



Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

ANANTH PRASAD, P.E.
SECRETARY

November 30, 2011

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

Re: Office of Design, Specifications
Section **534**
Proposed Specification: **5340000 Concrete Sound Barriers.**

Dear Ms. Gourdine:

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

These changes were proposed by Andre Pavlov of the State Structures Design Office to remove Sound Barriers from the QPL list due to an AASHTO design requirement that has changed requiring a redesign of the Department's Sound Barrier Design Standard. Rather than require the three current manufacturers listed on the QPL to resubmit drawing and calculation, the Department has decided to remove Sound Barriers as a QPL item. The sound barriers will be constructed in accordance with the Design Standards. Also added language about shimming of wall panels above the pile collar and beneath the bearing pads

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,

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

RP/cah
Attachment
cc: Calvin Johnson, Chief Civil Litigation



Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

ANANTH PRASAD, P.E.
SECRETARY

Florida Transportation Builders' Assoc.
State Construction Engineer

CONCRETE SOUND BARRIERS.**(REV ~~119-3022-11~~)**

Section 534 (of the Supplemental Specification) is deleted and the following substituted:

**SECTION 534
CONCRETE SOUND BARRIERS**

534-1 Description.

Furnish and install concrete sound barriers with pile, posts and panels constructed in accordance with Design Standards, Index No. 5200; ~~or with pre-approved concrete alternatives listed on the Department's Qualified Products List (QPL),~~ unless the Plans ~~otherwise~~ indicate ~~limitations otherwise~~, based on specific design or aesthetic criteria unique to the project.

Obtain Precast Concrete Sound Barrier components from a manufacturing plant that is currently on the list of Producers with Accepted Quality Control Programs. Producers seeking inclusion on the list shall meet the requirements of 105-3.

534-2 Materials.

Meet the following requirements:

Portland Cement ConcreteSection 346

Reinforcing SteelSection 415

534-3 Component Construction.

Construct concrete components in accordance with Section 400. Precast wall components are produced using certification acceptance; therefore, assume responsibility for performance of all quality control testing and inspections required by Sections 346 and 400 for the precast component construction. Perform all Quality Control Testing using Construction Training and Qualification Program (CTQP) qualified testing personnel. Perform compressive strength testing in a laboratory inspected by the Cement and Concrete Reference Laboratory (CCRL) or Construction Materials Engineering Council (CMEC), with all deficiencies corrected.

Ensure that each panel and post is permanently and clearly marked by ink, stamping the tongue and groove portion of the panel and post. Mark the panel with the panel type, date cast, project number, manufacturer's name or symbol and the post with the date cast, project number and manufacturer's name or symbol.

~~534-4 Approved Proprietary Concrete Sound Barrier Panels and Systems.~~

~~Proprietary concrete sound barrier panels or systems listed on the QPL that have been pre-determined by the Engineer to be in compliance with the project design and aesthetic criteria shown in the Plans may be used.~~

~~Manufacturers seeking evaluation of products for inclusion on the QPL must submit an application in accordance with Section 6, independently certified test reports, and written certification that the product meets the requirements of this Section, Design~~

~~Standards, Index No. 5200, and the Concrete Sound Barrier Qualified Products List (QPL) Acceptance Criteria contained in the State Structures Design Office's Structures Manual. 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.~~

534-54 Shop Drawing Submittal.

~~Submit only the information requested, Do not include shop drawings of the basic concrete panel details, submit only the information requested, submit only the information requested below.~~ Submit shop drawings in accordance with Section 5, showing a plan and elevation of the sound walls with the following project specific information provided:

1. Begin and end wall stations with offsets
2. Horizontal and vertical alignments of the wall
- ~~3. Fire hose access hole locations~~
- ~~4. Drainage panel locations and type~~
- ~~5. Graphic details and graphic panel location~~
63. Panel locations
 - a. *Graphic details and graphic panel locations*
 - b. *Fire hose access hole locations*
 - c. *Drainage panel locations and type*
74. Post locations
85. Elevations of top of panel, bottom of panel, and panel joints
96. Existing and proposed ground elevations
107. Utility locations
118. *Special Non-standard* post and panel details
129. *Non-standard P* post and pile connection details
1310. *Non-standard* Post Cap Details
1411. Lifting devices

534-65 Construction Methods.

A. Prior to beginning earthwork on the project, stake the wall location in the field, and establish the final ground line elevations at the base of the walls. Use these elevations to develop the shop drawings, including a complete elevation view of each wall indicating top and bottom elevations as well as the roadway grade. Protect the final ground elevations established in the field for the duration of the project, and do not adjust without prior approval of the Engineer. Keep to a minimum the clearing and grubbing, and trimming of trees as necessary to construct the walls.

B. All posts shall be held plumb in auger cast piles with an installation template. The template shall be adjustable for horizontal placement, vertical placement and plumbness of posts. The template shall be such that the installation tolerances can be maintained. The template shall remain in place for a minimum of 12 hours after post installation.

C. Shimming of wall panels above the pile collar and beneath the bearing pads is permitted, up to a maximum of 1-1/2 inches. Shims must be either stainless steel (Type 304 or 316) stainless steel, or engineered copolymer or multi-polymer plastic. Plastic shims must have a minimum compressive strength of 8,000 psi, without any

fractures. Stacked shim plates must be bonded together with a compatible epoxy adhesive. Stacking of shims is permitted as follows:

1. for shimming heights of one inch or less, provide up to four 1/4 inch shims

2. for shimming heights greater than one inch, use a minimum of one 3/4 inch shim ~~and a maximum of three 3/4 inch shims.~~

~~B~~D. ~~Do not mix wall types or colors at any one site.~~ Install the walls in accordance with the Plans, and ~~in accordance with~~ *the* shop drawings submitted to and approved by the Engineer. Secure joints and connections in such a manner as to be structurally sound and without visible openings in the system allowing sound transmission.

~~C~~E. Repair marred, chipped, scratched, or spalled areas of walls at no expense to the Department in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations or at the Engineer's direction.

~~D~~F. Place trench backfill for wall construction in accordance with 125-8. Use select materials for the trench backfill.

If, in the opinion of the Engineer, the trench is too narrow to compact, backfill the trench excavation with flowable fill meeting the requirements of Section 121 or concrete meeting the requirements of Section 346 or- 347 to the satisfaction of the Engineer *and* at no expense to the Department.

~~E~~G. Dispose of all excess excavation in a manner satisfactory to the Engineer.

~~F~~H. Keep right- of- way fence that is scheduled to be salvaged in place until completing the wall or, in the opinion of the Engineer, as long as possible.

~~G~~I. After erecting the wall, leave the disturbed area in a finished condition at the direction of the Engineer, and grass or sod the area as indicated in the Plans.

~~H~~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~~ *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

~~I~~K. When building sound barriers on top of earth berms, construct the berms of fill material compacted to 95% of the maximum density as determined by AASHTO T 99.

~~J~~L. Provide the concrete wall (~~Precast or Cast in Place~~) with a uniform color, pattern, and texture *as shown in the Plans.*

534-76 Test Wall.

Erect a test wall section not less than 50 feet in length before starting general wall construction at the project site. The Engineer will use the erection of the test wall to determine if the Contractor's methods and equipment are sufficient to produce a sound

barrier that meets the requirements of the Contract Documents. The Contractor may revise his methods and equipment as necessary, at any time during the positioning of the test wall, in order to satisfactorily meet all Contract requirements. Build the test wall at a permanent wall location, as directed by the Engineer. If the test wall does not meet the construction tolerances, remove and dispose of it at no expense to the Department. Include the cost of the test wall in the cost of the sound barrier.

534-87 Repairs or Rejection.

For precast concrete sound barrier components that have not been installed, evaluate cracks, spalls and other deficiencies in accordance with 450-12. Repair deficiencies in accordance with 450-13 or *with* the plant's approved repair methods that are included as part of the *Quality Control Plan (QCP)*. Ensure that the original performance and durability of repaired sound barrier components are maintained. Use materials for concrete repair that will meet or exceed the strength requirement for the class of concrete used. Materials meeting the requirements of Section 930 may be substituted for non-shrink grout when required by 450-13. Precast concrete sound barrier components are subject to rejection if they fail to conform to any of the requirements after repair. For precast concrete sound barrier components that have been installed, the disposition of concrete cracks shall be in accordance with 400-21.

534-98 Method of Measurement.

The quantity to be paid for will be the plan quantity, in square feet, measured in place, completed and accepted, of the area bounded by the top of the top panel and the bottom of the bottom panel without deductions for openings in the panels, and the beginning to end limits shown in the control drawings.

534-109 Basis of Payment.

Price and payment will be full compensation for all work specified in this Section, including but not limited to: furnishing all materials, labor, panels, special panels, posts, post caps, collars, reinforcing steel, foundations, drain holes, fire hose access holes, grating, neoprene pads, equipment, alignment pins, etc. necessary to construct the sound barriers. Include in this price, the cost of ~~any charges for power stoppages,~~ sound barrier wall realignments, special erection methods, etc. required to construct the wall.

Payment will be made under:

Item No. 534- 72- Concrete Sound Barrier - per square foot.

CONCRETE SOUND BARRIERS.

(REV 11-30-11)

Section 534 (of the Supplemental Specification) is deleted and the following substituted:

**SECTION 534
CONCRETE SOUND BARRIERS**

534-1 Description.

Furnish and install concrete sound barriers with pile, posts and panels constructed in accordance with Design Standards, Index No. 5200; unless the Plans indicate otherwise, based on specific design or aesthetic criteria unique to the project.

Obtain Precast Concrete Sound Barrier components from a manufacturing plant that is currently on the list of Producers with Accepted Quality Control Programs. Producers seeking inclusion on the list shall meet the requirements of 105-3.

534-2 Materials.

Meet the following requirements:

- Portland Cement ConcreteSection 346
- Reinforcing SteelSection 415

534-3 Component Construction.

Construct concrete components in accordance with Section 400. Precast wall components are produced using certification acceptance; therefore, assume responsibility for performance of all quality control testing and inspections required by Sections 346 and 400 for the precast component construction. Perform all Quality Control Testing using Construction Training and Qualification Program (CTQP) qualified testing personnel. Perform compressive strength testing in a laboratory inspected by the Cement and Concrete Reference Laboratory (CCRL) or Construction Materials Engineering Council (CMEC), with all deficiencies corrected.

Ensure that each panel and post is permanently and clearly marked by ink, stamping the tongue and groove portion of the panel and post. Mark the panel with the panel type, date cast, project number, manufacturer’s name or symbol and the post with the date cast, project number and manufacturer’s name or symbol.

534-4 Shop Drawing Submittal.

Do not include shop drawings of the basic concrete panel details, submit only the information requested below. Submit shop drawings in accordance with Section 5, showing a plan and elevation of the sound walls with the following project specific information provided:

1. Begin and end wall stations with offsets
2. Horizontal and vertical alignments of the wall
3. Panel locations
 - a. Graphic details and graphic panel locations
 - b. Fire hose access hole locations

- c. Drainage panel locations and type
- 4. Post locations
- 5. Elevations of top of panel, bottom of panel, and panel joints
- 6. Existing and proposed ground elevations
- 7. Utility locations
- 8. Non-standard post and panel details
- 9. Non-standard post and pile connection details
- 10. Non-standard Post Cap Details
- 11. Lifting devices

534-5 Construction Methods.

A. Prior to beginning earthwork on the project, stake the wall location in the field and establish the final ground line elevations at the base of the walls. Use these elevations to develop the shop drawings, including a complete elevation view of each wall indicating top and bottom elevations as well as the roadway grade. Protect the final ground elevations established in the field for the duration of the project, and do not adjust without prior approval of the Engineer. Keep to a minimum the clearing and grubbing, and trimming of trees as necessary to construct the walls.

B. All posts shall be held plumb in auger cast piles with an installation template. The template shall be such that the installation tolerances can be maintained. The template shall remain in place for a minimum of 12 hours after post installation.

C. Shimming of wall panels above the pile collar and beneath the bearing pads is permitted, up to a maximum of 1-1/2 inches. Shims must be either stainless steel (Type 304 or 316) or engineered copolymer plastic. Plastic shims must have a minimum compressive strength of 8,000 psi, without any fractures. Stacked shim plates must be bonded together with a compatible epoxy adhesive. Stacking of shims is permitted as follows:

1. for shimming heights of one inch or less, provide up to four 1/4 inch shims
2. for shimming heights greater than one inch, use a minimum of one 3/4 inch shim.

D. Install the walls in accordance with the Plans, and with the shop drawings submitted to and approved by the Engineer. Secure joints and connections in such a manner as to be structurally sound and without visible openings in the system allowing sound transmission.

E. Repair marred, chipped, scratched, or spalled areas of walls at no expense to the Department in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations or at the Engineer's direction.

F. Place trench backfill for wall construction in accordance with 125-8. Use select materials for the trench backfill.

If, in the opinion of the Engineer, the trench is too narrow to compact, backfill the trench excavation with flowable fill meeting the requirements of Section 121 or concrete meeting the requirements of Section 346 or 347 to the satisfaction of the Engineer and at no expense to the Department.

G. Dispose of all excess excavation in a manner satisfactory to the Engineer.

H. Keep right of way fence that is scheduled to be salvaged in place until completing the wall or, in the opinion of the Engineer, as long as possible.

I. After erecting the wall, leave the disturbed area in a finished condition at the direction of the Engineer, and grass or sod the area as indicated in the Plans.

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

K. When building sound barriers on top of earth berms, construct the berms of fill material compacted to 95% of the maximum density as determined by AASHTO T 99.

L. Provide the concrete wall with a uniform color, pattern, and texture as shown in the Plans.

534-6 Test Wall.

Erect a test wall section not less than 50 feet in length before starting general wall construction at the project site. The Engineer will use the erection of the test wall to determine if the Contractor's methods and equipment are sufficient to produce a sound barrier that meets the requirements of the Contract Documents. The Contractor may revise his methods and equipment as necessary, at any time during the positioning of the test wall, in order to satisfactorily meet all Contract requirements. Build the test wall at a permanent wall location, as directed by the Engineer. If the test wall does not meet the construction tolerances, remove and dispose of it at no expense to the Department. Include the cost of the test wall in the cost of the sound barrier.

534-7 Repairs or Rejection.

For precast concrete sound barrier components that have not been installed, evaluate cracks, spalls and other deficiencies in accordance with 450-12. Repair deficiencies in accordance with 450-13 or with the plant's approved repair methods that are included as part of the Quality Control Plan (QCP). Ensure that the original performance and durability of repaired sound barrier components are maintained. Use materials for concrete repair that will meet or exceed the strength requirement for the class of concrete used. Materials meeting the requirements of Section 930 may be substituted for non-shrink grout when required by 450-13. Precast concrete sound barrier components are subject to rejection if they fail to conform to any of the requirements after repair. For precast concrete sound barrier components that have been installed, the disposition of concrete cracks shall be in accordance with 400-21.

534-8 Method of Measurement.

The quantity to be paid for will be the plan quantity, in square feet, measured in place, completed and accepted, of the area bounded by the top of the top panel and the bottom of the bottom panel without deductions for openings in the panels, and the beginning to end limits shown in the control drawings.

534-9 Basis of Payment.

Price and payment will be full compensation for all work specified in this Section, including but not limited to: furnishing all materials, labor, panels, special panels, posts, post caps, collars, reinforcing steel, foundations, drain holes, fire hose access holes, grating, neoprene pads, equipment, alignment pins, etc. necessary to construct the sound barriers. Include in this price, the cost of sound barrier wall realignments, special erection methods, etc. required to construct the wall.

Payment will be made under:

Item No. 534- 72- Concrete Sound Barrier - per square foot.