surface pumps, sump pumps and trenching/digging machinery. Provide normal dewatering methods including, but not limited to, constructing shallow surface drainage trenches/ditches, using sand blankets, sumps and siphons.

When normal dewatering does not adequately remove the water, the Engineer may require the embankment material to be placed in the water or in low swampy ground in accordance with 120-7.2.4.

**120-6.2.2 Placing in Unstable Areas:** Where depositing the material in water, or in low swampy ground that will not support the weight of hauling equipment, construct the embankment by dumping successive loads in a uniformly distributed layer of a thickness not greater than necessary to support the hauling equipment while placing subsequent layers. Once sufficient material has been placed so that the hauling equipment can be supported, construct the remaining portion of the embankment in layers in accordance with the applicable provisions of 120-7.2.4 and 120-7.2.6.

**120-6.2.3 Placing on Steep Slopes:** When constructing an embankment on a hillside sloping more than 20 degrees from the horizontal, before starting the fill, deeply plow or cut into steps the surface of the original ground on which the embankment is to be placed.

**120-6.2.4 Placing Outside Standard Minimum Slope:** Where material that is unsuitable for normal embankment construction is to be used in the embankment outside the standard minimum slope (approximately one to two), place such material in layers of not more than 18 inches in thickness, measured loose. The Contractor may also place material which is suitable for normal embankment, outside such standard minimum

slope, in 18 inch layers. Maintain a constant thickness for suitable material placed within and outside the standard minimum slope, unless placing in a separate operation.

### **120-6.3 Hydraulic Method:**

**120-6.3.1 Method of Placing:** When the hydraulic method is used, as far as practicable, place all dredged material in its final position in the embankment by such method. Place and compact any dredged material that is re-handled, or moved and placed in its final position by any other method, as specified in 120-7.2. The Contractor may use baffles or any form of construction he may select, provided the slopes of the embankments are not steeper than indicated in the plans. Remove all timber used for temporary bulkheads or baffles from the embankment, and fill and thoroughly compact the holes thus formed. When placing fill on submerged land, construct dikes prior to beginning of dredging, and maintain the dikes throughout the dredging operation.

**120-6.3.2 Excess Material:** Do not use excess material placed outside the prescribed slopes, below the normal high-water level, to raise the fill. Remove only the portion of this material required for dressing the slopes.

**120-6.3.3 Protection of Openings in Embankment:** Leave openings in the embankments at the bridge sites. Remove any material which invades these openings or existing channels without additional compensation to provide the same depth of channel as existed before the construction of the embankment. Do not excavate or dredge any material within 200 feet of the toe of the proposed embankment.

### **120-7 Compaction Requirements.**

**120-7.1 Moisture Content:** Compact the materials at a moisture content such that the specified density can be attained. If necessary to attain the specified density, add water to the material, or lower the moisture content by manipulating the material or allowing it to dry, as is appropriate.

#### **120-7.2 Compaction of Embankments:**

**120-7.2.1 Earthwork Category 1 and 2 Density Requirements:** ~~Reduce the~~*The Engineer will accept a* minimum ~~required~~ density ~~from 100% to of~~ 95% of *the maximum density as determined by* AASHTO T-99 Method C for all earthwork items requiring densities.

**120-7.2.2 Earthwork Category 3 Density Requirements:** *The Engineer will accept a minimum of 100% of the maximum density as determined by- AASHTO T-99 Method C for all densities required under category 3.*

Except for embankments constructed by the hydraulic method as specified in 120-6.3, and for the material placed outside the standard minimum slope as specified in 120-6.2.4, and for other areas specifically excluded herein, compact each layer of the material used in the formation of embankments to *the required density stated above.* ~~a density of at least 100% of the maximum density as required by AASHTO T-99, Method C.~~ Uniformly compact each layer using equipment that will achieve the required density, and as compaction operations progress, shape and manipulate each layer as necessary to ensure uniform density throughout the embankment.

**120-7.2.3 Compaction Over Unstable Foundations:** Where the embankment material is deposited in water or on low swampy ground, and in a layer thicker than 12 inches (as provided in 120-6.2.2), compact the top 6 inches (compacted thickness) of such layer to the density as specified in 120-9.5.

**120-7.2.4 Compaction Where Plastic Material Has Been Removed:**

Where unsuitable material is removed and the remaining surface is of the A-4, A-5, A-6, or A-7 Soil Groups, as determined by the Engineer, compact the surface of the excavated area by rolling with a sheepsfoot roller exerting a compression of at least 250 psi on the tamper feet, for the full width of the roadbed (subgrade and shoulders). Perform rolling before beginning any backfill, and continue until the roller feet do not penetrate the surface more than 1 inch. Do not perform such rolling where the remaining surface is below the normal water table and covered with water. Vary the procedure and equipment required for this operation at the discretion of the Engineer.

**120-7.2.5 Compaction of Material To Be Used In Base, Pavement, or Stabilized Areas:** Do not compact embankment material which will be incorporated into a pavement, base course, or stabilized subgrade, to be constructed as a part of the same Contract.

**120-7.2.6 Compaction of Grassed Shoulder Areas:** For the upper 6 inch layer of all shoulders which are to be grassed, since no specific density is required, compact only to the extent directed.

**120-7.2.7 Compaction of Grassed Embankment Areas:** For the outer layer of all embankments where plant growth will be established, do not compact. Leave this layer in a loose condition to a minimum depth of 6 inches for the subsequent seeding or planting operations.

**120-7.3 Compaction of Subgrade:** If the plans do not provide for stabilizing, compact the subgrade in both cuts and fills to the density specified in 120-9.5. For undisturbed soils, do not apply density requirements where constructing narrow widening strips or paved shoulders 5 feet or less in width.

Where trenches for widening strips are not of sufficient width to permit the use of standard compaction equipment, perform compaction using vibratory rollers, trench rollers, or other type compaction equipment approved by the Engineer.

Maintain the required density until the base or pavement is placed on the subgrade.

**120-8 Backfilling Around Structures and Pipe.**

**120-8.1 Requirements for all Structures:**

**120-8.1.1 General:** Backfill around structures and pipe in the ~~Dry~~-dry whenever normal dewatering equipment and methods can accomplish the needed dewatering.

**120-8.1.2 Equipment and Methods:** Provide normal dewatering equipment including, but not limited to, surface pumps, sump pumps, wellpoints and header pipe and trenching/digging machinery. Provide normal dewatering methods including, but not limited to, constructing shallow surface drainage trenches/ditches, using sand blankets, perforated pipe drains, sumps and siphons.

**120-8.1.3 Backfill Materials:** Backfill to the original ground surface or subgrade surface of openings made for structures, with a sufficient allowance for settlement. The Engineer may require that the material used for this backfill be obtained from a source entirely apart from the structure.

Do not allow heavy construction equipment to cross over culvert or storm sewer pipes until placing and compacting backfill material to the finished earthwork grade or to an elevation at least 4 feet above the crown of the pipe.

**120-8.1.4 Use of A-7 Material:** In the backfilling of trenches, A-7 material may be used from a point 12 inches above the top of the pipe up to the elevation shown on the FDOT Design Standards as the elevation for undercutting of A-7 material.

**120-8.1.5 Time of Placing Backfill:** Do not place backfill against any masonry or concrete abutment, wingwall, or culvert until the Engineer has given permission to do so, and in no case until the masonry or concrete has been in place seven days or until the specified 28-day compressive strength occurs.

**120-8.1.6 Placement and Compaction:** *When the backfill material is deposited in water, compact per 120-8.2.5 and 120-8.3.4.* Place the material in horizontal layers not exceeding 6-6 inches compacted thickness, in depth above water level, behind abutments, wingwalls and end bents or end rest piers, and around box culverts and all structures including pipe culverts. ~~When the backfill material is deposited in water, compact per 120-8.2.5 and 120-8.3.4.~~

~~The Contractor may elect to place material in thicker lifts of no more than 12 inches compacted thickness outside the soil envelope if he can demonstrate with a successful test section that density can be achieved. Notify the Engineer prior to beginning construction of a test section. Construct a test section of 500 feet in length. Perform five tests at random locations within the test section. All five tests must meet the density required by 120-7.2. Approval may be obtained to place~~  
*The Engineer may approve placing material in thicker lifts of no more than 12- inches compacted thickness above the soil envelope if a test section demonstrates the required density can be achieved.- The Engineer will base his approval*  
*Approval will be based on 5five passing density tests over the test section consisting of a lift of backfill from structure to structure. The Engineer will identify* the test section with the compaction effort and soil classification in the Agency Logbook. In case of a change in compaction effort or soil classification, construct a new test section. *The Engineer reserves the right to terminate the Contractor's use of thick lift construction and have him revert to the 6- inch compacted lifts whenever it is determined that satisfactory results are not being obtained. When a test fails the requirements of 120-7.2, construct a new test section. The Contractor may elect to place material in 6 inches compacted thickness at any time.*

#### **120-8.2 Additional Requirements for Structures Other than Pipe:**

**120-8.2.1 Density:** Where the backfill material is deposited in water, obtain a 12 inch layer of comparatively dry material, thoroughly compacted by tamping, *before the Engineer verifies layer and density requirements. before verifying the layer and density requirements.* Meet the requirements of the density Acceptance Criteria.

**120-8.2.2 Box Culverts:** For box culverts over which pavement is to be constructed, compact around the structure to an elevation not less than 12 inches above the top of the structure, using rapid-striking mechanical tampers.

**120-8.2.3 Other Limited Areas:** Compact in other limited areas using mechanical tampers or approved hand tampers, until the cover over the structure is at least 12 inches thick. When hand tampers are used, deposit the materials in layers not more than 4 inches thick using hand tampers suitable for this purpose with a face area of not more than 100 in<sup>2</sup>. Take special precautions to prevent any wedging action against the masonry, and step or terrace the slope bounding the excavation for abutments and wingwalls if required by the Engineer.

**120-8.2.4 Culverts and Piers:** Backfill around culverts and piers on both sides simultaneously to approximately the same elevation.

**120-8.2.5 Compaction Under Wet Conditions:** Where wet conditions do not permit the use of mechanical tampers, compact using hand tampers. Use only A-3 material for the hand tamped portions of the backfill. When the backfill has reached an elevation and condition such as to make the use of the mechanical tampers practical, perform mechanical tamping in such manner and to such extent as to transfer the compaction force into the sections previously tamped by hand.

**120-8.3 Additional Requirements for Pipe 15 Inches Inside Diameter or Greater:**

**120-8.3.1 General:** Trenches for pipe may have up to four zones that must be backfilled.

**Lowest Zone:** The lowest zone is backfilled for deep undercuts up to within 4 inches of the bottom of the pipe.

**Bedding Zone:** The zone above the Lowest Zone is the Bedding Zone. Usually it will be the backfill which is the 4 inches of soil below the bottom of the pipe. When rock or other hard material has been removed to place the pipe, the Bedding Zone will be the 12 inches of soil below the bottom of the pipe.

**Cover Zone:** The next zone is backfill that is placed after the pipe has been laid and will be called the Cover Zone. This zone extends to 12 inches above the top of the pipe. The Cover Zone and the Bedding Zone are considered the Soil Envelope for the pipe.

**Top Zone:** The Top Zone extends from 12 inches above the top of the pipe to the base or final grade.

**120-8.3.2 Material:**

**120-8.3.2.1 Lowest Zone:** Backfill areas undercut below the Bedding Zone of a pipe with coarse sand, or other suitable granular material, obtained from the grading operations on the project, or a commercial material if no suitable material is available.

**120-8.3.2.2 Soil Envelope:** In both the Bedding Zone and the Cover Zone of the pipe, backfill with materials classified as A-1, A-2, or A-3. Material classified as A-4 may be used if the pipe is concrete pipe.

**120-8.3.2.3 Top Zone:** Backfill the area of the trench above the soil envelope of the pipe with materials allowed on Design Standard, Index No. 505.

**120-8.3.3 Compaction:**

**120-8.3.3.1 Lowest Zone:** Compact the soil in the Lowest Zone to approximately match the density of the soil in which the trench was cut.

**120-8.3.3.2 Bedding Zone:** If the trench was not undercut below the bottom of the pipe, loosen the soil in the bottom of the trench immediately below the approximate middle third of the outside diameter of the pipe.

If the trench was undercut, place the bedding material and leave it in a loose condition below the middle third of the outside diameter of the pipe. Compact the outer portions to meet the density requirements of the Acceptance Criteria. Place the material in lifts no greater than 6 inches (compacted thickness).

**120-8.3.3.3 Cover Zone:** Place the material in 6 inches layers (compacted thickness), evenly deposited on both sides of the pipe, and compact with

mechanical tampers suitable for this purpose. Hand tamp material below the pipe haunch that cannot be reached by mechanical tampers. Meet the requirements of the density Acceptance Criteria.

**120-8.3.3.4 Top Zone:** Place the material in layers not to exceed 12 inches in compacted thickness. Meet the requirements of the density Acceptance Criteria.

**120-8.3.4 Backfill Under Wet Conditions:** Where wet conditions are such that dewatering by normal pumping methods would not be effective, the procedure outlined below may be used when specifically authorized by the Engineer in writing.

Granular material may be used below the elevation at which mechanical tampers would be effective, but only material classified as A-3. Place and compact the material using timbers or hand tampers until the backfill reaches an elevation such that its moisture content will permit the use of mechanical tampers. When the backfill has reached such elevation, use normally acceptable backfill material. Compact the material using mechanical tampers in such manner and to such extent as to transfer the compacting force into the material previously tamped by hand.

## **120-9 Acceptance Program.**

**120-9.1 Density over 105%:** When a computed dry density results in a value greater than 105% of the applicable Proctor maximum dry density, *the Engineer will* perform a second density test within 5 feet. If the second density results in a value greater than 105%, investigate the compaction methods, examine the applicable Maximum Density and material description. If necessary, *the Engineer will* test an additional sample for acceptance in accordance with AASHTO T 99, Method C.

**120-9.2 Maximum Density Determination:** ~~Determine~~ *The Engineer will determine* the maximum density and optimum moisture content by sampling and testing the material in accordance with the specified test method listed in 120-9.3.

**120-9.3 Density Testing Requirements:** *Compliance with the requirements of 120-9.5 will be determined in accordance with FM 1-T 238 (Density of Soils and Bituminous Concrete Mixtures in Place by the Nuclear Method). -The in-place moisture content will be determined for each density in accordance with FM 5-507 (Determination of Moisture Content by Means of a Calcium Carbide Gas Pressure Moisture Tester), or ASTM D 4643 (Laboratory Determination of Moisture Content of Granular Soils By Use of a Microwave Oven).*

~~Ensure compliance with the requirements of 120-9.5 by Nuclear Density testing in accordance with FDOT Florida Method FM 1 T 238. Determine the in place moisture content for each density test. Use Florida Method FM 1 T 238, FM 5 507 (Determination of Moisture Content by Means of a Calcium Carbide Gas Pressure Moisture Tester), or ASTM D 4643 (Laboratory Determination of Moisture Content of Granular Soils By Use of a Microwave Oven) for moisture determination.~~

**120-9.4 Soil Classification:** ~~Perform soil classification tests in accordance with AASHTO T 88. Classify~~ *The Engineer will perform soil classification tests in accordance with AASHTO T-88 (Standard Method of Test for Particle Size Analysis of Soils), and classify* soils in accordance with AASHTO M-145 (*Standard Specification for Classification of Soils and Soil-Aggregate Mixtures for Highway Construction Purposes*) in order to determine compliance with embankment utilization requirements.

**120-9.5 Acceptance Criteria:** ~~Obtain~~ *The Engineer will accept* a minimum density in accordance with 120-7.2 with the following exceptions:

- 1) embankment constructed by the hydraulic method as specified in 120-6.3;
- 2) material placed outside the standard minimum slope as specified in 120-6.2.4;
- 3) other areas specifically excluded herein.

**120-9.6 Frequency:** ~~Conduct~~ *The Engineer will conduct* sampling and testing at a minimum frequency listed in the table below.

Test Name	Frequency
Maximum Density	One per soil type
Density	1 per 500' RDWY (Alt Lift)
Soil Classification	One per Maximum Density

### 120-10 Maintenance and Protection of Work.

While construction is in progress, maintain adequate drainage for the roadbed at all times. Maintain a shoulder at least 3 feet wide adjacent to all pavement or base construction in order to provide support for the edges.

Maintain and protect all earthwork construction throughout the life of the Contract, and take all reasonable precautions to prevent loss of material from the roadway due to the action of wind or water. Repair any slides, washouts, settlement, subsidence, or other mishap which may occur prior to final acceptance of the work. Maintain all channels excavated as a part of the Contract work against natural shoaling or other encroachments to the lines, grades, and cross-sections shown in the plans, until final acceptance of the project.

### 120-11 Construction.

**120-11.1 Construction Tolerances:** Shape the surface of the earthwork to conform to the lines, grades, and cross-sections shown in the plans. In final shaping of the surface of earthwork, maintain a tolerance of 0.3 foot above or below the plan cross-section with the following exceptions:

1. Shape the surface of shoulders to within 0.1 foot of the plan cross-section.
2. Shape the earthwork to match adjacent pavement, curb, sidewalk, structures, etc.
3. Shape the bottom of ditches so that the ditch impounds no water.
4. When the work does not include construction of base or pavement, shape the entire roadbed (shoulder point to shoulder point) to within 0.1 foot above or below the plan cross-section.

Ensure that the shoulder lines do not vary horizontally more than 0.3 foot from the true lines shown in the plans.

**120-11.2 Operations Adjacent to Pavement:** Carefully dress areas adjacent to pavement areas to avoid damage to such pavement. Complete grassing of shoulder areas prior to placing the final wearing course. Do not manipulate any embankment material on a pavement surface.

When shoulder dressing is underway adjacent to a pavement lane being used to maintain traffic, exercise extreme care to avoid interference with the safe movement of traffic.

**120-12 Method of Measurement.**

**120-12.1 Excavation:** Excavation will be paid for by volume, in cubic yards, calculated by the method of average end areas, unless the Engineer determines that another method of calculation will provide a more accurate result. The material will be measured in its original position by field survey or by photogrammetric means as designated by the Engineer. Measurement for payment will include the excavation of unsuitable material, lateral ditch excavation, channel excavation, and excavation for structures and pipe. Payment will not be made for excavation or embankment beyond the limits shown in the plans or authorized by the Engineer.

**120-12.2 Embankment:** Measurement will be made on a loose volume basis, as measured in trucks or other hauling equipment at the point of dumping on the road. Payment will not be made for embankment beyond the limits shown in the plans or authorized by the Engineer.

**120-13 Basis of Payment.**

**120-13.1 General:** Prices and payments for the work items included in this Section will be full compensation for all work described herein, including excavating, dredging, hauling, placing, and compacting; dressing the surface of the earthwork; and maintaining and protecting the complete earthwork.

**120-13.2 Excavation:** The total quantity of all excavation specified under this Section will be paid for at the Contract unit price for Excavation. No payment will be made for the excavation of any materials which are used for purposes other than those shown in the plans or designated by the Engineer. No payment will be made for materials excavated outside the lines and grades given by the Engineer, unless specifically authorized by the Engineer.

**120-13.3 Embankment:** The total quantity of embankment specified in this Section will be paid for at the Contract unit price for embankment. No payment will be made for materials which are used for purposes other than those shown in the plans or designated by the Engineer. No payment will be made for materials placed outside the lines and grades given by the Engineer.

**EARTHWORK AND RELATED OPERATIONS FOR LAP (OFF-SYSTEM).  
(REV 1-23-12)**

**SECTION 120  
EARTHWORK AND RELATED OPERATIONS FOR LAP (OFF-SYSTEM)**

**120-1 Description.**

**120-1.1 General:** Perform earthwork and related operations based on the type of work specified in the Contract and the Earthwork Categories as defined below. Meet the applicable requirements for materials, equipment and construction as specified.

Earthwork and related operations consists of excavation for the construction of the roadway, excavation for structures and pipe, constructing backfill around structures and pipe, and constructing embankments as required for the roadway, ditches, and channel changes.

**120-1.2 Earthwork Categories:** Performance of Earthwork Operations will fall into one of the following Earthwork Categories:

**120-1.2.1 Earthwork Category 1:** Includes the earthwork and related operations associated with the construction of sidewalks and bike paths along with any drainage structures associated with these facilities.

**120-1.2.2 Earthwork Category 2:** Includes the earthwork and related operations associated with the construction of turn lanes and other non-mainline traffic lanes, widening, roadway shoulders, concrete box culverts, retaining walls, and other drainage structures on the non-mainline pavement.

**120-1.2.3 Earthwork Category 3:** Includes the earthwork and related operations associated with the construction of new mainline pavement, along with concrete box culverts, retaining walls, and other drainage structures on the mainline pavement.

**120-2 Classes of Excavation.**

**120-2.1 Excavation of Unsuitable Material:** Excavation of unsuitable material consists of the removal of muck, clay, rock or any other material that is unsuitable in its original position and that is excavated below the finished grading template. For stabilized bases and sand bituminous road mixes, the finished grading template is the top of the finished base, shoulders and slopes. For all other bases and rigid pavement, the finished grading template is the finished shoulder and slope lines and bottom of completed base or rigid pavement.

**120-2.2 Lateral Ditch Excavation:** Lateral ditch excavation consists of all excavation of inlet and outlet ditches to structures and roadway, changes in channels of streams, and ditches parallel to the roadway right-of-way. Dress lateral ditches to the grade and cross-section shown in the plans.

**120-2.3 Channel Excavation:** Channel excavation consists of the excavation and satisfactory disposal of all materials from the limits of the channel as shown in the plans.

**120-2.4 Excavation for Structures and Pipe:** Excavation for structures consists of the excavation for bridge foundations, box culverts, pipe culverts, storm sewers and all other pipe lines, retaining walls, headwalls for pipe culverts and drains, catch basins, drop inlets, manholes, and similar structures.

### **120-3 Excavation Requirements.**

**120-3.1 Excavation and Replacement of Unsuitable Materials:** Where rock, muck, clay, or other material within the limits of the roadway is unsuitable in its original position, excavate such material to the cross-sections shown in the plans or indicated by the Engineer, and backfill with suitable material. Shape backfill materials to the required cross-sections. Where the removal of plastic soils below the finished earthwork grade is required, meet a construction tolerance of plus or minus 0.2 foot in depth and plus or minus 6 inches (each side) in width.

**120-3.2 Lateral Ditch Excavation:** Excavate inlet and outlet ditches to structures and roadway, changes in channels of streams and ditches parallel to the roadway. Dress lateral ditches to the grade and cross-section shown in the plans.

**120-3.3 Channel Excavation:** Excavate and dispose of all materials from the limits of the channel as shown in the plans. Excavate for bridge foundations, box culverts, pipe culverts, storm sewers and all other pipe lines, retaining walls, headwalls for pipe culverts and drains, catch basins, drop inlets, manholes, and similar structures.

#### **120-3.4 Excavation for Structures and Pipe.**

**120-3.4.1 Requirements for all Excavation:** Excavate foundation pits to permit the placing of the full widths and lengths of footings shown in the plans, with full horizontal beds. Do not round or undercut corners or edges of footings. Perform all excavation to foundation materials, satisfactory to the Engineer, regardless of the elevation shown on the plans. Perform all excavation in stream beds to a depth at least 4 feet below the permanent bed of the stream, unless a firm footing can be established on solid rock before such depth is reached, and excavate to such additional depth as may be necessary to eliminate any danger of undermining. Wherever rock bottom is secured, excavate in such manner as to allow the solid rock to be exposed and prepared in horizontal beds for receiving the masonry. Remove all loose and disintegrated rock or thin strata. Have the Engineer inspect and approve all foundation excavations prior to placing masonry.

#### **120-3.4.2 Earth Excavation:**

**120-3.4.2.1 Foundation Material other than the Rock:** When masonry is to rest on an excavated surface other than rock, take special care to avoid disturbing the bottom of the excavation, and do not remove the final foundation material to grade until just before placing the masonry. In case the foundation material is soft or mucky, the Engineer may require excavation to a greater depth and to backfill to grade with approved material.

**120-3.4.2.2 Foundation Piles:** Where foundation piles are used, complete the excavation of each pit before driving the piles. After the driving is completed, remove all loose and displaced material, leaving a smooth, solid, and level bed to receive the masonry.

**120-3.4.2.3 Removal of Obstructions:** Remove boulders, logs, or any unforeseen obstacles encountered in excavating.

**120-3.4.3 Rock Excavation:** Clean all rock and other hard foundation material, remove all loose material, and cut all rock to a firm surface. Either level, step vertically and horizontally, or serrate the rock, as may be directed by the Engineer. Clean out all seams, and fill them with concrete or mortar.

**120-3.4.4 Pipe Trench Excavation:** Excavate trenches for pipe culverts and storm sewers to the elevation of the bottom of the pipe and to a width sufficient to provide adequate working room. Remove soil not meeting the classification specified as suitable backfill material in 120-8.3.2.2 to a depth of 4 inches below the bottom of the pipe elevation. Remove rock, boulders or other hard lumpy or unyielding material to a depth of 12 inches below the bottom of the pipe elevation. Remove muck or other soft material to a depth necessary to establish a firm foundation. Where the soils permit, ensure that the trench sides are vertical up to at least the mid-point of the pipe.

For pipe lines placed above the natural ground line, place and compact the embankment, prior to excavation of the trench, to an elevation at least 2 feet above the top of the pipe and to a width equal to four pipe diameters, and then excavate the trench to the required grade.

#### **120-4 Disposal of Surplus and Unsuitable Material.**

**120-4.1 Ownership of Excavated Materials:** Dispose of surplus and excavated materials as shown in the plans or, if the plans do not indicate the method of disposal, take ownership of the materials and dispose of them outside the right-of-way.

**120-4.2 Disposal of Muck on Side Slopes:** As an exception to the provisions of 120-4.1, when approved by the Engineer, muck (A-8 material) may be placed on the slopes, or stored alongside the roadway, provided there is a clear distance of at least 6 feet between the roadway grading limits and the muck, and the muck is dressed to present a neat appearance. In addition, this material may also be disposed of by placing it on the slopes where, in the opinion of the Engineer, this will result in an aesthetically pleasing appearance and will have no detrimental effect on the adjacent developments. Where the Engineer permits the disposal of muck or other unsuitable material inside the right-of-way limits, do not place such material in a manner which will impede the inflow or outfall of any channel or of side ditches. The Engineer will determine the limits adjacent to channels within which such materials may be disposed.

**120-4.3 Disposal of Paving Materials:** Unless otherwise noted, take ownership of paving materials, such as paving brick, asphalt block, concrete slab, sidewalk, curb and gutter, etc., excavated in the removal of existing pavements, and dispose of them outside the right-of-way. If the materials are to remain the property of the Agency, place them in neat piles as directed. Existing limerock base that is removed may be incorporated in the stabilized portion of the subgrade. If the construction sequence will allow, incorporate all existing limerock base into the project as allowed by the Contract Documents.

**120-4.4 Disposal Areas:** Where the Contract Documents require disposal of excavated materials outside the right-of-way, and the disposal area is not indicated in the Contract Documents, furnish the disposal area without additional compensation.

Provide areas for disposal of removed paving materials out of sight of the project and at least 300 feet from the nearest roadway right-of-way line of any road. If the materials are buried, disregard the 300 foot limitation.

#### **120-5 Materials for Embankment.**

**120-5.1 General Requirements for Embankment Materials:** Construct embankments using suitable materials excavated from the roadway or delivered to the jobsite from authorized borrow pits.

Construct the embankment using maximum particle sizes as follows:

In top 12 inches: 3 1/2 inches (in any dimension).

12 to 24 inches: 6 inches (in any dimension).

In the depth below 24 inches: not to exceed 12 inches (in any dimension) or the compacted thickness of the layer being placed, whichever is less.

Spread all material so that the larger particles are separated from each other to minimize voids between them during compaction. Compact around these rocks in accordance with 120-7.2.

When and where approved by the Engineer, larger rocks (not to exceed 18 inches in any dimension) may be placed outside the one to two slope and at least 4 feet or more below the bottom of the base. Compact around these rocks to a firmness equal to that of the supporting soil. Where constructing embankments adjacent to bridge end bents or abutments, do not place rock larger than 3 1/2 inches in diameter within 3 feet of the location of any end-bent piling.

**120-5.2 Use of Materials Excavated From the Roadway and Appurtenances:**

Assume responsibility for determining the suitability of excavated material for use on the project in accordance with the applicable Contract Documents. Consider the sequence of work and maintenance of traffic phasing in the determination of the availability of this material.

**120-5.3 Authorization for Use of Borrow:** Use borrow only when sufficient quantities of suitable material are not available from roadway and drainage excavation, to properly construct the embankment, subgrade, and shoulders, and to complete the backfilling of structures and pipe. Do not use borrow material until so ordered by the Engineer, and then only use material from approved borrow pits.

**120-5.3.1 Haul Routes for Borrow Pits:** Provide and maintain, at no expense to the Agency, all necessary roads for hauling the borrow material. Where borrow area haul roads or trails are used by others, do not cause such roads or trails to deteriorate in condition.

Arrange for the use of all non-public haul routes crossing the property of any railroad. Incur any expense for the use of such haul routes. Establish haul routes which will direct construction vehicles away from developed areas when feasible, and keep noise from hauling operations to a minimum. Advise the Engineer in writing of all proposed haul routes.

**120-5.3.2 Borrow Material for Shoulder Build-up:** When so indicated in the plans, furnish borrow material with a specific minimum bearing value, for building up of existing shoulders. Blend materials as necessary to achieve this specified minimum bearing value prior to placing the materials on the shoulders. Take samples of this borrow material at the pit or blended stockpile.

**120-5.4 Materials Used at Pipes, Culverts, etc.:** Construct embankments over and around pipes, culverts, and bridge foundations with selected materials.

**120-6 Embankment Construction.**

**120-6.1 General:** Construct embankments in sections of not less than 300 feet in length or for the full length of the embankment.

**120-6.2 Dry Fill Method:**

**120-6.2.1 General:** Construct embankments to meet compaction requirements in 120-7 and in accordance with the acceptance program requirements in

120-9. Restrict the compacted thickness of the last embankment lift to 6 inches maximum.

As far as practicable, distribute traffic over the work during the construction of embankments so as to cover the maximum area of the surface of each layer.

Construct embankment in the dry whenever normal dewatering equipment and methods can accomplish the needed dewatering.

**120-6.2.1.1 For A-3 and A-2-4 Materials with up to 15% fines:**

Construct the embankment in successive layers with lifts up to a maximum compacted thickness of 12 inches. Ensure the percentage of fines passing the No. 200 US Standard sieve in the A-2-4 material does not exceed 15%.

**120-6.2.1.2 For A-1 Plastic materials (As designated in FDOT Design Standard Index 505) and A-2-4 Materials with greater than 15% fines:**

Construct the embankment in successive layers with lifts up to a maximum compacted thickness of 6 inches.

**120-6.2.1.3 Equipment and Methods:** Provide normal dewatering equipment including, but not limited to, surface pumps, sump pumps and trenching/digging machinery. Provide normal dewatering methods including, but not limited to, constructing shallow surface drainage trenches/ditches, using sand blankets, sumps and siphons.

When normal dewatering does not adequately remove the water, the Engineer may require the embankment material to be placed in the water or in low swampy ground in accordance with 120-7.2.4.

**120-6.2.2 Placing in Unstable Areas:** Where depositing the material in water, or in low swampy ground that will not support the weight of hauling equipment, construct the embankment by dumping successive loads in a uniformly distributed layer of a thickness not greater than necessary to support the hauling equipment while placing subsequent layers. Once sufficient material has been placed so that the hauling equipment can be supported, construct the remaining portion of the embankment in layers in accordance with the applicable provisions of 120-7.2.4 and 120-7.2.6.

**120-6.2.3 Placing on Steep Slopes:** When constructing an embankment on a hillside sloping more than 20 degrees from the horizontal, before starting the fill, deeply plow or cut into steps the surface of the original ground on which the embankment is to be placed.

**120-6.2.4 Placing Outside Standard Minimum Slope:** Where material that is unsuitable for normal embankment construction is to be used in the embankment outside the standard minimum slope (approximately one to two), place such material in layers of not more than 18 inches in thickness, measured loose. The Contractor may also place material which is suitable for normal embankment, outside such standard minimum slope, in 18 inch layers. Maintain a constant thickness for suitable material placed within and outside the standard minimum slope, unless placing in a separate operation.

**120-6.3 Hydraulic Method:**

**120-6.3.1 Method of Placing:** When the hydraulic method is used, as far as practicable, place all dredged material in its final position in the embankment by such method. Place and compact any dredged material that is re-handled, or moved and placed in its final position by any other method, as specified in 120-7.2. The Contractor may use

baffles or any form of construction he may select, provided the slopes of the embankments are not steeper than indicated in the plans. Remove all timber used for temporary bulkheads or baffles from the embankment, and fill and thoroughly compact the holes thus formed. When placing fill on submerged land, construct dikes prior to beginning of dredging, and maintain the dikes throughout the dredging operation.

**120-6.3.2 Excess Material:** Do not use excess material placed outside the prescribed slopes, below the normal high-water level, to raise the fill. Remove only the portion of this material required for dressing the slopes.

**120-6.3.3 Protection of Openings in Embankment:** Leave openings in the embankments at the bridge sites. Remove any material which invades these openings or existing channels without additional compensation to provide the same depth of channel as existed before the construction of the embankment. Do not excavate or dredge any material within 200 feet of the toe of the proposed embankment.

## **120-7 Compaction Requirements.**

**120-7.1 Moisture Content:** Compact the materials at a moisture content such that the specified density can be attained. If necessary to attain the specified density, add water to the material, or lower the moisture content by manipulating the material or allowing it to dry, as is appropriate.

### **120-7.2 Compaction of Embankments:**

**120-7.2.1 Earthwork Category 1 and 2 Density Requirements:** The Engineer will accept a minimum density of 95% of the maximum density as determined by AASHTO T-99 Method C for all earthwork items requiring densities.

**120-7.2.2 Earthwork Category 3 Density Requirements:** The Engineer will accept a minimum of 100% of the maximum density as determined by AASHTO T-99 Method C for all densities required under category 3.

Except for embankments constructed by the hydraulic method as specified in 120-6.3, and for the material placed outside the standard minimum slope as specified in 120-6.2.4, and for other areas specifically excluded herein, compact each layer of the material used in the formation of embankments to the required density stated above. Uniformly compact each layer using equipment that will achieve the required density, and as compaction operations progress, shape and manipulate each layer as necessary to ensure uniform density throughout the embankment.

**120-7.2.3 Compaction Over Unstable Foundations:** Where the embankment material is deposited in water or on low swampy ground, and in a layer thicker than 12 inches (as provided in 120-6.2.2), compact the top 6 inches (compacted thickness) of such layer to the density as specified in 120-9.5.

**120-7.2.4 Compaction Where Plastic Material Has Been Removed:** Where unsuitable material is removed and the remaining surface is of the A-4, A-5, A-6, or A-7 Soil Groups, as determined by the Engineer, compact the surface of the excavated area by rolling with a sheepsfoot roller exerting a compression of at least 250 psi on the tamper feet, for the full width of the roadbed (subgrade and shoulders). Perform rolling before beginning any backfill, and continue until the roller feet do not penetrate the surface more than 1 inch. Do not perform such rolling where the remaining surface is below the normal water table and covered with water. Vary the procedure and equipment required for this operation at the discretion of the Engineer.

**120-7.2.5 Compaction of Material To Be Used In Base, Pavement, or Stabilized Areas:** Do not compact embankment material which will be incorporated into a pavement, base course, or stabilized subgrade, to be constructed as a part of the same Contract.

**120-7.2.6 Compaction of Grassed Shoulder Areas:** For the upper 6 inch layer of all shoulders which are to be grassed, since no specific density is required, compact only to the extent directed.

**120-7.2.7 Compaction of Grassed Embankment Areas:** For the outer layer of all embankments where plant growth will be established, do not compact. Leave this layer in a loose condition to a minimum depth of 6 inches for the subsequent seeding or planting operations.

**120-7.3 Compaction of Subgrade:** If the plans do not provide for stabilizing, compact the subgrade in both cuts and fills to the density specified in 120-9.5. For undisturbed soils, do not apply density requirements where constructing narrow widening strips or paved shoulders 5 feet or less in width.

Where trenches for widening strips are not of sufficient width to permit the use of standard compaction equipment, perform compaction using vibratory rollers, trench rollers, or other type compaction equipment approved by the Engineer.

Maintain the required density until the base or pavement is placed on the subgrade.

## **120-8 Backfilling Around Structures and Pipe.**

### **120-8.1 Requirements for all Structures:**

**120-8.1.1 General:** Backfill around structures and pipe in the dry whenever normal dewatering equipment and methods can accomplish the needed dewatering.

**120-8.1.2 Equipment and Methods:** Provide normal dewatering equipment including, but not limited to, surface pumps, sump pumps, wellpoints and header pipe and trenching/digging machinery. Provide normal dewatering methods including, but not limited to, constructing shallow surface drainage trenches/ditches, using sand blankets, perforated pipe drains, sumps and siphons.

**120-8.1.3 Backfill Materials:** Backfill to the original ground surface or subgrade surface of openings made for structures, with a sufficient allowance for settlement. The Engineer may require that the material used for this backfill be obtained from a source entirely apart from the structure.

Do not allow heavy construction equipment to cross over culvert or storm sewer pipes until placing and compacting backfill material to the finished earthwork grade or to an elevation at least 4 feet above the crown of the pipe.

**120-8.1.4 Use of A-7 Material:** In the backfilling of trenches, A-7 material may be used from a point 12 inches above the top of the pipe up to the elevation shown on the FDOT Design Standards as the elevation for undercutting of A-7 material.

**120-8.1.5 Time of Placing Backfill:** Do not place backfill against any masonry or concrete abutment, wingwall, or culvert until the Engineer has given permission to do so, and in no case until the masonry or concrete has been in place seven days or until the specified 28-day compressive strength occurs.

**120-8.1.6 Placement and Compaction:** When the backfill material is deposited in water, compact per 120-8.2.5 and 120-8.3.4. Place the material in horizontal

layers not exceeding 6 inches compacted thickness, in depth above water level, behind abutments, wingwalls and end bents or end rest piers, and around box culverts and all structures including pipe culverts. The Engineer may approve placing material in thicker lifts of no more than 12 inches compacted thickness above the soil envelope if a test section demonstrates the required density can be achieved. Approval will be based on five passing density tests over the test section consisting of a lift of backfill from structure to structure. The Engineer will identify the test section with the compaction effort and soil classification in the Agency Logbook. In case of a change in compaction effort or soil classification, construct a new test section. The Engineer reserves the right to terminate the Contractor's use of thick lift construction and have him revert to the 6 inch compacted lifts whenever it is determined that satisfactory results are not being obtained.

### **120-8.2 Additional Requirements for Structures Other than Pipe:**

**120-8.2.1 Density:** Where the backfill material is deposited in water, obtain a 12 inch layer of comparatively dry material, thoroughly compacted by tamping, before the Engineer verifies layer and density requirements. Meet the requirements of the density Acceptance Criteria.

**120-8.2.2 Box Culverts:** For box culverts over which pavement is to be constructed, compact around the structure to an elevation not less than 12 inches above the top of the structure, using rapid-striking mechanical tampers.

**120-8.2.3 Other Limited Areas:** Compact in other limited areas using mechanical tampers or approved hand tampers, until the cover over the structure is at least 12 inches thick. When hand tampers are used, deposit the materials in layers not more than 4 inches thick using hand tampers suitable for this purpose with a face area of not more than 100 in<sup>2</sup>. Take special precautions to prevent any wedging action against the masonry, and step or terrace the slope bounding the excavation for abutments and wingwalls if required by the Engineer.

**120-8.2.4 Culverts and Piers:** Backfill around culverts and piers on both sides simultaneously to approximately the same elevation.

**120-8.2.5 Compaction Under Wet Conditions:** Where wet conditions do not permit the use of mechanical tampers, compact using hand tampers. Use only A-3 material for the hand tamped portions of the backfill. When the backfill has reached an elevation and condition such as to make the use of the mechanical tampers practical, perform mechanical tamping in such manner and to such extent as to transfer the compaction force into the sections previously tamped by hand.

### **120-8.3 Additional Requirements for Pipe 15 Inches Inside Diameter or Greater:**

**120-8.3.1 General:** Trenches for pipe may have up to four zones that must be backfilled.

**Lowest Zone:** The lowest zone is backfilled for deep undercuts up to within 4 inches of the bottom of the pipe.

**Bedding Zone:** The zone above the Lowest Zone is the Bedding Zone. Usually it will be the backfill which is the 4 inches of soil below the bottom of the pipe. When rock or other hard material has been removed to place the pipe, the Bedding Zone will be the 12 inches of soil below the bottom of the pipe.

**Cover Zone:** The next zone is backfill that is placed after the pipe has been laid and will be called the Cover Zone. This zone extends to 12 inches above the top of the pipe. The Cover Zone and the Bedding Zone are considered the Soil Envelope for the pipe.

**Top Zone:** The Top Zone extends from 12 inches above the top of the pipe to the base or final grade.

### **120-8.3.2 Material:**

**120-8.3.2.1 Lowest Zone:** Backfill areas undercut below the Bedding Zone of a pipe with coarse sand, or other suitable granular material, obtained from the grading operations on the project, or a commercial material if no suitable material is available.

**120-8.3.2.2 Soil Envelope:** In both the Bedding Zone and the Cover Zone of the pipe, backfill with materials classified as A-1, A-2, or A-3. Material classified as A-4 may be used if the pipe is concrete pipe.

**120-8.3.2.3 Top Zone:** Backfill the area of the trench above the soil envelope of the pipe with materials allowed on Design Standard, Index No. 505.

### **120-8.3.3 Compaction:**

**120-8.3.3.1 Lowest Zone:** Compact the soil in the Lowest Zone to approximately match the density of the soil in which the trench was cut.

**120-8.3.3.2 Bedding Zone:** If the trench was not undercut below the bottom of the pipe, loosen the soil in the bottom of the trench immediately below the approximate middle third of the outside diameter of the pipe.

If the trench was undercut, place the bedding material and leave it in a loose condition below the middle third of the outside diameter of the pipe. Compact the outer portions to meet the density requirements of the Acceptance Criteria. Place the material in lifts no greater than 6 inches (compacted thickness).

**120-8.3.3.3 Cover Zone:** Place the material in 6 inches layers (compacted thickness), evenly deposited on both sides of the pipe, and compact with mechanical tampers suitable for this purpose. Hand tamp material below the pipe haunch that cannot be reached by mechanical tampers. Meet the requirements of the density Acceptance Criteria.

**120-8.3.3.4 Top Zone:** Place the material in layers not to exceed 12 inches in compacted thickness. Meet the requirements of the density Acceptance Criteria.

**120-8.3.4 Backfill Under Wet Conditions:** Where wet conditions are such that dewatering by normal pumping methods would not be effective, the procedure outlined below may be used when specifically authorized by the Engineer in writing.

Granular material may be used below the elevation at which mechanical tampers would be effective, but only material classified as A-3. Place and compact the material using timbers or hand tampers until the backfill reaches an elevation such that it's moisture content will permit the use of mechanical tampers. When the backfill has reached such elevation, use normally acceptable backfill material. Compact the material using mechanical tampers in such manner and to such extent as to transfer the compacting force into the material previously tamped by hand.

**120-9 Acceptance Program.**

**120-9.1 Density over 105%:** When a computed dry density results in a value greater than 105% of the applicable Proctor maximum dry density, the Engineer will perform a second density test within 5 feet. If the second density results in a value greater than 105%, investigate the compaction methods, examine the applicable Maximum Density and material description. If necessary, the Engineer will test an additional sample for acceptance in accordance with AASHTO T 99, Method C.

**120-9.2 Maximum Density Determination:** The Engineer will determine the maximum density and optimum moisture content by sampling and testing the material in accordance with the specified test method listed in 120-9.3.

**120-9.3 Density Testing Requirements:** Compliance with the requirements of 120-9.5 will be determined in accordance FM 1-T 238. The in-place moisture content will be determined for each density in accordance with FM 5-507 (Determination of Moisture Content by Means of a Calcium Carbide Gas Pressure Moisture Tester), or ASTM D 4643 (Laboratory Determination of Moisture Content of Granular Soils By Use of a Microwave Oven).

**120-9.4 Soil Classification:** The Engineer will perform soil classification tests in accordance with AASHTO T-88, and classify soils in accordance with AASHTO M-145 (Standard Specification for Classification of Soils and Soil-Aggregate Mixtures for Highway Construction Purposes) in order to determine compliance with embankment utilization requirements.

**120-9.5 Acceptance Criteria:** The Engineer will accept a minimum density in accordance with 120-7.2 with the following exceptions:

- 1) embankment constructed by the hydraulic method as specified in 120-6.3;
- 2) material placed outside the standard minimum slope as specified in 120-6.2.4;
- 3) other areas specifically excluded herein.

**120-9.6 Frequency:** The Engineer will conduct sampling and testing at a minimum frequency listed in the table below.

Test Name	Frequency
Maximum Density	One per soil type
Density	1 per 500' RDWY (Alt Lift)
Soil Classification	One per Maximum Density

**120-10 Maintenance and Protection of Work.**

While construction is in progress, maintain adequate drainage for the roadbed at all times. Maintain a shoulder at least 3 feet wide adjacent to all pavement or base construction in order to provide support for the edges.

Maintain and protect all earthwork construction throughout the life of the Contract, and take all reasonable precautions to prevent loss of material from the roadway due to the action of wind or water. Repair any slides, washouts, settlement, subsidence, or other mishap which may occur prior to final acceptance of the work. Maintain all channels excavated as a part of the Contract work against natural shoaling or other

encroachments to the lines, grades, and cross-sections shown in the plans, until final acceptance of the project.

### **120-11 Construction.**

**120-11.1 Construction Tolerances:** Shape the surface of the earthwork to conform to the lines, grades, and cross-sections shown in the plans. In final shaping of the surface of earthwork, maintain a tolerance of 0.3 foot above or below the plan cross-section with the following exceptions:

1. Shape the surface of shoulders to within 0.1 foot of the plan cross-section.
2. Shape the earthwork to match adjacent pavement, curb, sidewalk, structures, etc.
3. Shape the bottom of ditches so that the ditch impounds no water.
4. When the work does not include construction of base or pavement, shape the entire roadbed (shoulder point to shoulder point) to within 0.1 foot above or below the plan cross-section.

Ensure that the shoulder lines do not vary horizontally more than 0.3 foot from the true lines shown in the plans.

**120-11.2 Operations Adjacent to Pavement:** Carefully dress areas adjacent to pavement areas to avoid damage to such pavement. Complete grassing of shoulder areas prior to placing the final wearing course. Do not manipulate any embankment material on a pavement surface.

When shoulder dressing is underway adjacent to a pavement lane being used to maintain traffic, exercise extreme care to avoid interference with the safe movement of traffic.

### **120-12 Method of Measurement.**

**120-12.1 Excavation:** Excavation will be paid for by volume, in cubic yards, calculated by the method of average end areas, unless the Engineer determines that another method of calculation will provide a more accurate result. The material will be measured in its original position by field survey or by photogrammetric means as designated by the Engineer. Measurement for payment will include the excavation of unsuitable material, lateral ditch excavation, channel excavation, and excavation for structures and pipe. Payment will not be made for excavation or embankment beyond the limits shown in the plans or authorized by the Engineer.

**120-12.2 Embankment:** Measurement will be made on a loose volume basis, as measured in trucks or other hauling equipment at the point of dumping on the road. Payment will not be made for embankment beyond the limits shown in the plans or authorized by the Engineer.

### **120-13 Basis of Payment.**

**120-13.1 General:** Prices and payments for the work items included in this Section will be full compensation for all work described herein, including excavating, dredging, hauling, placing, and compacting; dressing the surface of the earthwork; and maintaining and protecting the complete earthwork.

**120-13.2 Excavation:** The total quantity of all excavation specified under this Section will be paid for at the Contract unit price for Excavation. No payment will be

made for the excavation of any materials which are used for purposes other than those shown in the plans or designated by the Engineer. No payment will be made for materials excavated outside the lines and grades given by the Engineer, unless specifically authorized by the Engineer.

**120-13.3 Embankment:** The total quantity of embankment specified in this Section will be paid for at the Contract unit price for embankment. No payment will be made for materials which are used for purposes other than those shown in the plans or designated by the Engineer. No payment will be made for materials placed outside the lines and grades given by the Engineer.