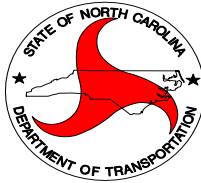


STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Division 14

Division-Wide

ID/IQ Contract

CONTRACT: DN12231962
TIP Number: N/A
FEDERAL: STATE FUNDED
WBS Element: GMR14.CHE.1PT, GMR14.CHE.2PT, ETC...
LOCATION: VARIOUS SEGMENTS OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROUTES IN ALL TEN COUNTIES OF DIVISION 14
COUNTY: CHEROKEE, CLAY, GRAHAM, HAYWOOD, HENDERSON, JACKSON, MACON, POLK, SWAIN AND TRANSYLVANIA.
DESCRIPTION: ID/IQ SIGN SERVICES ALONG VARIOUS SEGMENTS OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROUTES IN ALL TEN COUNTIES OF DIVISION 14

Contractor: Traffic Control Safety Services, Inc.
Address: PO Box 24511
Winston Salem, NC 27114

Division Engineer: Wesley Grindstaff, P.E.
Traffic Engineer: S. M. Buchanan

Letting Date: 7/14/2026

Contract Execution: 08/04/2026

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY DIVISION 14

ID/IQ PROPOSAL

DATE AND TIME OF BID OPENING: JULY 14, 2026 AT 2:00 PM

CONTRACT ID: DN12231962

WBS ELEMENT NO.: GMR14.CHE.1PT, GMR14.CHE.2PT, ETC...

FEDERAL AID NO.: STATE FUNDED

COUNTY: CHEROKEE, CLAY, GRAHAM, HAYWOOD, HENDERSON,
JACKSON, MACON, POLK, SWAIN AND TRANSYLVANIA

TIP NO.: N/A

MILES: VARIES

ROUTE NO.: VARIES

LOCATION: ALONG VARIOUS SEGMENTS OF PRIMARY AND
SECONDARY ROUTES

TYPE OF WORK: ID/IQ SIGN SERVICES

NOTICE:

ALL BIDDERS SHALL COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAWS REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF GENERAL CONTRACTING AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 87 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES OF NORTH CAROLINA WHICH REQUIRES THE BIDDER TO BE LICENSED BY THE N.C. LICENSING BOARD FOR CONTRACTORS WHEN BIDDING ON ANY NON-FEDERAL AID PROJECT WHERE THE BID IS \$40,000 OR MORE, EXCEPT FOR CERTAIN SPECIALTY WORK AS DETERMINED BY THE LICENSING BOARD. BIDDERS SHALL ALSO COMPLY WITH ALL OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS REGULATING THE PRACTICES OF ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING, HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION CONTRACTING AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 87 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES OF NORTH CAROLINA. NOTWITHSTANDING THESE LIMITATIONS ON BIDDING, THE BIDDER WHO IS AWARDED ANY FEDERAL - AID FUNDED PROJECT SHALL COMPLY WITH CHAPTER 87 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES OF NORTH CAROLINA FOR LICENSING REQUIREMENTS WITHIN 60 CALENDAR DAYS OF BID OPENING.

THIS IS A ROADWAY PROJECT.

BID BOND IS NOT REQUIRED.

Traffic Control Safety Services, Inc.

NAME OF BIDDER

PO Box 24511 Winston Salem, NC 27114

ADDRESS OF BIDDER

PROPOSAL FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF
CONTRACT No. DN12231962 IN Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Polk,
Swain and Transylvania Counties, NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

The Bidder has carefully examined the location of the proposed work to be known as Contract No. **DN12231962**; has carefully examined the plans and specifications, which are acknowledged to be part of the proposal, the special provisions, the proposal, the form of contract; and thoroughly understands the stipulations, requirements and provisions. The undersigned bidder agrees to be bound upon his execution of the bid and subsequent award to him by the Department of Transportation in accordance with this proposal. Payment and performance bonds are not required on this project. The undersigned Bidder further agrees to provide all necessary machinery, tools, labor, and other means of construction; and to do all the work and to furnish all materials, except as otherwise noted, necessary to perform and complete the said contract in accordance with the *2024 Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures* by the dates(s) specified in the Project Special Provisions and in accordance with the requirements of the Engineer, and at the unit or lump sum prices, as the case may be, for the various items given on the sheets contained herein.

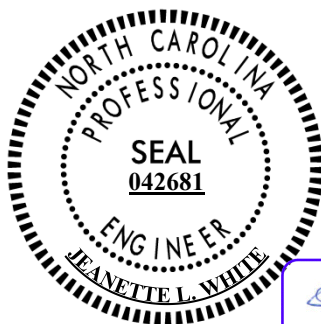
The Bidder shall provide and furnish all the materials, machinery, implements, appliances and tools, and perform the work and required labor to construct and complete Contract No. **DN12231962** in **Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Polk, Swain and Transylvania Counties**, for the unit or lump sum prices, as the case may be, bid by the Bidder in his bid and according to the proposal, plans, and specifications prepared by said Department, which proposal, plans, and specifications show the details covering this project, and hereby become a part of this contract.

The published volume entitled *North Carolina Department of Transportation, Raleigh, Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures, January 2024* with all amendments and supplements thereto, is by reference incorporated into and made a part of this contract; that, except as herein modified, all the construction and work included in this contract is to be done in accordance with the specifications contained in said volume, and amendments and supplements thereto, under the direction of the Engineer.

If the proposal is accepted and the award is made, the contract is valid only when signed either by the Contract Officer or such other person as may be designated by the Secretary to sign for the Department of Transportation. The conditions and provisions herein cannot be changed except over the signature of the said Contract Officer or Division Engineer.

The quantities shown in the itemized proposal for the project are considered to be approximate only and are given as the basis for comparison of bids. The Department of Transportation may increase or decrease the quantity of any item or portion of the work as may be deemed necessary or expedient.

An increase or decrease in the quantity of an item will not be regarded as sufficient ground for an increase or decrease in the unit prices, nor in the time allowed for the completion of the work, except as provided for the contract.



Signed by:

29BD93927CF24F6...
06/18/2026

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INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS**PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY
BEFORE PREPARING AND SUBMITTING YOUR BID.**

All bids shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with the following requirements. Failure to comply with any requirement may cause the bid to be considered irregular and may be grounds for rejection of the bid.

TRADITIONAL PAPER BIDS:

1. Download the entire proposal from the Connect NCDOT website and return the entire proposal with your bid.
2. In accordance with Article 102-3 of the *Standard Specifications*, registration on the Interested Parties List is required unless SP1 G02 Interested Parties List Not Required provision is included in the proposal.
3. All entries on the itemized proposal sheet (bid form) shall be written in ink or typed.
4. The Bidder shall submit a unit price for every item on the itemized proposal sheet. The unit prices for the various contract items shall be written in figures. Unit prices shall be rounded off by the Bidder to contain no more than FOUR decimal places.
5. An amount bid shall be entered on the itemized proposal sheet for every item. The amount bid for each item shall be determined by multiplying each unit bid by the quantity for that item, and shall be written in figures in the "Amount" column of the form.
6. The total amount bid shall be written in figures in the proper place on the bid form. The total amount bid shall be determined by adding the amounts bid for each item.
7. Changes to any entry shall be made by marking through the entry in ink and making the correct entry adjacent thereto in ink. A representative of the Bidder shall initial the change in ink. Do not use correction fluid, correction tape or similar product to make corrections.
8. The bid shall be properly executed on the included **Execution of Bid – Non-collusion, Debarment and Gift Ban Certification** form. All bids shall show the following information:
 - a. Name of corporation, partnership, Limited Liability Company, joint venture, individual or firm, submitting bid.
Corporations that have a corporate seal shall include it on the bid, otherwise write your corporations name in the seal location.
 - b. Name of individual or representative submitting bid and position or title held on behalf of the bidder.
 - c. Name, signature, and position or title of witness.
9. The bid shall not contain any unauthorized additions, deletions, or conditional bids.
10. The Bidder shall not add any provision reserving the right to accept or reject an award, or to enter into a contract pursuant to an award.
11. **THE PROPOSAL WITH THE ITEMIZED PROPOSAL SHEET ATTACHED SHALL BE PLACED IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND SHALL BE DELIVERED TO AND RECEIVED IN THE NCDOT DIVISION OFFICE, LOCATED AT 253 Webster Road Sylva, NC 28779, BY 2:00 PM ON, July 14, 2026.**
12. The sealed bid must display the following statement on the front of the sealed envelope:

**QUOTATION FOR – CONTRACT ID DN12231962 – ID/IQ SIGN SERVICES AT ALONG
VARIOUS SEGMENTS OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROUTES TO BE OPENED AT 2:00
PM ON, July 14, 2026.**

As well as the following information:

- a. Name of corporation, partnership, Limited Liability Company, joint venture, individual or firm, submitting bid.
- b. Name of individual or representative submitting bid and position or title held on behalf of the bidder.
- c. Address of corporation, partnership, Limited Liability Company, joint venture, individual or firm, submitting bid.
- d. SAP Vendor Number of corporation, partnership, Limited Liability Company, joint venture, individual or firm, submitting bid.

e. Contractor License Number, if available, of corporation, partnership, Limited Liability Company, joint venture, individual or firm, submitting bid.

13. If delivered by mail, the sealed envelope shall be placed in another sealed envelope and the outer envelope shall be addressed as follows:

**N. C. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS, DIVISION 14**

**ATTN: Jeffrey E. Alspaugh, EI
253 Webster Road
Sylva, NC 28779**

14. Questions should be emailed 7 calendar days prior to the bid opening to **Jeffrey E. Alspaugh, EI** at **D14Contracts@ncdot.gov**. Contact with any other NCDOT personnel concerning this project is strictly prohibited, unless otherwise noted, and may result in bids being considered non-responsive.

PROJECT SPECIAL PROVISIONS**GENERAL****MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE (Prequalifying To Bid):**

(7-18-06) (Rev. 3-25-13)

SPD 1-310

In order for all prospective bidders to have an extensive knowledge of the project, all prospective bidders shall attend a mandatory pre-bid conference on **Monday, July 6, 2026, at 1:30 PM.**

Location: **NCDOT Division 14 Office**
253 Webster Rd
Sylva NC 28779

Point of Contact: **Steve Buchanan**
(828)-331-5252

The pre-bid conference will include a thorough discussion of the plans, contract pay items, special provisions, etc.

Only bidders who have attended and properly registered at the above scheduled pre-bid conference and who have met all other prequalification requirements will be considered prequalified to bid on this project. A bid received from a bidder who has not attended and properly registered at the above scheduled pre-bid conference will not be accepted and considered for award.

Attendance at the pre-bid conference will not meet the requirements of proper registration unless the individual attending has registered at the pre-bid conference in accordance with the following:

- (A) The individual has signed his name on the official roster prior to the above noted time for the beginning of the conference.
- (B) The individual has written in the name and address of the company he or she represents.
- (C) Only one company has been shown as being represented by the individual attending.
- (D) The individual attending is an officer or permanent employee of the company they are representing.

Any individual arriving after the official roster has been received by the Engineer will not be eligible to bid. Attendance at any prior pre-bid conference will not meet the requirement of this provision.

INTERESTED PARTIES LIST NOT REQUIRED:

(6-21-22)(Rev. 2-20-24)

102

SP1 G02

Revise the *Standard Specifications* as follows:

The *Interested Parties List* sign up process is not applicable to this contract.

Page 1-13, Article 102-3 PROPOSALS AND INTERESTED PARTIES LIST, lines 12-15, delete the first paragraph.

Page 1-14, Article 102-8 PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF BIDS, lines 43-44, delete the first sentence of the first paragraph.

HAUL ROADS:

(7-16-24)

105

SP1 G04

Revise the *Standard Specifications* as follows:

Page 1-45, Article 105-15 RESTRICTION OF LOAD LIMITS, line 31, add the following after second sentence of the second paragraph:

At least 30 days prior to use, the Contractor shall notify the Engineer of any public road proposed for use as a haul road for the project.

CONTRACT TIME FOR ID/IQ:

(2-15-22)(Rev. 4-15-25)

108

SP1 G11

The date of availability for this contract is **August 10, 2026**.

The completion date for this contract is **August 9, 2027**.

Except where otherwise provided by the contract, observation periods required by the contract will not be a part of the work to be completed by the completion date and/or intermediate contract times stated in the contract. The acceptable completion of the observation periods that extend beyond the final completion date shall be a part of the work covered by the performance and payment bonds.

Work shall be accomplished in a continuous manner once the contractor begins.

The liquidated damages for this contract will be assessed per the Mobilization and Liquidated Damages for ID/IQ provision located elsewhere in this contract.

WORK ORDER ASSIGNMENT (SINGLE AWARDS) FOR ID/IQ:

(2-15-22)(Rev. 4-19-22)

SPD 01-800A

Work orders will be assigned by the Engineer. The Contractor shall respond to the work order assignments with the anticipated start date, within three working days of notification unless noted otherwise. Failure to complete work in accordance with contract provisions and completion date may result in liquidated damages.

For federal ID/IQ contracts, all work orders will be assigned via the Work Order Assignment Form (Form IDIQ-1SA), and the Contractor is required to formally respond in writing for federal work orders within three working days, unless noted otherwise. The Work Order Assignment Form will also be used for any state ID/IQ contract in which the estimated work order cost meets the threshold for Performance and Payment Bonds in accordance with the Bonding Requirements for ID/IQ provision found elsewhere in this contract. For state ID/IQ contracts in which the work order assignment doesn't meet the threshold for bonds, the Department has the option to use the Work Order Assignment Form or other methods for work order assignments as agreed upon by the Engineer and Contractor.

The Contractor shall be required to prosecute the work in a continuous and uninterrupted manner from the time they begin the work until completion and final acceptance of the work order. Multiple failures of the Contractor to mobilize and begin work on the work order within the agreed upon time frame or failure to complete the work within the given time frame may result in the Contractor being excluded from future work on this contract in accordance with the *Standard Specifications*.

BONDING REQUIREMENTS FOR ID/IQ:

(2-15-22)

SPD 01-810

For purposes of this ID/IQ contract, the following definitions apply:

Project Agreement: A transportation improvement with a defined scope of work; a written agreement between NCDOT and the Federal Government defining the extent of construction work to be undertaken in accordance with the submitted plans, specifications and estimates. Execution of the agreement prompts the authorization to proceed (construction funding).

Project: An undertaking issued to a contractor through a Work Order Assignment. The construction under a Project Agreement may be accomplished by one or more work order assignments, from one or more ID/IQ contracts. Note that for ID/IQ contracts this definition supersedes the definition in the Standard Specifications.

Award: The issuance of a signed Work Order Assignment by NCDOT shall constitute the notice of award of a project.

In accordance with North Carolina General Statute 44A-26, bonds are required on contracts awarded for any one project that exceeds \$500,000. Beyond statutory requirements, NCDOT policy requires payment and performance bonds on all projects where the engineer's estimate is \$450,000 or greater, all Asphalt Surface Treatment projects, and projects containing the 12-month guarantee provision. The limit for waiving bonds for all bridge replacement and major bridge rehabilitation projects (latex overlays, etc.) is \$300,000 based on the engineer's estimate. The decision of bonding of a work order assignment below the dollar amounts listed shall be at the discretion of the Division's evaluation of the risks associated with the project.

The need for contract payment and performance bonds will be determined at the Work Order Assignment level. The Work Order Assignment will notify the Contractor of an award of a project and if required, to provide contract payment and performance bonds per Article 103-7 of the *Standard Specifications*. The Work Order Assignment replaces the Notification of Award Letter mentioned in Article 103-4(A) of the *Standard Specifications*.

MOBILIZATION AND LIQUIDATED DAMAGES FOR ID/IQ:

(2-15-22)

SPD 01-820

The Contractor shall mobilize to each location he is required to perform work. There will be no direct pay for Mobilization as it will be incidental to the other bid items. The only exception is if there is an Emergency Mobilization provision within the contract.

The Contractor will be provided a Work Order Assignment for each project with location(s), estimated quantities, and liquidated damages unless waived by the Engineer. Notification will be verbal followed by a faxed or emailed signed Work Order Assignment. There will be no minimum quantities for any line item associated with a particular mobilization. The Contractor shall complete the work identified on each Work Order Assignment.

The Contractor shall mobilize and complete the work within the time specified on the Work Order Assignment. Failure to complete the work by the completion date may result in the application of liquidated damages. Liquidated damage amounts will be based on the work order estimate and the liquidated damage table below.

Work Order Value	Liquidated Damages (per calendar day)
\$0 - \$100K	\$100.00
\$100K - \$200K	\$250.00
\$200K - \$300K	\$500.00
\$300K - \$500K	\$600.00
\$500K - \$1M	\$700.00
\$1M - \$2M	\$850.00

EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION FOR ID/IQ:

(2-15-22)

SPD 01-830

The Contractor shall arrive on site within **Seven Hundred Twenty (720)** hours of notification. Compensation will be in addition to the specific line items in the contract. *Emergency Mobilization* will be paid for at the contract unit price per each. Failure to respond within the time frame will result in nonpayment of this item.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item

Emergency Mobilization

Pay Unit

Each

RENEWAL OF CONTRACT (CPI PRICE ADJUSTMENT) FOR ID/IQ:

(2-15-22)(Rev. 9-19-23)

SPD 01-840

The Contractor shall submit a bid for one year. At the option of the Department, this contract may be extended for **Two (2)** additional periods of one year each (maximum (3) three years total). Each year shall have a limit of **Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00)**.

The compensation payable to the contractor shall be fixed for the first twelve months of this contract. However, upon an application of renewal of the contract, or thirty days prior to the end

of each contract period, the renewal contract may be adjusted to reflect the adjustment in the Consumer Price Index over the latest twelve month period as published by the US Bureau of Labor and Statistics at <http://www.bls.gov/cpi> to be applied to new work order assignments. The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), US City Average, All Items, 1982-84=100, not seasonally adjusted will be used. If the amount of the requested adjustment is more than ten percent, the Department of Transportation reserves the right to cancel this contract.

CPI adjustment values can be determined using the calculator on the NCDOT Construction website.

This price escalation method will not be applied to items of work that are separately covered under commodity price escalation clauses. No other changes in the terms, conditions, etc. of this contract will be made when an extension to the contract is implemented. The Engineer will notify the Contractor in writing by **60** if the contract may be extended. The Contractor must notify the Engineer in writing by **30** of his acceptance or rejection of this offer. Failure on the part of the Contractor to reply will be received as a rejection of contract extension.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS FOR ID/IQ:

(2-15-22)(Rev. 1-16-24)

SPD 01-850

If a question should arise on the contract or assignment of a work order, the contractor should notify the Engineer noted on the assignment documentation or the Division Engineer within 48 hours after the scheduled time of bid opening or work order assignment. The following should be included in the notification if applicable:

- (A) the contract for which bids were solicited;
- (B) the particular law, regulation, or contract specification violated;
- (C) a detailed description of the alleged violation; and
- (D) any other information deemed to be relevant.

Once the initial evaluation has been completed, the contractor may be asked to attend a meeting for further discussion and clarification.

Once a determination has been made, the contractor will be notified of the decision by the Division Engineer. If the decision does not meet the satisfaction of the contractor, they have 24 hours from the Division Engineer's notification to elevate the dispute to the Chief Engineer. The Chief Engineer will make the final decision and will not be subject to further review by NCDOT.

INTERMEDIATE CONTRACT TIME NUMBER 1 AND LIQUIDATED DAMAGES:

(2-20-07)

108

SP1 G14 A

The Contractor shall complete the required work of installing, maintaining, and removing the traffic control devices for lane closures and restoring traffic to the existing traffic pattern. The Contractor shall not close or narrow a lane of traffic on **ANY ROAD EXCEPT THOSE ADDRESSED IN ICT 2** during the following time restrictions:

DAY AND TIME RESTRICTIONS**Monday Thru Friday****7:00 AM to 8:00 AM****5:00 PM to 6:00 PM**

For work orders with work scoped within one mile of a school, no lane closures 30 minutes prior and 30 minutes after the dismissal time when school is in session.

In addition, the Contractor shall not close or narrow a lane of traffic on **ANY ROAD EXCEPT THOSE ADDRESSED IN ICT 2**, detain and/or alter the traffic flow on or during holidays, holiday weekends, special events, or any other time when traffic is unusually heavy, including the following schedules:

HOLIDAY AND HOLIDAY WEEKEND LANE CLOSURE RESTRICTIONS

1. For **unexpected occurrence** that creates unusually high traffic volumes, as directed by the Engineer.
2. For **New Year's Day**, between the hours of **4:00 PM** December 31st and **7:00 AM** January 2nd. If New Year's Day is on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday or Monday, then until **7:00 AM** the following Tuesday.
3. For **Easter**, between the hours of **4:00 PM** Thursday and **7:00 AM** Monday.
4. For **Memorial Day**, between the hours of **4:00 PM** Friday and **7:00 AM** Tuesday.
5. For **Independence Day**, between the hours of **4:00 PM** the day before Independence Day and **7:00 AM** the day after Independence Day.

If **Independence Day** is on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday or Monday, then between the hours of **4:00 PM** the Thursday before Independence Day and **7:00 AM** the Tuesday after Independence Day.

6. For **Labor Day**, between the hours of **4:00 PM** Friday and **7:00 AM** Tuesday.
7. For **Thanksgiving Day**, between the hours of **4:00 PM** Tuesday and **7:00 AM** Monday.
8. For **Christmas**, between the hours of **4:00 PM** the Friday before the week of Christmas Day and **7:00 AM** the following Tuesday after the week of Christmas Day.

Holidays and holiday weekends shall include New Year's, Easter, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The Contractor shall schedule his work so that lane closures will not be required during these periods, unless otherwise directed by the Engineer.

The time of availability for this intermediate contract work shall be the time the Contractor begins to install all traffic control devices for lane closures according to the time restrictions listed herein.

The completion time for this intermediate contract work shall be the time the Contractor is required to complete the removal of all traffic control devices for lane closures according to the time restrictions stated above and place traffic in the existing traffic pattern.

The liquidated damages are **Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$ 250.00)** per hour.

INTERMEDIATE CONTRACT TIME NUMBER 2 AND LIQUIDATED DAMAGES:

(3-04-16)

108

SP1 G14 B

The Contractor shall complete the required work of installing, maintaining, and removing the traffic control devices for lane closures and restoring traffic to a multi-lane two-way traffic pattern.

The Contractor shall not close or narrow a lane of traffic on **I-26 from Buncombe County to Milepost 56.5 in Henderson County and I-40 from Exit 27 (US 74) to Buncombe County Line in Haywood County** during the following time restrictions:

DAY AND TIME RESTRICTIONS

Dates	Monday through Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
October 1, 2026 through November 2, 2026 (Leaf Season)	from 6:00A.M. to 7:00 P.M	from 6:00A.M. to 9:00 P.M	from 9:00A.M. to 9:00 P.M	from Noon. to 8:00 P.M
May 21, 2026 through September 8, 2026 (Summer)	from 6:00A.M. to 7:00 P.M	from 6:00A.M. to 9:00 P.M	from 9:00A.M. to 9:00 P.M	from Noon. to 8:00 P.M
November 20, 2026 through January 6, 2027 (Christmas Retail)	from 6:00A.M. to 9:00 P.M	All Times	All Times	All Times
December 16, 2026 through January 6, 2027 (Christmas)	All Times	All Times	All Times	All Times
April 2, 2027 through April 6, 2027 (Easter)	All Times	All Times	All Times	All Times
May 22, 2027 through May 26, 2027 (Memorial Day)	All Times	All Times	All Times	All Times
12:00 Noon July 2, 2026 through 8:00 AM July 7, 2026 (Independence Day)	All Times	All Times	All Times	All Times
August 27, 2026 through September 1, 2026 (Labor Day)	All Times	All Times	All Times	All Times
November 24, 2026 through November 30, 2026 (Thanksgiving)	All Times	All Times	All Times	All Times

The Contractor shall not close or narrow a lane of traffic on **I-26 from Mile Marker 56.5 in Henderson County to South Carolina State Line in Polk County; I-40 from Exit 27 (US 74) to Tennessee State Line in Haywood County; US 23-74 from Exit 98 to I-40 (Waynesville Bypass) in Haywood County; US 23-74 from Exit 81 to Exit 85 (Sylva Bypass) in Jackson County; US 74 from Exit 64 to Exit 74 (Bryson City Bypass) in Swain County; US 25 from South Carolina Line to I-26 in Henderson County; and US 74 from I-26 to Rutherford County Line in Polk County** during the following time restrictions:

DAY AND TIME RESTRICTIONS

Dates	Monday through Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 16, 2026 through January 6, 2027 (Christmas)	All Times	All Times	All Times	All Times
April 2, 2027 through April 6, 2027 (Easter)	All Times	All Times	All Times	All Times
May 22, 2027 through May 26, 2027 (Memorial Day)	All Times	All Times	All Times	All Times
12:00 Noon July 2, 2026 through 8:00 AM July 7, 2026 (Independence Day)	All Times	All Times	All Times	All Times
August 27, 2026 through September 1, 2026 (Labor Day)	All Times	All Times	All Times	All Times
November 24, 2026 through November 30, 2026 (Thanksgiving)	All Times	All Times	All Times	All Times
October 1, 2026 through November 2, 2026 (Leaf Season)	from 6:00A.M. to 7:00 P.M	from 6:00A.M. to 9:00 P.M	from 9:00A.M. to 9:00 P.M	from Noon. to 8:00 P.M

In addition, the Contractor shall not close or narrow a lane of traffic on Non-Freeway Routes, detain and/or alter the traffic flow on or during holidays, holiday weekends, special events, or any other time when traffic is unusually heavy, including the following schedules:

HOLIDAY AND HOLIDAY WEEKEND LANE CLOSURE RESTRICTIONS

1. For **unexpected occurrence** that creates unusually high traffic volumes, as directed by the Engineer.

2. For **New Year's Day**, between the hours of 4:00 p.m. December 31st and 7:00 a.m. January 2nd. If New Year's Day is on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday or Monday, then until 7:00 a.m. the following Tuesday.
3. For **Easter**, between the hours of 4:00 p.m. Thursday and 7:00 a.m. Monday.
4. For **Memorial Day**, between the hours of 4:00 p.m. Friday and 7:00 a.m. Tuesday.
5. For **Independence Day**, between the hours of 4:00 p.m. the day before Independence Day and 7:00 a.m. the day after Independence Day.

If **Independence Day** is on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday or Monday, then between the hours of 4:00 p.m. the Thursday before Independence Day and 7:00 a.m. the Tuesday after Independence Day.

6. For **Labor Day**, between the hours of 4:00 p.m. Friday and 7:00 a.m. Tuesday.
7. For **Thanksgiving Day**, between the hours of 4:00 p.m. Tuesday and 7:00 a.m. Monday.
8. For **Christmas**, between the hours of 4:00 p.m. the Friday before the week of Christmas Day and 7:00 a.m. the following Tuesday after the week of Christmas Day.

Holidays and holiday weekends shall include New Year's, Easter, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The Contractor shall schedule his work so that lane closures are not required during these periods, unless otherwise directed by the Engineer.

The time of availability for this intermediate contract work shall be the time the Contractor begins to install all traffic control devices for lane closures according to the time restrictions listed herein.

The completion time for this intermediate contract work shall be the time the Contractor is required to complete the removal of all traffic control devices for lane closures according to the time restrictions stated herein and place traffic in a normal traffic pattern.

The liquidated damages are **Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00)** per hour.

NO MAJOR CONTRACT ITEMS:

(2-19-02) (Rev. 8-21-07)

104

SP1 G31

None of the items included in this contract will be major items.

NO SPECIALTY ITEMS:

(7-1-95)(Rev. 1-16-24)

108-6

SP1 G34

None of the items included in this contract will be specialty items (see Article 108-6 of the *Standard Specifications*).

SCHEDULE OF ESTIMATED COMPLETION PROGRESS:

(7-15-08)(Rev. 6-16-26)

108-2

SP1 G58

The Contractor's attention is directed to the Standard Special Provision entitled *Availability of Funds Termination of Contracts* included elsewhere in this proposal. The Department of Transportation's schedule of estimated completion progress for this project as required by that Standard Special Provision is as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Progress (% of Dollar Value)</u>
2027 (7/01/26 - 6/30/27)	86% of Total Amount Bid
2028 (7/01/27 - 6/30/28)	14% of Total Amount Bid

The Contractor shall also furnish his own progress schedule in accordance with Article 108-2 of the *Standard Specifications*. Any acceleration of the progress as shown by the Contractor's progress schedule over the progress as shown above shall be subject to the approval of the Engineer.

MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AND WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DIVISIONS):

(10-16-07)(Rev. 10-21-25)

102-15(J)

SP1 G67

Description

The purpose of this Special Provision is to carry out the North Carolina Department of Transportation's policy of ensuring nondiscrimination in the award and administration of contracts financed in whole or in part with State funds.

Definitions

Additional MBE/WBE Subcontractors - Any MBE/WBE submitted at the time of bid that will not be used to meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal. No submittal of a Letter of Intent is required.

Combined MBE/WBE Goal: A portion of the total contract, expressed as a percentage that is to be performed by committed MBE/WBE subcontractors.

Committed MBE/WBE Subcontractor - Any MBE/WBE submitted at the time of bid that is being used to meet the Combined MBE / WBE goal by submission of a Letter of Intent. Or any MBE or WBE used as a replacement for a previously committed MBE or WBE firm.

Contract Goal Requirement - The approved participation at time of award, but not greater than the advertised Combined MBE/WBE contract goal.

Goal Confirmation Letter - Written documentation from the Department to the bidder confirming the Contractor's approved, committed participation along with a listing of the committed MBE and WBE firms.

Manufacturer - A firm that owns (or leases) and operates or maintains a factory or establishment that produces on the premises, the materials or supplies obtained by the Contractor. A firm that makes minor modifications to the materials, supplies, articles, or equipment is not a manufacturer.

MBE Participation (Anticipated) - A portion of the total contract, expressed as a percentage that is anticipated to be performed by committed MBE subcontractor(s).

Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) - A firm certified as a Disadvantaged Minority-Owned Business Enterprise through the North Carolina Unified Certification Program.

Regular Dealer - A firm that owns (or leases), and operates a store, warehouse, or other establishment in which the materials or supplies required for the performance of the contract are bought, kept in sufficient quantities, and regularly sold to the public in the usual course of business. A regular dealer engages in, as its principal business and in its own name, the purchase and sale or lease of the products in question. A regular dealer in such bulk items as steel, concrete or concrete products, gravel, stone, asphalt and petroleum products need not keep such products in stock, if it owns and operates distribution equipment for the products. Any supplement of regular dealers' own distribution equipment shall be by a long-term operating lease and not on an ad hoc or contract-by-contract basis.

Distributor - A firm that engages in the regular sale or lease of the items specified by the contract. A distributor assumes responsibility for the items it purchases once they leave the point of origin (e.g., a manufacturer's facility), making it liable for any loss or damage not covered by the carrier's insurance.

Replacement / Substitution - A full or partial reduction in the amount of work subcontracted to a committed (or an approved substitute) MBE/WBE firm.

North Carolina Unified Certification Program (NCUCP) - A program that provides comprehensive services and information to applicants for MBE/WBE certification. The MBE/WBE program follows the same regulations as the federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26.

United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) - Federal agency responsible for issuing regulations (49 CFR Part 26) and official guidance for the DBE program.

WBE Participation (Anticipated) - A portion of the total contract, expressed as a percentage that is anticipated to be performed by committed WBE subcontractor(s).

Women Business Enterprise (WBE) - A firm certified as a Disadvantaged Women-Owned Business Enterprise through the North Carolina Unified Certification Program.

Forms and Websites Referenced in this Provision

Payment Tracking System - On-line system in which the Contractor enters the payments made to MBE and WBE subcontractors who have performed work on the project.
<https://apps.dot.state.nc.us/Vendor/PaymentTracking/>

DBE-IS Subcontractor Payment Information - Form for reporting the payments made to all MBE/WBE firms working on the project. This form is for paper bid projects only.

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/business/Turnpike/Documents/Form%20DBE-IS%20Subcontractor%20Payment%20Information.pdf>

RF-1 *MBE/WBE Replacement Request Form* - Form for replacing a committed MBE or WBE.
<https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/construction/Construction%20Forms/DBE%20MBE%20WBE%20Replacement%20Form%20and%20Instructions.pdf>

SAF *Subcontract Approval Form* - Form required for approval to sublet the contract.
<https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/construction/Construction%20Forms/SAF%20Form%20-%20Subcontract%20Approval%20Form%20Revised%2004-19.xlsm>

JC-1 *Joint Check Notification Form* - Form and procedures for joint check notification. The form acts as a written joint check agreement among the parties providing full and prompt disclosure of the expected use of joint checks.

<http://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/construction/Construction%20Forms/Joint%20Check%20Notification%20Form.pdf>

Letter of Intent - Form signed by the Contractor and the MBE/WBE subcontractor, manufacturer or regular dealer that affirms that a portion of said contract is going to be performed by the signed MBE/WBE for the estimated amount (based on quantities and unit prices) listed at the time of bid.
<http://connect.ncdot.gov/letting/LetCentral/Letter%20of%20Intent%20to%20Perform%20as%20a%20Subcontractor.pdf>

Listing of MBE and WBE Subcontractors Form - Form for entering MBE/WBE subcontractors on a project that will meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal. This form is for paper bids only.
[http://connect.ncdot.gov/municipalities/Bid%20Proposals%20for%20LGA%20Content/09%20MBE-WBE%20Subcontractors%20\(State\).docx](http://connect.ncdot.gov/municipalities/Bid%20Proposals%20for%20LGA%20Content/09%20MBE-WBE%20Subcontractors%20(State).docx)

Subcontractor Quote Comparison Sheet - Spreadsheet for showing all subcontractor quotes in the work areas where MBEs and WBEs quoted on the project. This sheet is submitted with good faith effort packages.

<http://connect.ncdot.gov/business/SmallBusiness/Documents/DBE%20Subcontractor%20Quote%20Comparison%20Example.xls>

DBE Regular Dealer/Distributor Affirmation Form – Form is used to make a preliminary counting determination for each DBE listed as a regular dealer or distributor to assess its eligibility for 60 or 40 percent credit, respectively of the cost of materials or supplies based on its demonstrated capacity and intent to perform as a regular dealer or distributor, as defined in section 49 CFR 26.55 under the contract at issue. A Contractor will submit the completed form with the Letter of Intent.
<https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/construction/Construction%20Forms/DBE%20Regular%20Dealer-Distributor%20Affirmation%20Form%20-%20USDOT%202024.pdf>

Combined MBE/WBE Goal

There is NO MBE/WBE Goal for this project.

Directory of Transportation Firms (Directory)

Real-time information is available about firms doing business with the Department and firms that are certified through NCUCP in the Directory of Transportation Firms. Only firms identified in the Directory as MBE and WBE certified shall be used to meet the Combined MBE / WBE goal. The Directory can be found at the following link.

<https://www.ebs.nc.gov/VendorDirectory/default.html>

The listing of an individual firm in the directory shall not be construed as an endorsement of the firm's capability to perform certain work.

Listing of MBE/WBE Subcontractors

At the time of bid, bidders shall submit all MBE and WBE participation that they anticipate to use during the life of the contract. Only those identified to meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal will be considered committed, even though the listing shall include both committed MBE/WBE subcontractors and additional MBE/WBE subcontractors. Any additional MBE/WBE subcontractor participation above the goal will follow the banking guidelines found elsewhere in this provision. All other additional MBE/WBE subcontractor participation submitted at the time of bid will be used toward the Department's overall race-neutral goals. Only those firms with current MBE and WBE certification at the time of bid opening will be acceptable for listing in the bidder's submittal of MBE and WBE participation. The Contractor shall indicate the following required information:

(A) Electronic Bids

Bidders shall submit a listing of MBE and WBE participation in the appropriate section of the electronic submittal file.

- (1) Submit the names and addresses of MBE and WBE firms identified to participate in the contract. If the bidder uses the updated listing of MBE and WBE firms shown in the electronic submittal file, the bidder may use the dropdown menu to access the name and address of the firms.
- (2) Submit the contract line numbers of work to be performed by each MBE and WBE firm. When no figures or firms are entered, the bidder will be considered to have no MBE or WBE participation.
- (3) The bidder shall be responsible for ensuring that the MBE and WBE are certified at the time of bid by checking the Directory of Transportation Firms. If the firm is not certified at the time of the bid-letting, that MBE's or WBE's participation will not count towards achieving the Combined MBE/WBE goal.

(B) Paper Bids

- (1) *If the Combined MBE/ WBE goal is more than zero,*
 - (a) Bidders, at the time the bid proposal is submitted, shall submit a listing of MBE/WBE participation, including the names and addresses on *Listing of MBE and WBE Subcontractors* contained elsewhere in the contract documents in order for the bid to be considered responsive. Bidders shall indicate the total dollar value of the MBE and WBE participation for the contract.
 - (b) If bidders have no MBE or WBE participation, they shall indicate this on the *Listing of MBE and WBE Subcontractors* by entering the word “None” or the number “0.” This form shall be completed in its entirety. **Blank forms will not be deemed to represent zero participation.** Bids submitted that do not have MBE and WBE participation indicated on the appropriate form will not be read publicly during the opening of bids. The Department will not consider these bids for award and the proposal will be rejected.
 - (c) The bidder shall be responsible for ensuring that the MBE/WBE is certified at the time of bid by checking the Directory of Transportation Firms. If the firm is not certified at the time of the bid-letting, that MBE’s or WBE’s participation will not count towards achieving the Combined MBE/WBE goal.
- (2) *If the Combined MBE/WBE Goal is zero,* entries on the *Listing of MBE and WBE Subcontractors* are not required for the zero goal, however any MBE or WBE participation that is achieved during the project shall be reported in accordance with requirements contained elsewhere in the special provision.

MBE or WBE Prime Contractor

When a certified MBE or WBE firm bids on a contract that contains a Combined MBE/WBE Goal, the firm is responsible for meeting the goal or making good faith efforts to meet the goal, just like any other bidder. In most cases, a MBE or WBE bidder on a contract will meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal by virtue of the work it performs on the contract with its own forces. However, all the work that is performed by the MBE or WBE bidder and any other similarly certified subcontractors will count toward the goal. The MBE or WBE bidder shall list itself along with any MBE or WBE subcontractors, if any, in order to receive credit toward the goals.

MBE/WBE prime contractors shall also follow Sections A or B listed under *Listing of MBE/WBE Subcontractors* just as a non-MBE/WBE bidder would.

Written Documentation – Letter of Intent

The bidder shall submit written documentation for each MBE/WBE that will be used to meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal of the contract, indicating the bidder's commitment to use the MBE/WBE in the contract. This documentation shall be submitted on the Department's form titled *Letter of Intent*.

The documentation shall be received in the office of the Engineer no later than 2:00 p.m. of the fifth calendar day following opening of bids, unless the fifth day falls on Saturday, Sunday or an official state holiday. In that situation, it is due in the office of the Engineer no later than 10:00 a.m. on the next official state business day.

If the bidder fails to submit the Letter of Intent from each committed MBE and WBE to be used toward the Combined MBE/WBE goal, or if the form is incomplete (i.e. both signatures are not present), the MBE/WBE participation will not count toward meeting the Combined MBE/WBE goal. If the lack of this participation drops the commitment below the Combined MBE/WBE goal, the Contractor shall submit evidence of good faith efforts for the goal not met, completed in its entirety, to the Engineer no later than 2:00 p.m. of the eighth calendar day following opening of bids, unless the eighth day falls on Saturday, Sunday or an official state holiday. In that situation, it is due in the office of the Engineer no later than 10:00 a.m. on the next official state business day.

Banking MBE/WBE Credit

If the committed MBE/WBE participation submitted exceeds the algebraic sum of the Combined MBE/WBE goal by \$1,000 or more, the excess will be placed on deposit by the Department for future use by the bidder. Separate accounts will be maintained for MBE and WBE participation and these may accumulate for a period not to exceed 24 months.

When the apparent lowest responsive bidder fails to submit sufficient participation by MBE and WBE firms to meet the advertised goal, as part of the good faith effort, the Department will consider allowing the bidder to withdraw funds to meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal as long as there are adequate funds available from the bidder's MBE and WBE bank accounts.

Submission of Good Faith Effort

If the bidder fails to meet or exceed the Combined MBE/WBE goal, the apparent lowest responsive bidder shall submit to the Department documentation of adequate good faith efforts made to reach that specific goal.

One complete set and 0 copies of this information shall be received in the office of the Engineer no later than 2:00 p.m. of the fifth calendar day following opening of bids, unless the fifth day falls on Saturday, Sunday or an official state holiday. In that situation, it is due in the office of the Engineer no later than 10:00 a.m. on the next official state business day.

Note: Where the information submitted includes repetitious solicitation letters, it will be acceptable to submit a representative letter along with a distribution list of the firms that were solicited. Documentation of MBE/WBE quotations shall be a part of the good faith effort

submittal. This documentation may include written subcontractor quotations, telephone log notations of verbal quotations, or other types of quotation documentation.

Consideration of Good Faith Effort for Projects with a Combined MBE/WBE Goal More Than Zero

Adequate good faith efforts mean that the bidder took all necessary and reasonable steps to achieve the goal which, by their scope, intensity, and appropriateness, could reasonably be expected to obtain sufficient MBE/WBE participation. Adequate good faith efforts also mean that the bidder actively and aggressively sought MBE/WBE participation. Mere *pro forma* efforts are not considered good faith efforts.

The Department will consider the quality, quantity, and intensity of the different kinds of efforts a bidder has made. Listed below are examples of the types of actions a bidder will take in making a good faith effort to meet the goals and are not intended to be exclusive or exhaustive, nor is it intended to be a mandatory checklist.

- (A) Soliciting through all reasonable and available means (e.g. attendance at pre-bid meetings, advertising, written notices, use of verifiable electronic means through the use of the NCDOT Directory of Transportation Firms) the interest of all certified MBEs/WBEs that are also prequalified subcontractors. The bidder must solicit this interest within at least 10 days prior to bid opening to allow the MBEs/WBEs to respond to the solicitation. Solicitation shall provide the opportunity to MBEs/WBEs within the Division and surrounding Divisions where the project is located. The bidder must determine with certainty if the MBEs/WBEs are interested by taking appropriate steps to follow up initial solicitations.
- (B) Selecting portions of the work to be performed by MBEs/WBEs in order to increase the likelihood that the Combined MBE/WBE goal will be achieved.
 - (1) Where appropriate, break out contract work items into economically feasible units to facilitate MBE/WBE participation, even when the prime contractor might otherwise prefer to perform these work items with its own forces.
 - (2) Negotiate with subcontractors to assume part of the responsibility to meet the advertised goal when the work to be sublet includes potential for MBE/WBE participation (2nd and 3rd tier subcontractors).
- (C) Providing interested certified MBEs/WBEs that are also prequalified subcontractors with adequate information about the plans, specifications, and requirements of the contract in a timely manner to assist them in responding to a solicitation.
- (D) (1) Negotiating in good faith with interested MBEs/WBEs. It is the bidder's responsibility to make a portion of the work available to MBE/WBE subcontractors and suppliers and to select those portions of the work or material needs consistent with the available MBE/WBE subcontractors and suppliers, so as to facilitate MBE/WBE participation. Evidence of such negotiation includes the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of MBEs/WBEs that were considered;

a description of the information provided regarding the plans and specifications for the work selected for subcontracting; and evidence as to why additional agreements could not be reached for MBEs/WBEs to perform the work.

- (2) A bidder using good business judgment would consider a number of factors in negotiating with subcontractors, including MBE/WBE subcontractors, and would take a firm's price and capabilities as well as the advertised goal into consideration. However, the fact that there may be some additional costs involved in finding and using MBEs/WBEs is not in itself sufficient reason for a bidder's failure to meet the advertised goal, as long as such costs are reasonable. Also, the ability or desire of a prime contractor to perform the work of a contract with its own organization does not relieve the bidder of the responsibility to make good faith efforts. Bidding contractors are not, however, required to accept higher quotes from MBEs/WBEs if the price difference is excessive or unreasonable.
- (E) Not rejecting MBEs/WBEs as being unqualified without sound reasons based on a thorough investigation of their capabilities. The bidder's standing within its industry, membership in specific groups, organizations, or associates and political or social affiliations (for example, union vs. non-union employee status) are not legitimate causes for the rejection or non-solicitation of bids in the bidder's efforts to meet the project goal.
- (F) Making efforts to assist interested MBEs/WBEs in obtaining bonding, lines of credit, or insurance as required by the recipient or bidder.
- (G) Making efforts to assist interested MBEs/WBEs in obtaining necessary equipment, supplies, materials, or related assistance or services.
- (H) Effectively using the services of available minority/women community organizations; minority/women contractors' groups; Federal, State, and local minority/women business assistance offices; and other organizations as allowed on a case-by-case basis to provide assistance in the recruitment and placement of MBEs/WBEs. Contact within 7 days from the bid opening the Business Opportunity and Work Force Development Unit at BOWD@ncdot.gov to give notification of the bidder's inability to get MBE or WBE quotes.
- (I) Any other evidence that the bidder submits which shows that the bidder has made reasonable good faith efforts to meet the advertised goal.

In addition, the Department may take into account the following:

- (1) Whether the bidder's documentation reflects a clear and realistic plan for achieving the Combined MBE/WBE goal.
- (2) The bidders' past performance in meeting the contract goal.
- (3) The performance of other bidders in meeting the advertised goal. For example, when the apparent successful bidder fails to meet the goal, but others meet it, you may reasonably raise the question of whether, with additional reasonable efforts the

apparent successful bidder could have met the goal. If the apparent successful bidder fails to meet the advertised goal, but meets or exceeds the average MBE and WBE participation obtained by other bidders, the Department may view this, in conjunction with other factors, as evidence of the apparent successful bidder having made a good faith effort.

If the Department does not award the contract to the apparent lowest responsive bidder, the Department reserves the right to award the contract to the next lowest responsive bidder that can satisfy to the Department that the Combined MBE/WBE goal can be met or that an adequate good faith effort has been made to meet the advertised goal.

Non-Good Faith Appeal

The Engineer will notify the Contractor verbally and in writing of non-good faith. A Contractor may appeal a determination of non-good faith made by the Goal Compliance Committee. If a Contractor wishes to appeal the determination made by the Committee, they shall provide written notification to the Engineer. The appeal shall be made within 2 business days of notification of the determination of non-good faith.

Counting MBE/WBE Participation Toward Meeting the Combined MBE/WBE Goal

(A) Participation

The total dollar value of the participation by a committed MBE/WBE will be counted toward the contract goal requirements. The total dollar value of participation by a committed MBE/WBE will be based upon the value of work performed by the MBE/WBE and the actual payments to MBE/WBE firms by the Contractor.

(B) Joint Checks

Prior notification of joint check use shall be required when counting MBE/WBE participation for services or purchases that involves the use of a joint check. Notification shall be through submission of Form JC-1 (*Joint Check Notification Form*) and the use of joint checks shall be in accordance with the Department's Joint Check Procedures.

(C) Subcontracts (Non-Trucking)

A MBE/WBE may enter into subcontracts. Work that a MBE subcontracts to another MBE firm may be counted toward the anticipated MBE participation. The same holds for work that a WBE subcontracts to another WBE firm. Work that a MBE/WBE subcontracts to a non-MBE/WBE firm does not count toward the contract goal requirement. It should be noted that every effort shall be made by MBE and WBE contractors to subcontract to the same certification (i.e., MBEs to MBEs and WBEs to WBEs), in order to fulfill the MBE or WBE participation breakdown. This, however, may not always be possible due to the limitation of firms in the area. If the MBE or WBE firm shows a good faith effort has been made to reach out to similarly certified firms and there is no interest or availability, and they can get assistance from other certified firms, the Engineer will not hold the prime

responsible for meeting the individual MBE or WBE breakdown. If a MBE or WBE contractor or subcontractor subcontracts a significantly greater portion of the work of the contract than would be expected on the basis of standard industry practices, it shall be presumed that the MBE or WBE is not performing a commercially useful function.

(D) Joint Venture

When a MBE or WBE performs as a participant in a joint venture, the Contractor may count toward its contract goal requirement a portion of the total value of participation with the MBE or WBE in the joint venture, that portion of the total dollar value being a distinct clearly defined portion of work that the MBE or WBE performs with its forces.

(E) Manufacturer, Regular Dealer, Distributor

A Contractor may count toward its MBE/WBE requirement 40 percent of its expenditures for materials or supplies (including transportation costs) from a MBE/WBE distributor, 60 percent of its expenditures for materials or supplies (including transportation costs) from a MBE/WBE regular dealer and 100 percent of such expenditures obtained from a MBE/WBE manufacturer.

A Contractor may count toward its MBE/WBE requirement the following expenditures to MBE/WBE firms that are not manufacturers, regular dealers or distributors:

- (1) The fees or commissions charged by a MBE/WBE firm for providing a *bona fide* service, such as professional, technical, consultant, or managerial services, or for providing bonds or insurance specifically required for the performance of a DOT-assisted contract, provided the fees or commissions are determined to be reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees and commissions customarily allowed for similar services.
- (2) With respect to materials or supplies purchased from a MBE/WBE, which is neither a manufacturer, regular dealer, nor a distributor count the entire amount of fees or commissions charged that the Department deems to be reasonable, including transportation charges for the delivery of materials or supplies. Do not count any portion of the cost of the materials and supplies themselves.

A Contractor will submit a completed *DBE Regular Dealer/Distributor Affirmation Form* with the Letter of Intent to the Engineer. The Engineer will forward to the State Contractor Utilization Engineer or DBE@ncdot.gov. The State Contractor Utilization Engineer will make a preliminary assessment as to whether a MBE/WBE supplier has the demonstrated capacity to perform a commercially useful function (CUF) on a contract-by-contract basis *prior* to its participation.

Commercially Useful Function

(A) MBE/WBE Utilization

The Contractor may count toward its contract goal requirement only expenditures to MBEs and WBEs that perform a commercially useful function in the work of a contract. A MBE/WBE performs a commercially useful function when it is responsible for execution of the work of the contract and is carrying out its responsibilities by performing, managing, and supervising the work involved. To perform a commercially useful function, the MBE/WBE shall also be responsible with respect to materials and supplies used on the contract, for negotiating price, determining quality and quantity, ordering the material and installing (where applicable) and paying for the material itself. To determine whether a MBE/WBE is performing a commercially useful function, the Department will evaluate the amount of work subcontracted, industry practices, whether the amount the firm is to be paid under the contract is commensurate with the work it is performing and the MBE/WBE credit claimed for its performance of the work, and any other relevant factors. If it is determined that a MBE or WBE is not performing a Commercially Useful Function, the contractor may present evidence to rebut this presumption to the Department.

(B) MBE/WBE Utilization in Trucking

The following factors will be used to determine if a MBE or WBE trucking firm is performing a commercially useful function:

- (1) The MBE/WBE shall be responsible for the management and supervision of the entire trucking operation for which it is responsible on a particular contract, and there shall not be a contrived arrangement for the purpose of meeting the Combined MBE/WBE goal.
- (2) The MBE/WBE shall itself own and operate at least one fully licensed, insured, and operational truck used on the contract.
- (3) The MBE/WBE receives credit for the total value of the transportation services it provides on the contract using trucks it owns, insures, and operates using drivers it employs.
- (4) The MBE may subcontract the work to another MBE firm, including an owner-operator who is certified as a MBE. The same holds true that a WBE may subcontract the work to another WBE firm, including an owner-operator who is certified as a WBE. When this occurs, the MBE or WBE who subcontracts work receives credit for the total value of the transportation services the subcontracted

MBE or WBE provides on the contract. It should be noted that every effort shall be made by MBE and WBE contractors to subcontract to the same certification (i.e., MBEs to MBEs and WBEs to WBEs), in order to fulfill the participation breakdown. This, however, may not always be possible due to the limitation of firms in the area. If the MBE or WBE firm shows a good faith effort has been made to reach out to similarly certified transportation service providers and there is no interest or availability, and they can get assistance from other certified providers, the Engineer will not hold the prime responsible for meeting the individual MBE or WBE participation breakdown.

- (5) The MBE/WBE may also subcontract the work to a non-MBE/WBE firm, including from an owner-operator. The MBE/WBE who subcontracts the work to a non-MBE/WBE is entitled to credit for the total value of transportation services provided by the non-MBE/WBE subcontractor not to exceed the value of transportation services provided by MBE/WBE-owned trucks on the contract. Additional participation by non-MBE/WBE subcontractors receives credit only for the fee or commission it receives as a result of the subcontract arrangement. The value of services performed under subcontract agreements between the MBE/WBE and the Contractor will not count towards the MBE/WBE contract requirement.
- (6) A MBE/WBE may lease truck(s) from an established equipment leasing business open to the general public. The lease must indicate that the MBE/WBE has exclusive use of and control over the truck. This requirement does not preclude the leased truck from working for others during the term of the lease with the consent of the MBE/WBE, so long as the lease gives the MBE/WBE absolute priority for use of the leased truck. This type of lease may count toward the MBE/WBE's credit as long as the driver is under the MBE/WBE's payroll.
- (7) Subcontracted/leased trucks shall display clearly on the dashboard the name of the MBE/WBE that they are subcontracted/leased to and their own company name if it is not identified on the truck itself. Magnetic door signs are not permitted.

MBE/WBE Replacement

When a Contractor has relied on a commitment to a MBE or WBE subcontractor (or an approved substitute MBE or WBE subcontractor) to meet all or part of a contract goal requirement, the contractor shall not terminate the MBE/WBE subcontractor or any portion of its work for convenience. This includes, but is not limited to, instances in which the Contractor seeks to perform the work of the terminated subcontractor with another MBE/WBE subcontractor, a non-MBE/WBE subcontractor, or with the Contractor's own forces or those of an affiliate.

The Contractor must give notice in writing both by certified mail and email to the MBE/WBE subcontractor, with a copy to the Engineer of its intent to request to terminate a MBE/WBE subcontractor or any portion of its work, and the reason for the request. The Contractor must give the MBE/WBE subcontractor five (5) business days to respond to the Contractor's Notice of Intent to Request Termination and/or Substitution. If the MBE/WBE subcontractor objects to the intended termination/substitution, the MBE/WBE, within five (5) business days must advise the Contractor and the Department of the reasons why the action should not be approved. The five-

day notice period shall begin on the next business day after written notice is provided to the MBE/WBE subcontractor.

A committed MBE/WBE subcontractor may only be terminated or any portion of its work after receiving the Department's written approval based upon a finding of good cause for the proposed termination and/or substitution. Good cause does not exist if the Contractor seeks to terminate a MBE/WBE or any portion of its work that it relied upon to obtain the contract so that the Contractor can self-perform the work for which the MBE/WBE was engaged, or so that the Contractor can substitute another MBE/WBE or non- MBE/WBE contractor after contract award. For purposes of this section, good cause shall include the following circumstances:

- (a) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor fails or refuses to execute a written contract;
- (b) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor fails or refuses to perform the work of its subcontract in a way consistent with normal industry standards. Provided, however, that good cause does not exist if the failure or refusal of the MBE/WBE subcontractor to perform its work on the subcontract results from the bad faith or discriminatory action of the prime contractor;
- (c) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor fails or refuses to meet the prime contractor's reasonable, nondiscriminatory bond requirements;
- (d) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor becomes bankrupt, insolvent, or exhibits credit unworthiness;
- (e) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor is ineligible to work on public works projects because of suspension and debarment proceedings pursuant to 2 CFR parts 180, 215 and 1200 or applicable State law;
- (f) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor is not a responsible contractor;
- (g) The listed MBE/WBE voluntarily withdraws from the project and provides written notice of withdrawal;
- (h) The listed MBE/WBE is ineligible to receive MBE/WBE credit for the type of work required;
- (i) A MBE/WBE owner dies or becomes disabled with the result that the listed MBE/WBE contractor is unable to complete its work on the contract; and
- (j) Other documented good cause that compels the termination of the MBE/WBE subcontractor.

The Contractor shall comply with the following for replacement of a committed MBE/WBE:

(A) Performance Related Replacement

When a committed MBE/WBE is terminated for good cause as stated above, an additional MBE/WBE that was submitted at the time of bid may be used to fulfill the MBE/WBE commitment to meet the Combined MBE/WBE Goal. A good faith effort will only be required for removing a committed MBE/WBE if there were no additional MBE/WBEs submitted at the time of bid to cover the same amount of work as the MBE/WBE that was terminated.

If a replacement MBE/WBE is not found that can perform at least the same amount of work as the terminated MBE/WBE, the Contractor shall submit a good faith effort documenting the steps taken. Such documentation shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) Copies of written notification to MBE/WBEs that their interest is solicited in contracting the work defaulted by the previous MBE/WBE or in subcontracting other items of work in the contract.
- (2) Efforts to negotiate with MBE/WBEs for specific subbids including, at a minimum:
 - (a) The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of MBE/WBEs who were contacted.
 - (b) A description of the information provided to MBE/WBEs regarding the plans and specifications for portions of the work to be performed.
- (3) A list of reasons why MBE/WBE quotes were not accepted.
- (4) Efforts made to assist the MBE/WBEs contacted, if needed, in obtaining bonding or insurance required by the Contractor.

(B) Decertification Replacement

- (1) When a committed MBE/WBE is decertified by the Department after the SAF (*Subcontract Approval Form*) has been received by the Department, the Department will not require the Contractor to solicit replacement MBE/WBE participation equal to the remaining work to be performed by the decertified firm. The participation equal to the remaining work performed by the decertified firm will count toward the contract goal requirement but not the overall goal.
 - (i) If the MBE/WBE's ineligibility is caused solely by its having exceeded the size standard during the performance of the contract. The Department may continue to count participation equal to the remaining work performed by the decertified firm which will count toward the contract goal requirement and overall goal.
 - (ii) If the MBE/WBE's ineligibility is caused solely by its acquisition by or merger with a non- MBE/WBE during the performance of the contract. The Department may not continue to count the portion of the decertified firm's performance on the contract remaining toward either the contract goal or the overall goal, even if the Contractor has executed a subcontract with the firm or the Department has executed a prime contract with the MBE/WBE that was later decertified.
- (2) When a committed MBE/WBE is decertified prior to the Department receiving the SAF (*Subcontract Approval Form*) for the named MBE/WBE firm, the Contractor shall take all necessary and reasonable steps to replace the MBE/WBE subcontractor with another MBE/WBE subcontractor to perform at least the same

amount of work to meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal requirement. If a MBE/WBE firm is not found to do the same amount of work, a good faith effort must be submitted to NCDOT (see A herein for required documentation).

All requests for replacement of a committed MBE/WBE firm shall be submitted to the Engineer for approval on Form RF-1 (*DBE Replacement Request*). If the Contractor fails to follow this procedure, the Contractor may be disqualified from further bidding for a period of up to 6 months.

Changes in the Work

When the Engineer makes changes that result in the reduction or elimination of work to be performed by a committed MBE/WBE, the Contractor will not be required to seek additional participation. When the Engineer makes changes that result in additional work to be performed by a MBE/WBE based upon the Contractor's commitment, the MBE/WBE shall participate in additional work to the same extent as the MBE/WBE participated in the original contract work.

When the Engineer makes changes that result in extra work, which has more than a minimal impact on the contract amount, the Contractor shall seek additional participation by MBEs/WBEs unless otherwise approved by the Engineer.

When the Engineer makes changes that result in an alteration of plans or details of construction, and a portion or all of the work had been expected to be performed by a committed MBE/WBE, the Contractor shall seek participation by MBEs/WBEs unless otherwise approved by the Engineer.

When the Contractor requests changes in the work that result in the reduction or elimination of work that the Contractor committed to be performed by a MBE/WBE, the Contractor shall seek additional participation by MBEs/WBEs equal to the reduced MBE/WBE participation caused by the changes.

Reports and Documentation

A SAF (*Subcontract Approval Form*) shall be submitted for all work which is to be performed by a MBE/WBE subcontractor. The Department reserves the right to require copies of actual subcontract agreements involving MBE/WBE subcontractors.

When using transportation services to meet the contract commitment, the Contractor shall submit a proposed trucking plan in addition to the SAF. The plan shall be submitted prior to beginning construction on the project. The plan shall include the names of all trucking firms proposed for use, their certification type(s), the number of trucks owned by the firm, as well as the individual truck identification numbers, and the line item(s) being performed.

Within 30 calendar days of entering into an agreement with a MBE/WBE for materials, supplies or services, not otherwise documented by the SAF as specified above, the Contractor shall furnish the Engineer a copy of the agreement. The documentation shall also indicate the percentage (60% or 100%) of expenditures claimed for MBE/WBE credit.

Reporting Minority and Women Business Enterprise Participation

The Contractor shall provide the Engineer with an accounting of payments made to all MBE and WBE firms, including material suppliers and contractors at all levels (prime, subcontractor, or second tier subcontractor). This accounting shall be furnished to the Engineer for any given month by the end of the following month. Failure to submit this information accordingly may result in the following action:

- (A) Withholding of money due in the next partial pay estimate; or
- (B) Removal of an approved contractor from the prequalified bidders' list or the removal of other entities from the approved subcontractors list.

While each contractor (prime, subcontractor, 2nd tier subcontractor) is responsible for accurate accounting of payments to MBEs/WBEs, it shall be the prime contractor's responsibility to report all monthly and final payment information in the correct reporting manner.

Failure on the part of the Contractor to submit the required information in the time frame specified may result in the disqualification of that contractor and any affiliate companies from further bidding until the required information is submitted.

Failure on the part of any subcontractor to submit the required information in the time frame specified may result in the disqualification of that contractor and any affiliate companies from being approved for further work on future projects until the required information is submitted.

Contractors reporting transportation services provided by non-MBE/WBE lessees shall evaluate the value of services provided during the month of the reporting period only.

At any time, the Engineer can request written verification of subcontractor payments. The Contractor shall report the accounting of payments through the Department's DBE Payment Tracking System.

Failure to Meet Contract Requirements

Failure to meet contract requirements in accordance with Subarticle 102-15(J) of the *Standard Specifications* may be cause to disqualify the Contractor.

MULTI-YEAR MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS (ID/IQ):

(4-20-21) (Rev. 4-19-22)

SP1 G75

This contract is a multi-year maintenance contract let pursuant to the provisions of N.C. General Statute §136-28.1(b). No minimum quantity of services is guaranteed to be awarded bidders under this contract. In accordance with N.C. General Statute §136-28.1(b), an award in a maintenance contract may be for an amount less but shall not exceed \$5,000,000 per year. No payments in excess of this amount will be disbursed, in accordance with the Statute.

RESTRICTIONS ON ITS EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES:

(11-17-20)

SP01 G090

All telecommunications, video or other ITS equipment or services installed or utilized on this project must be in conformance with UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS, COST PRINCIPLES, AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS **2 CFR, § 200.216**
Prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment.

USE OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM (UAS):

(8-20-19)(Rev. 3-17-26)

SP1 G092

The Contractor shall adhere to all Federal, State and Local regulations and guidelines for the use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). This includes but is not limited to US 14 CFR Part 107, NC GS 15A-300, American Security Drone Act of 2023 (ASDA), Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum M-26-02, all FAA rules, regulations and policies and all NCDOT UAS Policies. The required operator certifications include possessing a current Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Remote Pilot Certificate, as well as operating a UAS registered with the FAA.

All UAS operations shall be approved by the Engineer prior to beginning the operations.

All contractors or subcontractors operating UAS shall have UAS specific general liability insurance to cover all operations under this contract.

The use of UAS is at the Contractor's discretion. No measurement or payment will be made for the use of UAS. In the event that the Department directs the Contractor to utilize UAS, payment will be in accordance with Article 104-7 Extra Work.

EQUIPMENT IDLING GUIDELINES:

(1-19-21)

107

SP1 G096

Exercise reduced fuel consumption and reduced equipment emissions during the construction of all work associated with this contract. Employees engaged in the construction of this project should turn off vehicles when stopped for more than thirty (30) minutes and off-highway equipment should idle no longer than fifteen (15) consecutive minutes.

These guidelines for turning off vehicles and equipment when idling do not apply to:

1. Idling when queuing.
2. Idling to verify the vehicle is in safe operating condition.
3. Idling for testing, servicing, repairing or diagnostic purposes.
4. Idling necessary to accomplish work for which the vehicle was designed (such as operating a crane, mixing concrete, etc.).
5. Idling required to bring the machine system to operating temperature.
6. Emergency vehicles, utility company, construction, and maintenance vehicles where the engines must run to perform needed work.
7. Idling to ensure safe operation of the vehicle.

8. Idling when the propulsion engine is providing auxiliary power for other than heating or air conditioning. (such as hydraulic systems for pavers)
9. When specific traffic, safety, or emergency situations arise.
10. If the ambient temperature is less than 32 degrees Fahrenheit. Limited idling to provide for the safety of vehicle occupants (e.g. to run the heater).
11. If the ambient temperature is greater than 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Limited idling to provide for the safety of vehicle occupants of off-highway equipment (e.g. to run the air conditioning) no more than 30 minutes.
12. Diesel powered vehicles may idle for up to 30 minutes to minimize restart problems.

Any vehicle, truck, or equipment in which the primary source of fuel is natural gas or electricity is exempt from the idling limitations set forth in this special provision.

OUTSOURCING OUTSIDE THE USA:

(9-21-04) (Rev. 5-16-06)

SP1 G150

All work on consultant contracts, services contracts, and construction contracts shall be performed in the United States of America. No work shall be outsourced outside of the United States of America.

Outsourcing for the purpose of this provision is defined as the practice of subcontracting labor, work, services, staffing, or personnel to entities located outside of the United States.

The North Carolina Secretary of Transportation shall approve exceptions to this provision in writing.

NOTES TO CONTRACTOR:

(8-19-25)

SP1 G999B

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

All new sign installations must be pre-screened by the Division Environmental Unit. For new sign installations, on or adjacent to historical or archaeology properties, a Human Environment assessment will be required by the Department, per the May 2022 – Memorandum of understanding between the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office and the NCDOT.

GENERAL SIGN INSTALLATION

Department will furnish signs and provide them to the Contractor. Contractor shall provide Z bars required for attaching secondary signs to primary signs.

MORATORIA REQUIREMENTS

Moratoria provisions SP01 G18A, SP01 G18B, and SP01 G18C will be introduced at the work order level, should the location of the work trigger the need.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR WORK IN NATIONAL FORESTS

The provision for Special Requirements For Work In National Forests, SP01 G40, will be introduced at the work order level, should the location of the work trigger the need.

COOPERATION BETWEEN CONTRACTORS

The provision for Cooperation Between Contractors, SP01 G133, will be introduced at the work order level, should the scope of the work trigger the need.

TWELVE-MONTH GUARANTEE

The provision for Twelve-Month Guarantee, SP01 G145, will be introduced at the work order level, should the scope of the work trigger the need.

PROJECT SPECIAL PROVISIONS**ROADWAY****WORK ZONE INSTALLER:**

(7-20-21)(Rev. 4-21-26)

1101

SP11 R04

Revise the *Standard Specifications* as follows:

Page 11-4, Article 1101-14 WORK ZONE INSTALLER, lines 25-26, delete the first sentence of the first paragraph and replace with the following:

When temporary traffic control consists of more than flagging operations, the Contractor shall provide the service of at least one qualified work zone installer during the setup, installation, and removal of temporary traffic control within the highway right of way.

CONES:

(3-19-24)

1135

SP11 R35

Revise the *Standard Specifications* as follows:

Page 11-11, Article 1135-3 CONSTRUCTION METHODS, lines 19-20, delete the third sentence of the first paragraph, "Do not use cones in the upstream taper of lane or shoulder closures for multi-lane roadways."

FLAGGERS:

(12-17-24)(Rev. 12-23-25)

1150

SP11 R50

Revise Section 1150 of the *Standard Specification* as follows:

Page 11-13, Article 1150-1, DESCRIPTION, add the following after line 31:

Alternatively, at the discretion of the Contractor, the Contractor may furnish, install, place in operation, repair, maintain, relocate, and remove remotely controlled Automated Flagging Assistance Devices (AFAD) or Temporary Portable Traffic Signal units (PTS units) to assist, supplement, or replace human flaggers for one-lane, two-way traffic maintenance during construction in accordance with this provision and the *Standard Specifications*.

For the purpose of this provision, an "approach" refers to a single lane of traffic moving in one direction toward a point of control or work zone. Flaggers, AFAD and PTS units are only used to control one lane of approaching traffic in a specific direction.

Page 11-13, Article 1150-2, MATERIALS, add the following after line 34:

Provide documentation to the Engineer that the AFAD or PTS units meets or exceeds the requirements of this special provision and is on the NCDOT APL or ITS and Signals QPL.

(A) Automated Flagging Assistance Devices (AFAD)

(1) AFAD General

Cover the automated gate arm with Department approved Type VII, VIII or IX retroreflective sheeting of vertical alternating red and white stripes at 16 inch intervals measured horizontally. When the gate arm is in the down position the minimum vertical aspect of the arm and sheeting shall be 4 inches. The retroreflectorized sheeting shall be on both sides of the gate arm. With the AFAD parked or positioned 2 feet outside or in a location deemed acceptable for the lane being controlled, the gate arm shall reach at least to the center of the lane but shall not exceed the width of the lane being controlled.

Design the system to be fail-safe. Provide a conflict monitor, malfunction monitoring unit, or similar device that monitors for malfunctions and prevents the display of conflicting indications. This system shall be electronic and operated by remote control.

(2) AFAD Type I System: RED/YELLOW

Provide a Red/Yellow AFAD with at least one set of CIRCULAR RED and CIRCULAR YELLOW lenses in a vertical configuration that are 12 inches in diameter. The bottom of the housing (including brackets) shall be at least 7 feet (2.1 meters) above the pavement.

This system is required to have yellow 12 inch aluminum or polycarbonate vehicle signal heads with 10 inch tunnel visors, backplates, and Light Emitting Diode (LED) modules. Provide signal heads, backplates, and LED modules listed on the ITS and Signals QPL available on the Department's website.

Provide an automated gate arm on the AFAD that descends to a down position across the approaching lane of traffic when the steady CIRCULAR RED lens is illuminated and then ascends to an upright position when the flashing CIRCULAR YELLOW lens is illuminated. The automated gate arm is to be designed such that if a motorist pulls underneath the gate arm while lowering, no damage to the vehicle occurs.

A STOP HERE ON RED (R10-6 or R10-6a) sign shall be installed on the right-hand side of the approach at the point at which drivers are expected to stop when the steady CIRCULAR RED lens is illuminated.

To stop traffic, the AFAD shall transition from the flashing CIRCULAR YELLOW lens by initiating a minimum 5 second steadily illuminated CIRCULAR YELLOW lens followed by the CIRCULAR RED lens.

Once the CIRCULAR RED lens is displayed, the system is to have a minimum 2 second delay between the time the steady CIRCULAR RED is displayed and the time the gate arm begins to lower. The maximum delay between CIRCULAR RED and the time the gate arm lowers is 4 seconds. To permit stopped road users to proceed, the AFAD shall display the flashing CIRCULAR YELLOW lens and the gate arm shall be placed in the upright position.

Ensure the system monitors for a lack of yellow or red signal voltage, total loss of indication in any direction, presence of multiple indications on any approach and low power conditions.

Additional sets of CIRCULAR RED and CIRCULAR YELLOW lenses located over the roadway or on the left side of the approach and operated in unison with the primary set, may be used to improve visibility of the AFAD. If the set of lenses is located over any portion of the roadway that can be used by motor vehicles, the bottom of the housing (including brackets) shall be at least 15 feet (4.6 meters) above the pavement.

(3) AFAD Type II System: STOP/SLOW

Provide STOP/SLOW signs that are octagonal in shape, made of rigid material, and at least 36 inch x 36 inch in size. Letters shall be a minimum of 8 inches high. The STOP face shall have a red background with white letters and border.

The SLOW face shall be diamond shaped, orange, or yellow background with black letters and border. Cover both faces in a Department approved Type VII, VIII or IX retroreflective sheeting. The minimum mounting height for the sign faces shall be 7 feet above the pavement to the bottom of the sign.

The AFAD's STOP/SLOW signs shall be supplemented with active conspicuity devices by incorporating a stop beacon (red lens) and a warning beacon (yellow lens). The stop beacon shall be no more than 24 inches above the STOP face. Mount the warning beacon no more than 24 inches above or beside of the SLOW face. Except for the mounting locations, the beacons shall conform to the provisions of Chapter 4L of the MUTCD and have 12 inch signal lenses.

Strobe/flashing lights are an acceptable alternative to flashing beacons. If utilized, they shall be either white or red flashing lights located within the STOP face and white or yellow flashing lights within the SLOW face and conform to the provisions of Chapter 6D of the MUTCD. If used, the lens diameter shall be a minimum of 5 inches with a minimum height of 6 inches. Equip strobes/flashing lights for both dual and quad flash patterns.

Type B warning lights shall not be used in lieu of the beacons or the strobe lights.

The faces of the AFADs STOP/SLOW sign may include louvers. If louvers are used, design the louvers such that the aspect of the sign face to approaching traffic is a full sign face at a distance of 50 feet or greater.

A WAIT ON STOP (R1-7) sign and a GO ON SLOW (R1-8) sign shall be displayed to traffic approaching the AFAD. Position signs on the same support structure as the AFAD. Both signs shall have black legends and borders on white Type III sheeting backgrounds. Each of these signs shall be rectangular in shape and be at least 24 inch x 30 inch size with letters at least 6 inches high.

Provide an automated gate arm on the AFAD that descends to a down position across the approaching lane of traffic when the STOP face is displayed and then ascends to an upright position when the SLOW face is displayed.

The automated gate arm is to be designed such that if a motorist pulls underneath the gate arm while lowering, no damage to the vehicle occurs.

A STOP HERE ON RED (R10-6 or R10-6a) sign shall be installed on the right-hand side of the approach at the point at which drivers are expected to stop when the STOP face is displayed.

When approaching motorists are to proceed, display the SLOW face and the warning beacon or strobes are to flash on the AFAD. When approaching motorists are will be stopped, display the STOP face and the stop beacon or strobes are to flash on the AFAD.

To stop traffic, the AFAD will transition from the SLOW face to the STOP face by initiating a minimum 5 second change cycle. First, the warning beacon is to be steadily illuminated for the change cycle. If strobes are used in lieu of a warning beacon, they are to be placed in the quad flash pattern. At the end of the change cycle, the STOP face is to be displayed with the stop beacon flashing and the warning beacon or strobes are to stop flashing. Once the STOP face is displayed, the system is to have a minimum 2 second delay between the time the STOP face is displayed and the time the gate arm begins to lower. The maximum delay between the time the STOP face is displayed and the time the gate arm lowers is 4 seconds.

To permit stopped road users to proceed, the gate arm shall be placed in the upright position and the AFAD shall display the SLOW face and the warning beacon or strobes are to flash in the dual flash pattern.

Do not flash the stop beacon when the SLOW face is displayed, and do not flash the warning beacon when the STOP face is displayed.

(B) Portable Traffic Signals (PTS) Units

Provide PTS units with at least one set of CIRCULAR RED, CIRCULAR YELLOW, and CIRCULAR GREEN lenses in a vertical configuration that are 12 inch diameter aluminum or polycarbonate vehicle signal heads with 10 inch tunnel visors, backplates, and Light Emitting Diode (LED) modules. All signal heads, tunnel visors, and backplates shall be yellow in color.

The bottom of the housing (including brackets) shall be at least 7 feet above the pavement for single set units. Additional signal heads on units with more than one signal head shall be capable of extending over the travel lane.

Communication Requirements

All PTS units within the signal set up systems shall maintain communication at all times by either hardwire cable or wireless radio link communication. If the hardwire cable

communication is utilized the communication cable shall be deployed in a manner that will not intrude in the direct work area of the project or obstruct vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Utilize radio communication with 900MHz frequency band and frequency hopping capability. The radio link communication system shall have a minimum range of 1 mile.

Fault Mode Requirements

Revert PTS units to a flashing red mode upon system default unless otherwise specified by the Engineer. Equip the PTS units with a remote monitoring system. Where cell communication availability exists, the remote monitoring system shall adhere to the remote monitoring system section of this provision.

Remote Monitoring System

The remote monitoring system (RMS) shall be capable of reporting signal location, battery voltage / battery history and system default. Provide a password protected website viewable from any computer with internet capability for the RMS. In the event of a system default, the RMS shall provide specific information concerning the cause of the system default (i.e. red lamp on signal number 1). Equip the RMS with a mechanism capable of immediately contacting a minimum of three previously designated individuals via text messaging and/or email upon a default.

The running program operating the PTS units shall be always available and viewable through the RMS website. Maintain a history of the RMS operating system in each signal including operating hours and events and the location of the PTS units.

Trailer / Cart

The AFAD and PTS units may be mounted on either a trailer or a moveable cart system.

Finish all exterior metal surfaces with Federal orange enamel per AMS-STD-595, color chip ID# 13538 or 12473 respectively with a minimum paint thickness of 2.5 mils (64 microns).

Design and test the AFAD or PTS units trailer / cart to withstand an 80 MPH wind load while in the operational position. Provide independent certification that the assembly meets the design wind load.

Equip the AFAD or PTS units with leveling jacks capable of stabilizing the unit in a horizontal position when located on slopes 6:1 or flatter.

Equip trailers in compliance with North Carolina Law governing motor vehicles and include a 12-volt trailer lighting system complying with *Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations 393*, safety chains and a minimum 2 inch ball hitch.

Provide a minimum 4 inch wide strip of fluorescent conspicuity sheeting retroreflective sheeting to the frame of the trailer. Apply the sheeting to all sides of the trailer. The sheeting shall meet the ASTM requirements of Type VII, VIII or IX.

Power System

Design the systems to operate both with and without an external power source. Furnish transmitters, generators, batteries, controls and all other components necessary to operate the device.

Provide equipment that is solar powered and supplemented with a battery backup system that includes a minimum 110/120 VAC powered on-board charging system capable of powering the unit for 7 continuous days with no solar power. Each unit shall also be capable of being powered by standard 110/120 VAC power sources, if applicable.

Locate batteries and electronic controls in a locked, weather and vandal resistant housings.

Page 11-14, Article 1150-3, CONSTRUCTION METHODS, add the following after line 11:

Flaggers shall have a path to escape an errant approaching vehicle at all times, unimpeded by barrier, guardrail, guiderail, parked vehicles, construction materials, slopes steeper than 2:1, or any other obstruction at all times. If an unimpeded path cannot be maintained, the Contractor shall use AFAD or PTS units in lieu of a flagger.

Provide documentation to the Engineer prior to deploying the device that the AFAD or PTS units operator(s) are qualified flagger(s) that have been properly trained through an NCDOT approved training agency or other NCDOT approved training provider and that the qualified flagger(s) have received manufacturer training to operate that specific device. This training shall include proper installation, remote control operation, central control systems and maintenance of the AFAD or PTS units. The training shall take place off the project site where training conditions are removed from live traffic. The documentation shall include the names of the authorized trainer, the trainees, the device on which they have been trained and the date of the training. Provide updated documentation to the Engineer prior to deploying any additional operators.

Install advance warning signs and operate AFADs in accordance with the attached detail drawings in this provision.

Install advance warning signs and operate PTS units in accordance with *NCDOT Roadway Standard Drawings* No. 1101.02, Sheet 17.

AFAD and PTS units shall only be used in situations where there is only one lane of approaching traffic in the direction to be controlled. **At no time shall an AFAD unit controlling traffic through the work area be placed in an autonomous mode and/or left unattended.**

Signal timing and operation of PTS units shall be field verified and accepted by the Engineer before use.

Do not use AFAD or PTS units in locations where queueing from the AFAD or PTS units will extend to within 150 feet of a signalized intersection or railroad crossing. Do not use AFAD and PTS units as a substitute for or a replacement for a continuously operating temporary traffic control signal as described in Section 6F.84 of the MUTCD.

If used at night, illuminate each AFAD or PTS units as described in Section 6D of the MUTCD.

Provide a complete AFAD or PTS units that is capable of being relocated as traffic conditions demand.

If AFADs or PTS units become inoperative, be prepared at all times to replace the unit with the same type and model of AFAD or PTS units, revert to human flagging operations or terminate all construction activities requiring the use of the AFAD or PTS units until the AFAD or PTS units become operative or qualified human flaggers are available.

When the work requiring the AFAD or PTS units is not pursued for 30 minutes or longer, power off each AFAD or PTS units. Removed the AFAD or PTS units from the travel lane and relocated to a minimum of 5 feet from the edge line. AFAD gate arms shall be in the upright position. Remove all traffic control devices from the road, place two cones by each AFAD or PTS units and all signs associated with the lane closure operation shall be removed or laid down. At the end of each workday, remove all AFADs or PTS units from the roadway and shoulder areas.

Ensure the system's wireless communication links continuously monitor and verify proper transmission and reception of data used to monitor and control each AFAD or PTS units. Ensure ambient mobile or other radio transmissions or adverse weather conditions do not affect the system.

In the event of a loss of communications, immediately display the flashing RED or STOP indication on all AFAD or PTS units.

AFAD Specific Construction Methods

The flagger/operator controlling the AFAD units shall be on the project site at all times. If multiple AFAD units are used, one AFAD unit shall be the Main AFAD unit and all other units shall be remote AFAD units. Ensure that each device meets the physical display and operational characteristics as specified in the MUTCD.

Multiple AFAD units may be controlled with **one** flagger/operator when the AFAD units meet each of the following requirements:

- (1) AFAD units are spaced no greater than the manufacturer's recommendations.
- (2) Both AFAD units can be seen at the same time from the flagger/operator's position, or the AFAD is operating on its own secure network with malfunction detection and notification to the flagger/operator.
- (3) The flagger/operator has an unobstructed view of approaching traffic in both directions from the flagger/operator position or the AFAD is operating on its own secure network, with cameras that provide the flagger/operator an unobstructed view of approaching traffic from both directions. The flagger/operator may control the AFAD units from a pilot vehicle.

If any of the above requirements are not met, flagger/operator control each AFAD unit.

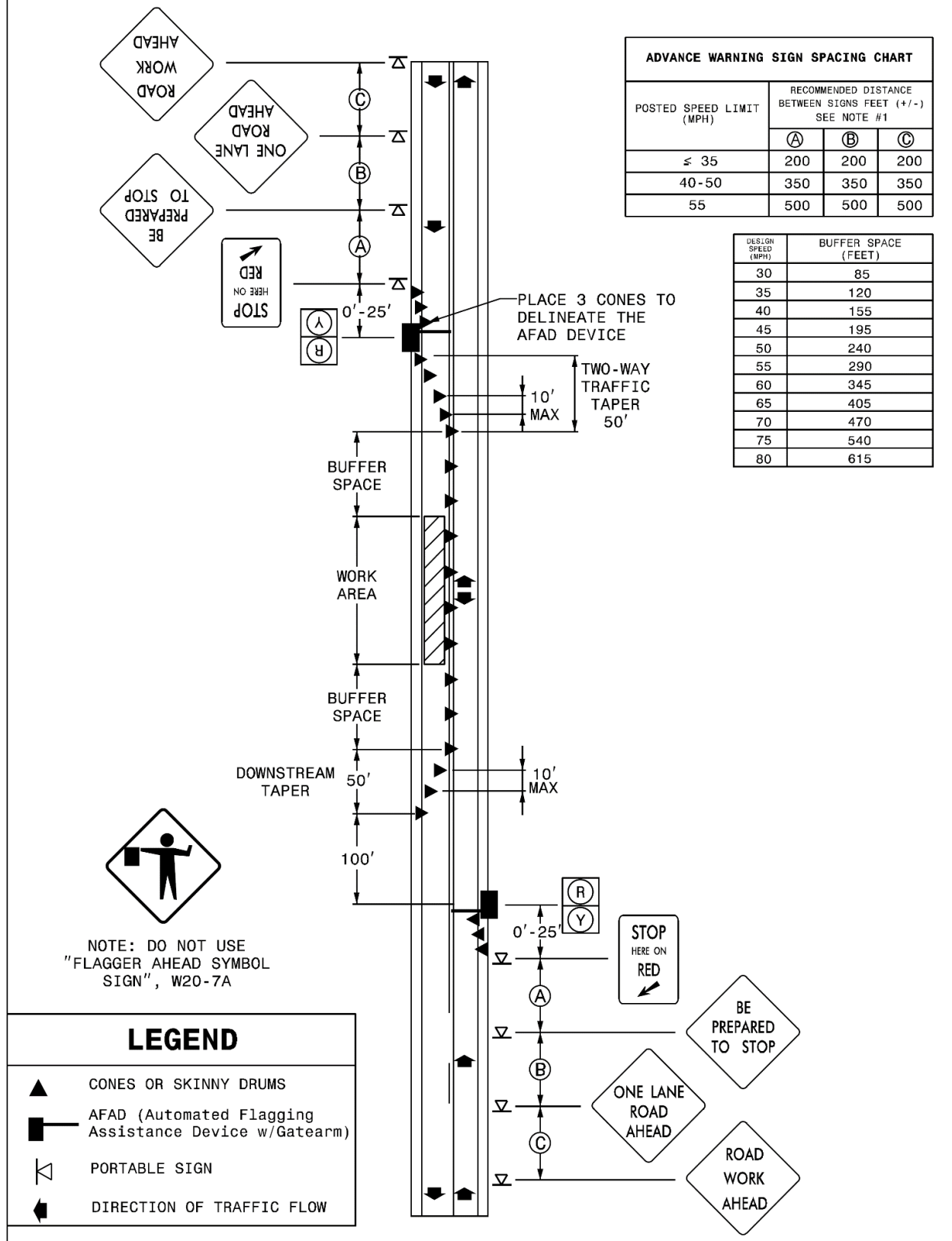
AFAD operators may either control traffic at side streets or driveways between the AFAD units or operate the pilot car while operating the AFAD system if approved by the Engineer. AFAD units must continue to be within clear sight of the operator during these work activities.

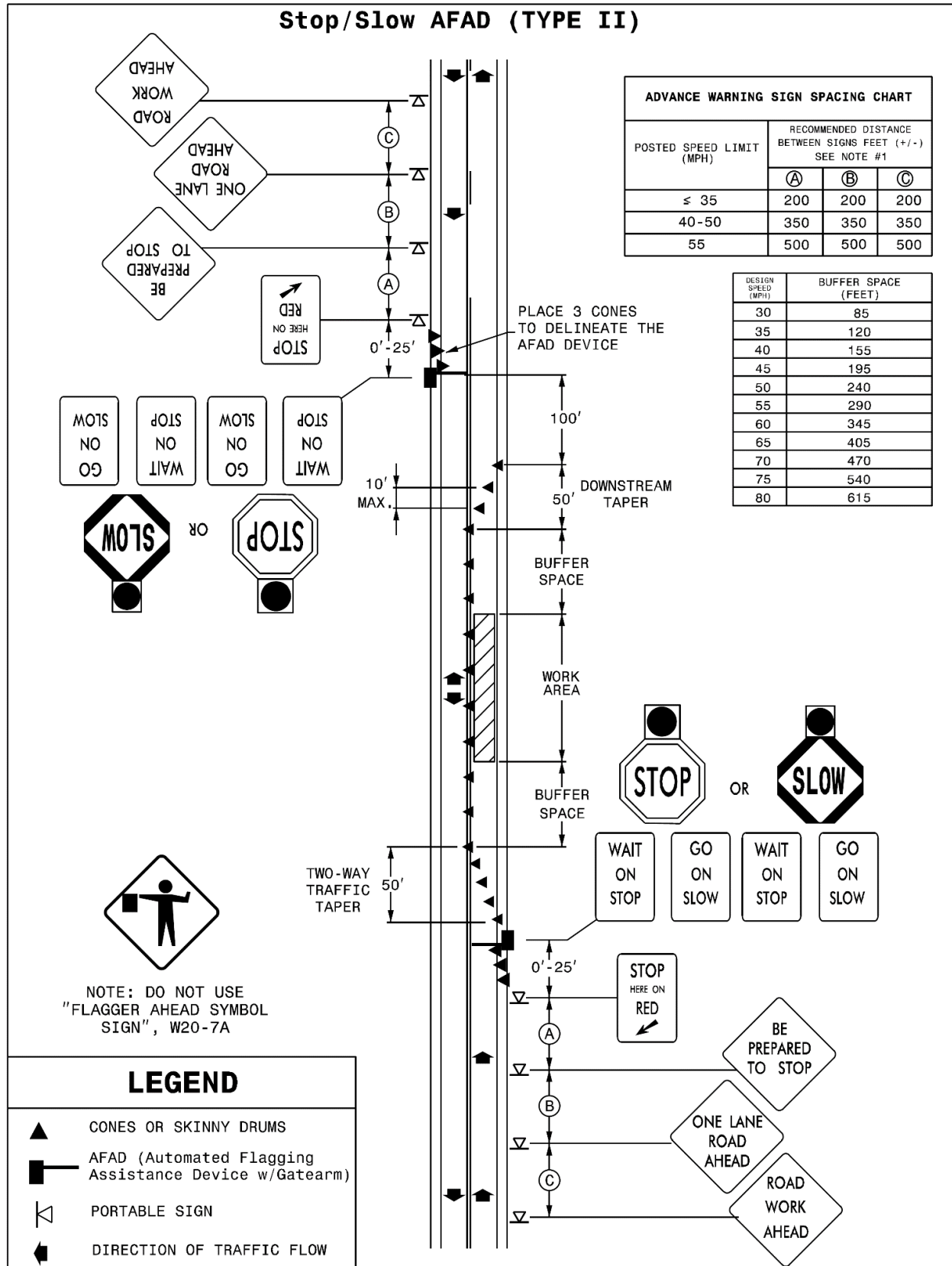
Page 11-14, Article 1150-4, MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, add the following after line 24:

Each AFAD or PTS unit will be measured and paid for as *Flaggers* paid by day in accordance with Article 1150-4 of the *Standard Specifications*. Where the pay item for *Flaggers* is not included in the original contract then no separate payment will be made for this item and payment will be included in the lump sum price bid for *Temporary Traffic Control* found elsewhere in this contract. Each approach controlled by AFAD or PTS units will be measured and paid as one flagger, irrespective of the number of devices used. If multiple PTS units are required to control a single approach, these units will collectively be considered as replacing one flagger.

No separate measurement or payment will be made for AFAD or PTS unit operators, as the cost of such including their training and operational costs shall be included in the unit or lump sum price for *Flaggers* or *Temporary Traffic Control*. Such price and payment also includes the relocation, maintenance, and removal during repair periods of AFAD or PTS units as well as the signal controller, communication, vehicle detection system, traffic signal software of PTS units and any other incidentals necessary to complete the work.

Red/Yellow Lens AFAD (TYPE I)





STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISION**AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS – TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS**

(5-20-08)(Rev. 1-16-24)

Z-2

General Statute 143C-6-11. (h) Highway Appropriation is hereby incorporated verbatim in this contract as follows:

(h) Amounts Encumbered. – Transportation project appropriations may be encumbered in the amount of allotments made to the Department of Transportation by the Director for the estimated payments for transportation project contract work to be performed in the appropriation fiscal year. The allotments shall be multiyear allotments and shall be based on estimated revenues and shall be subject to the maximum contract authority contained in *General Statute 143C-6-11(c)*. Payment for transportation project work performed pursuant to contract in any fiscal year other than the current fiscal year is subject to appropriations by the General Assembly. Transportation project contracts shall contain a schedule of estimated completion progress, and any acceleration of this progress shall be subject to the approval of the Department of Transportation provided funds are available. The State reserves the right to terminate or suspend any transportation project contract, and any transportation project contract shall be so terminated or suspended if funds will not be available for payment of the work to be performed during that fiscal year pursuant to the contract. In the event of termination of any contract, the contractor shall be given a written notice of termination at least 60 days before completion of scheduled work for which funds are available. In the event of termination, the contractor shall be paid for the work already performed in accordance with the contract specifications.

Payment will be made on any contract terminated pursuant to the special provision in accordance with Subarticle 108-13(D) of the *Standard Specifications*.

STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISION
ERRATA

(1-16-24)(Rev. 6-16-26)

Z-4

Revise the *2024 Standard Specifications* as follows:

Division 1

Page 1-1, Article 101-2 ABBREVIATIONS, line 25, replace "American Wood-Preservers' Association" with "American Wood Protection Association".

Page 1-18, Article 102-10 BID BOND OR BID DEPOSIT, line 26, replace " Subarticle 102-8(A)(8)(b)" with "Subarticle 102-8(A)(12)(b)".

Page 1-20, Subarticle 102-14(A) State Funded Projects, line 3, replace "\$30,000" with "\$40,000".

Page 1-20, Subarticle 102-14(B) Federal Aid Projects, line 7, replace "\$30,000" with "\$40,000".

Page 1-36, Subarticle 104-12(B) Evaluation of Proposals, line 21, replace "Design-Build Unit" with "Alternative Delivery Unit".

Page 1-36, Subarticle 104-12(D) Preliminary Review, line 37, replace "Design-Build Unit" with "Alternative Delivery Unit".

Page 1-37, Subarticle 104-12(E) Final Proposal, line 3, replace "Design-Build Unit" with "Alternative Delivery Unit".

Page 1-37, Subarticle 104-12(F) Design-Build VEPs, line 36, replace "Design-Build Unit" with "Alternative Delivery Unit".

Page 1-38, Subarticle 104-12(G) Modifications, line 1, replace "Design-Build Unit" with "Alternative Delivery Unit".

Division 3

Page 3-5, Article 305-2 MATERIALS, after line 16, replace " 1032-3(A)(7)" with "1032-3" and add the item "Galvanized Corrugated Steel Pipe" with Section "1032-3".

Page 3-6, Article 310-2 MATERIALS, after line 9, add the item "Galvanized Corrugated Steel Pipe" with Section "1032-3".

Division 6

Page 6-15, Article 610-1 DESCRIPTION, line 20, replace "The work includes" with "The work includes, but is not limited to,".

Page 6-15, Article 610-1 DESCRIPTION, line 22, replace “applying the tack coat as specified.” with “applying the tack coat in accordance with Section 605.”.

Page 6-30, Article 610-14 DENSITY ACCEPTANCE, line 39, replace “QC process.” with “QC process in accordance with Section 609.”.

Page 6-31, Article 610-16 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, line 13, replace "*Hot Mix Asphalt Pavement*" with "*Asphalt Concrete _____ Course, Type _____*".

Page 6-50, Subarticle 661-4(A) Equipment, lines 4-7, replace the first two sentences of the seventh paragraph with the following:

When an erected fixed stringline is utilized for longitudinal profile and cross slope control furnish and erect the necessary guide line for the equipment.

Division 7

Page 7-18, Subarticle 710-10(A) General, lines 7-8, delete “for *Surface Testing Concrete Pavement*” from the last paragraph.

Division 8

Page 8-27, Article 846-1 DESCRIPTION, line 8, delete “4 inch” from the first paragraph.

Division 9

Page 9-17, Article 904-4 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, prior to line 1, replace " Sign Erection, Relocate Type (Ground Mounted)" with “Sign Erection, Relocate Type ____ (Ground Mounted)”.

Division 10

Page 10-51, Article 1024-4 WATER, prior to line 1, delete the “unpopulated blank row” in Table 1024-2 between “Time of set, deviation from control” and “Chloride Ion Content, Max.”.

Page 10-170, Subarticle 1081-1(C) Requirements, line 4, replace "maximum" with “minimum”.

Division 11

Page 11-15, Article 1160-4 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, line 24, replace “Where barrier units are moved more than one” with “Where barrier units are moved more than once”.

Division 15

Page 15-10, Article 1515-4 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, lines 11, replace " All piping” with “All labor, the manhole, other materials, excavation, backfilling, piping”.

Division 16

Page 16-14, Article 1633-5 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, line 20-24 and prior to line 25, delete and replace with the following " *Flocculant* will be measured and paid in accordance with Article 1642-5 applied to the temporary rock silt checks."

Page 16-3, Article 1609-2 MATERIALS, after line 26, replace "Type 4" with "Type 4a".

Page 16-25, Article 1644-2 MATERIALS, after line 22, replace "Type 4" with "Type 4a".

Page 16-27, Article 1644-5 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, line 31, replace "Article 1630-4" with "Article 1630-3".

Division 17

Page 17-15, Article 1715-4 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, line 23, delete and replace "1.25" with "1-1/4".

Page 17-15, Article 1715-4 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, line 24, delete and replace "(1.25" with " , 1-1/4".

STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISION**PLANT AND PEST QUARANTINES**

(Imported Fire Ant, Guava Root Knot Nematode, Spongy Moth (formerly known as gypsy moth), Witchweed, Cogon Grass, And Any Other Regulated Noxious Weed or Plant Pest)

(3-18-03)(Rev. 3-18-25)

Z-04a

Within Quarantined Area

This project may be within a county regulated for plant and/or pests. If the project or any part of the Contractor's operations is located within a quarantined area, thoroughly clean all equipment prior to moving out of the quarantined area. Comply with federal/state regulations by obtaining a certificate or limited permit for any regulated article moving from the quarantined area.

Originating in a Quarantined County

Obtain a certificate or limited permit issued by the N.C. Department of Agriculture/United States Department of Agriculture. Have the certificate or limited permit accompany the article when it arrives at the project site.

Contact

Contact the N.C. Department of Agriculture/United States Department of Agriculture at 1-800-206-9333, 919-707-3730, or <https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/plant-industry/plant-protection/plant-industry-plant-pest-quarantines> to determine those specific project sites located in the quarantined area or for any regulated article used on this project originating in a quarantined county.

Regulated Articles Include

1. Soil, sand, gravel, compost, peat, humus, muck, and decomposed manure, separately or with other articles. This includes movement of articles listed above that may be associated with cut/waste, ditch pulling, and shoulder cutting.
2. Plants with roots including grass sod.
3. Plant crowns and roots.
4. Bulbs, corms, rhizomes, and tubers of ornamental plants.
5. Hay, straw, fodder, and plant litter of any kind.
6. Clearing and grubbing debris.
7. Used agricultural cultivating and harvesting equipment.
8. Used earth-moving equipment.
9. Any other products, articles, or means of conveyance of any character, if determined by an inspector present a hazard of spreading imported fire ant, guava root knot nematode, spongy moth (formerly known as gypsy moth), witchweed, cogon grass, or other regulated noxious weed or plant pest.

STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISION**MINIMUM WAGES**

(7-21-09)

Z-5

FEDERAL: The Fair Labor Standards Act provides that with certain exceptions every employer shall pay wages at the rate of not less than SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$7.25) per hour.

STATE: The North Carolina Minimum Wage Act provides that every employer shall pay to each of his employees, wages at a rate of not less than SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$7.25) per hour.

The minimum wage paid to all skilled labor employed on this contract shall be SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$7.25) per hour.

The minimum wage paid to all intermediate labor employed on this contract shall be SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$7.25) per hour.

The minimum wage paid to all unskilled labor on this contract shall be SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$7.25) per hour.

This determination of the intent of the application of this act to the contract on this project is the responsibility of the Contractor.

The Contractor shall have no claim against the Department of Transportation for any changes in the minimum wage laws, Federal or State. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to keep fully informed of all Federal and State Laws affecting his contract.

STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISION**TITLE VI AND NONDISCRIMINATION:**

(6-28-77)(Rev 1/16/2024)

Z-6

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is committed to carrying out the U.S. Department of Transportation's policy of ensuring nondiscrimination in the award and administration of contracts.

The provisions of this section related to United States Department of Transportation (US DOT) Order 1050.2A, Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 21, 23 United States Code (U.S.C.) 140 and 23 CFR part 200 (or 49 CFR 303, 49 U.S.C. 5332 or 49 U.S.C. 47123) are applicable to all North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) contracts and to all related subcontracts, material supply, engineering, architectural and other service contracts, regardless of dollar amount. Any Federal provision that is specifically required not specifically set forth is hereby incorporated by reference.

(1) Title VI Assurances (USDOT Order 1050.2A, Appendix A)

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest (hereinafter referred to as the "contractor") agrees as follows:

(a) Compliance with Regulations

The contractor (hereinafter includes consultants) shall comply with the Acts and the Regulations relative to Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), as they may be amended from time to time, which are herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract.

(b) Nondiscrimination

The contractor, with regard to the work performed by it during the contract, shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in the selection and retention of subcontractors, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment. The contractor shall not participate directly or indirectly in the discrimination prohibited by the Acts and the Regulations, including employment practices when the contract covers any activity, project, or program set forth in Appendix B of 49 CFR Part 21.

(c) Solicitations for Subcontractors, Including Procurements of Materials and Equipment

In all solicitations, either by competitive bidding, or negotiation made by the contractor for work to be performed under a subcontract, including procurements of materials, or leases of equipment, each potential subcontractor or supplier shall be notified by the contractor of the contractor's obligations under this contract and the Acts and the Regulations relative to Nondiscrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin.

(d) Information and Reports

The contractor shall provide all information and reports required by the Acts, the Regulations, and directives issued pursuant thereto and shall permit access to its books, records, accounts, other sources of information, and its facilities as may be determined

by the Recipient or the FHWA to be pertinent to ascertain compliance with such Acts, Regulations, and instructions. Where any information required of a contractor is in the exclusive possession of another who fails or refuses to furnish the information, the contractor shall so certify to the Recipient or the FHWA, as appropriate, and shall set forth what efforts it has made to obtain the information.

(e) Sanctions for Noncompliance:

In the event of a contractor's noncompliance with the Non-discrimination provisions of this contract, the Recipient will impose such contract sanctions as it and/or the FHWA may determine to be appropriate, including, but not limited to:

- (i) Withholding payments to the contractor under the contract until the contractor complies; and/or
- (ii) Cancelling, terminating, or suspending a contract, in whole or in part.

(f) Incorporation of Provisions

The contractor shall include the provisions of paragraphs (a) through (f) in every subcontract, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment, unless exempt by the Acts, the Regulations and directives issued pursuant thereto. The contractor shall take action with respect to any subcontract or procurement as the Recipient or the FHWA may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions including sanctions for noncompliance. Provided, that if the contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with litigation by a subcontractor, or supplier because of such direction, the contractor may request the Recipient to enter into any litigation to protect the interests of the Recipient. In addition, the contractor may request the United States to enter into the litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

(2) Title VI Nondiscrimination Program (23 CFR 200.5(p))

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has assured the USDOT that, as a condition to receiving federal financial assistance, NCDOT will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and all requirements imposed by Title 49 CFR part 21 and related nondiscrimination authorities to ensure that no person shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin, limited English proficiency, sex, age, or disability (including religion/creed or income-level, where applicable), be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any programs, activities, or services conducted or funded by NCDOT. Contractors and other organizations under contract or agreement with NCDOT must also comply with Title VI and related authorities, therefore:

- (a) During the performance of this contract or agreement, contractors (e.g., subcontractors, consultants, vendors, prime contractors) are responsible for complying with NCDOT's Title VI Program. Contractors are not required to prepare or submit Title VI Programs. To comply with this section, the prime contractor shall:
 - 1. Post NCDOT's Notice of Nondiscrimination and the Contractor's own Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Policy in conspicuous locations accessible to all employees, applicants and subcontractors on the jobsite.

2. Physically incorporate the required Title VI clauses into all subcontracts on federally-assisted and state-funded NCDOT projects, and ensure inclusion by subcontractors into all lower-tier subcontracts.
 3. Required Solicitation Language. The Contractor shall include the following notification in all solicitations for bids and requests for work or material, regardless of funding source:

“The North Carolina Department of Transportation, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award. In accordance with other related nondiscrimination authorities, bidders and contractors will also not be discriminated against on the grounds of sex, age, disability, low-income level, creed/religion, or limited English proficiency in consideration for an award.”
 4. Physically incorporate the FHWA-1273, in its entirety, into all subcontracts and subsequent lower tier subcontracts on Federal-aid highway construction contracts only.
 5. Provide language assistance services (i.e., written translation and oral interpretation), free of charge, to LEP employees and applicants. Contact NCDOT OCR for further assistance, if needed.
 6. For assistance with these Title VI requirements, contact the NCDOT Title VI Nondiscrimination Program at 1-800-522-0453.
- (b) Subrecipients (e.g. cities, counties, LGAs, planning organizations) may be required to prepare and submit a Title VI Plan to NCDOT, including Title VI Assurances and/or agreements. Subrecipients must also ensure compliance by their contractors and subrecipients with Title VI. (23 CFR 200.9(b)(7))
 - (c) If reviewed or investigated by NCDOT, the contractor or subrecipient agrees to take affirmative action to correct any deficiencies found within a reasonable time period, not to exceed 90 calendar days, unless additional time is granted by NCDOT. (23 CFR 200.9(b)(15))
 - (d) The Contractor is responsible for notifying subcontractors of NCDOT’s External Discrimination Complaints Process.
 1. Applicability

Title VI and related laws protect participants and beneficiaries (e.g., members of the public and contractors) from discrimination by NCDOT employees, subrecipients and contractors, regardless of funding source.

2. Eligibility

Any person—or class of persons—who believes he/she has been subjected to discrimination based on race, color, national origin, Limited English Proficiency (LEP), sex, age, or disability (and religion in the context of employment, aviation, or transit) may file a written complaint. The law also prohibits intimidation or retaliation of any sort.

3. Time Limits and Filing Options

Complaints may be filed by the affected individual(s) or a representative and must be filed no later than 180 calendar days after the following:

- (i) The date of the alleged act of discrimination; or
- (ii) The date when the person(s) became aware of the alleged discrimination; or
- (iii) Where there has been a continuing course of conduct, the date on which that conduct was discontinued or the latest instance of the conduct.

Title VI and related discrimination complaints may be submitted to the following entities:

- North Carolina Department of Transportation, Office of Civil Rights, Title VI Program, 1511 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1511; toll free 1-800-522-0453
- Federal Highway Administration, North Carolina Division Office, 310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410, Raleigh, NC 27601, 919-747-7010
- US Department of Transportation, Departmental Office of Civil Rights, External Civil Rights Programs Division, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590; 202-366-4070

4. Format for Complaints

Complaints must be in writing and signed by the complainant(s) or a representative, and include the complainant's name, address, and telephone number. Complaints received by fax or e-mail will be acknowledged and processed. Allegations received by telephone will be reduced to writing and provided to the complainant for confirmation or revision before processing. Complaints will be accepted in other languages, including Braille.

5. Discrimination Complaint Form

Contact NCDOT Civil Rights to receive a full copy of the Discrimination Complaint Form and procedures.

6. Complaint Basis

Allegations must be based on issues involving race, color, national origin (LEP), sex, age, disability, or religion (in the context of employment, aviation or transit). "Basis" refers to the complainant's membership in a protected group category.

**TABLE 103-1
COMPLAINT BASIS**

Protected Categories	Definition	Examples	Applicable Nondiscrimination Authorities
Race and Ethnicity	An individual belonging to one of the accepted racial groups; or the perception, based usually on physical characteristics that a person is a member of a racial group	Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, White	Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 49 CFR Part 21; 23 CFR 200; 49 U.S.C. 5332(b); 49 U.S.C. 47123. <i>(Executive Order 13166)</i>
Color	Color of skin, including shade of skin within a racial group	Black, White, brown, yellow, etc.	
National Origin <i>(Limited English Proficiency)</i>	Place of birth. Citizenship is not a factor. <i>(Discrimination based on language or a person's accent is also covered)</i>	Mexican, Cuban, Japanese, Vietnamese, Chinese	
Sex	Gender. The sex of an individual. <i>Note:</i> Sex under this program does not include sexual orientation.	Women and Men	1973 Federal-Aid Highway Act; 49 U.S.C. 5332(b); 49 U.S.C. 47123.
Age	Persons of any age	21-year-old person	Age Discrimination Act of 1975 49 U.S.C. 5332(b); 49 U.S.C. 47123.
Disability	Physical or mental impairment, permanent or temporary, or perceived.	Blind, alcoholic, para-amputee, epileptic, diabetic, arthritic	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
Religion (in the context of employment) <i>(Religion/ Creed in all aspects of any aviation or transit-related construction)</i>	An individual belonging to a religious group; or the perception, based on distinguishable characteristics that a person is a member of a religious group. In practice, actions taken as a result of the moral and ethical beliefs as to what is right and wrong, which are sincerely held with the strength of traditional religious views. <i>Note:</i> Does not have to be associated with a recognized religious group or church; if an individual sincerely holds to the belief, it is a protected religious practice.	Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Hindu, etc.	Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 23 CFR 230; FHWA-1273 Required Contract Provisions. <i>(49 U.S.C. 5332(b); 49 U.S.C. 47123)</i>

(3) Pertinent Nondiscrimination Authorities

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest agrees to comply with the following non-discrimination statutes and authorities, including, but not limited to:

- (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq., 78 stat. 252), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin); and 49 CFR Part 21.

- (b) The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, (42 U.S.C. § 4601), (prohibits unfair treatment of persons displaced or whose property has been acquired because of Federal or Federal-aid programs and projects);
- (c) Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973, (23 U.S.C. § 324 et seq.), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex);
- (d) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, (29 U.S.C. § 794 et seq.), as amended, (prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability) and 49 CFR Part 27;
- (e) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, (42 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq.), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of age);
- (f) Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982, (49 USC § 471, Section 47123), as amended, (prohibits discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, or sex);
- (g) The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, (PL 100-209), (Broadened the scope, coverage and applicability of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, by expanding the definition of the terms "programs or activities" to include all of the programs or activities of the Federal-aid recipients, sub-recipients and contractors, whether such programs or activities are Federally funded or not);
- (h) Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability in the operation of public entities, public and private transportation systems, places of public accommodation, and certain testing entities (42 U.S.C. §§ 12131-12189) as implemented by Department of Transportation regulations at 49 C.F.R. parts 37 and 38;
- (i) The Federal Aviation Administration's Nondiscrimination statute (49 U.S.C. § 47123) (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, and sex);
- (j) Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, which ensures Nondiscrimination against minority populations by discouraging programs, policies, and activities with disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations;
- (k) Executive Order 13166, Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency, and resulting agency guidance, national origin discrimination includes discrimination because of Limited English proficiency (LEP). To ensure compliance with Title VI, you must take reasonable steps to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to your programs (70 Fed. Reg. at 74087 to 74100);
- (l) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, which prohibits you from discriminating because of sex in education programs or activities (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq).
- (m) Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq., Pub. L. 88-352), (prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin).

(4) Additional Title VI Assurances

***The following Title VI Assurances (Appendices B, C and D) shall apply, as applicable*

- (a) Clauses for Deeds Transferring United States Property (1050.2A, Appendix B)

The following clauses will be included in deeds effecting or recording the transfer of real property, structures, or improvements thereon, or granting interest therein from the United States pursuant to the provisions of Assurance 4.

NOW, THEREFORE, the U.S. Department of Transportation as authorized by law and upon the condition that the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will accept title to the lands and maintain the project constructed thereon in accordance with the North Carolina General Assembly, the Regulations for the Administration of the Federal-Aid Highway Program, and the policies and procedures prescribed by the Federal Highway Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation in accordance and in compliance with all requirements imposed by Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, U.S. Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation pertaining to and effectuating the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252; 42 U.S.C. § 2000d to 2000d-4), does hereby remise, release, quitclaim and convey unto the NCDOT all the right, title and interest of the U.S. Department of Transportation in and to said lands described in Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof.

(HABENDUM CLAUSE)

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD said lands and interests therein unto the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and its successors forever, subject, however, to the covenants, conditions, restrictions and reservations herein contained as follows, which will remain in effect for the period during which the real property or structures are used for a purpose for which Federal financial assistance is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits and will be binding on the NCDOT, its successors and assigns.

The NCDOT, in consideration of the conveyance of said lands and interests in lands, does hereby covenant and agree as a covenant running with the land for itself, its successors and assigns, that (1) no person will on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination with regard to any facility located wholly or in part on, over, or under such lands hereby conveyed [,] [and]* (2) that the NCDOT will use the lands and interests in lands and interests in lands so conveyed, in compliance with all requirements imposed by or pursuant to Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, U.S. Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and as said Regulations and Acts may be amended [, and (3) that in the event of breach of any of the above-mentioned nondiscrimination conditions, the Department will have a right to enter or re-enter said lands and facilities on said land, and that above described land and facilities will thereon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the U.S. Department of Transportation and its assigns as such interest existed prior to this instruction].*

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary in order to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

(b) Clauses for Transfer of Real Property Acquired or Improved Under the Activity, Facility, or Program (1050.2A, Appendix C)

The following clauses will be included in deeds, licenses, leases, permits, or similar instruments entered into by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) pursuant to the provisions of Assurance 7(a):

1. The (grantee, lessee, permittee, etc. as appropriate) for himself/herself, his/her heirs, personal representatives, successors in interest, and assigns, as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree [in the case of deeds and leases add "as a covenant running with the land"] that:
 - (i.) In the event facilities are constructed, maintained, or otherwise operated on the property described in this (deed, license, lease, permit, etc.) for a purpose for which a U.S. Department of Transportation activity, facility, or program is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits, the (grantee, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc.) will maintain and operate such facilities and services in compliance with all requirements imposed by the Acts and Regulations (as may be amended) such that no person on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of said facilities.
2. With respect to licenses, leases, permits, etc., in the event of breach of any of the above Nondiscrimination covenants, the NCDOT will have the right to terminate the (lease, license, permit, etc.) and to enter, re-enter, and repossess said lands and facilities thereon, and hold the same as if the (lease, license, permit, etc.) had never been made or issued. *
3. With respect to a deed, in the event of breach of any of the above Nondiscrimination covenants, the NCDOT will have the right to enter or re-enter the lands and facilities thereon, and the above described lands and facilities will there upon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the NCDOT and its assigns. *

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

(c) Clauses for Construction/Use/Access to Real Property Acquired Under the Activity, Facility or Program (1050.2A, Appendix D)

The following clauses will be included in deeds, licenses, permits, or similar instruments/ agreements entered into by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) pursuant to the provisions of Assurance 7(b):

1. The (grantee, licensee, permittee, etc., as appropriate) for himself/herself, his/her heirs, personal representatives, successors in interest, and assigns, as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree (in the case of deeds and leases add, "as a covenant running with the land") that (1) no person on the ground of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of said facilities, (2) that in the construction of any improvements on, over, or under such land, and the furnishing of services thereon, no person on the ground of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination, (3) that the (grantee, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc.) will use the premises in compliance with all other requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Acts and Regulations, as amended, set forth in this Assurance.
2. With respect to (licenses, leases, permits, etc.), in the event of breach of any of the above Non- discrimination covenants, the NCDOT will have the right to terminate the (license, permit, etc., as appropriate) and to enter or re-enter and repossess said land and the facilities thereon, and hold the same as if said (license, permit, etc., as appropriate) had never been made or issued. *
3. With respect to deeds, in the event of breach of any of the above Nondiscrimination covenants, the NCDOT will there upon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the NCDOT and its assigns. *

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISION**ON-THE-JOB TRAINING**

(10-16-07) (Rev. 4-21-15)

Z-10

Description

The North Carolina Department of Transportation will administer a custom version of the Federal On-the-Job Training (OJT) Program, commonly referred to as the Alternate OJT Program. All contractors (existing and newcomers) will be automatically placed in the Alternate Program. Standard OJT requirements typically associated with individual projects will no longer be applied at the project level. Instead, these requirements will be applicable on an annual basis for each contractor administered by the OJT Program Manager.

On the Job Training shall meet the requirements of 23 CFR 230.107 (b), 23 USC – Section 140, this provision and the On-the-Job Training Program Manual.

The Alternate OJT Program will allow a contractor to train employees on Federal, State and privately funded projects located in North Carolina. However, priority shall be given to training employees on NCDOT Federal-Aid funded projects.

Minorities and Women

Developing, training and upgrading of minorities and women toward journeyman level status is a primary objective of this special training provision. Accordingly, the Contractor shall make every effort to enroll minority and women as trainees to the extent that such persons are available within a reasonable area of recruitment. This training commitment is not intended, and shall not be used, to discriminate against any applicant for training, whether a member of a minority group or not.

Assigning Training Goals

The Department, through the OJT Program Manager, will assign training goals for a calendar year based on the contractors' past three years' activity and the contractors' anticipated upcoming year's activity with the Department. At the beginning of each year, all contractors eligible will be contacted by the Department to determine the number of trainees that will be assigned for the upcoming calendar year. At that time the Contractor shall enter into an agreement with the Department to provide a self-imposed on-the-job training program for the calendar year. This agreement will include a specific number of annual training goals agreed to by both parties. The number of training assignments may range from 1 to 15 per contractor per calendar year. The Contractor shall sign an agreement to fulfill their annual goal for the year.\

Training Classifications

The Contractor shall provide on-the-job training aimed at developing full journeyman level workers in the construction craft/operator positions. Preference shall be given to providing training in the following skilled work classifications:

Equipment Operators	Office Engineers
Truck Drivers	Estimators
Carpenters	Iron / Reinforcing Steel Workers
Concrete Finishers	Mechanics
Pipe Layers	Welders

The Department has established common training classifications and their respective training requirements that may be used by the contractors. However, the classifications established are not all-inclusive. Where the training is oriented toward construction applications, training will be allowed in lower-level management positions such as office engineers and estimators. Contractors shall submit new classifications for specific job functions that their employees are performing. The Department will review and recommend for acceptance to FHWA the new classifications proposed by contractors, if applicable. New classifications shall meet the following requirements:

Proposed training classifications are reasonable and realistic based on the job skill classification needs, and

The number of training hours specified in the training classification is consistent with common practices and provides enough time for the trainee to obtain journeyman level status.

The Contractor may allow trainees to be trained by a subcontractor provided that the Contractor retains primary responsibility for meeting the training and this provision is made applicable to the subcontract. However, only the Contractor will receive credit towards the annual goal for the trainee.

Where feasible, 25 percent of apprentices or trainees in each occupation shall be in their first year of apprenticeship or training. The number of trainees shall be distributed among the work classifications on the basis of the contractor's needs and the availability of journeymen in the various classifications within a reasonable area of recruitment.

No employee shall be employed as a trainee in any classification in which they have successfully completed a training course leading to journeyman level status or in which they have been employed as a journeyman.

Records and Reports

The Contractor shall maintain enrollment, monthly and completion reports documenting company compliance under these contract documents. These documents and any other information as requested shall be submitted to the OJT Program Manager.

Upon completion and graduation of the program, the Contractor shall provide each trainee with a certification Certificate showing the type and length of training satisfactorily completed.

Trainee Interviews

All trainees enrolled in the program will receive an initial and Trainee/Post graduate interview conducted by the OJT program staff.

Trainee Wages

Contractors shall compensate trainees on a graduating pay scale based upon a percentage of the prevailing minimum journeyman wages (Davis-Bacon Act). Minimum pay shall be as follows:

60 percent	of the journeyman wage for the first half of the training period
75 percent	of the journeyman wage for the third quarter of the training period
90 percent	of the journeyman wage for the last quarter of the training period

In no instance shall a trainee be paid less than the local minimum wage. The Contractor shall adhere to the minimum hourly wage rate that will satisfy both the NC Department of Labor (NCDOL) and the Department.

Achieving or Failing to Meet Training Goals

The Contractor will be credited for each trainee employed by him on the contract work who is currently enrolled or becomes enrolled in an approved program and who receives training for at least 50 percent of the specific program requirement. Trainees will be allowed to be transferred between projects if required by the Contractor's scheduled workload to meet training goals.

If a contractor fails to attain their training assignments for the calendar year, they may be taken off the NCDOT's Bidders List.

Measurement and Payment

No compensation will be made for providing required training in accordance with these contract documents.

STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISION**ON-THE-JOB TRAINING**

(10-16-07) (Rev. 6-16-26)

Z-10

Description

The North Carolina Department of Transportation administers a custom version of the Federal On-the-Job Training (OJT) Program, commonly referred to as the Alternative OJT Program. All Contractors will be automatically placed in the Alternative OJT Program.

The Alternate OJT Program will allow a Contractor to train employees on Federal, State and privately funded projects located in North Carolina. However, priority shall be given to training employees on NCDOT Federal-Aid funded projects.

On the Job Training shall meet the requirements of 23 CFR 230.107 (b), 23 USC – Section 140, this special provision and the NCDOT On-the-Job Training Program Manual.

Minorities and Women

Developing, training and upgrading of minorities and women toward journeyman level status is a primary objective of this special provision. Accordingly, the Contractor shall make every effort to enroll minority and women as trainees to the extent that such persons are available within a reasonable area of recruitment. This training commitment is not intended, and shall not be used, to discriminate against any applicant for training, whether a member of a minority group or not.

Assigning Training Goals

The Department, through the OJT Program Unit, will assign annual training goals based on the Contractor's activity over the past three years' on federal projects with the Department. At the beginning of each year, all eligible Contractors will be contacted by the Department to determine the number of trainees that will be assigned for the upcoming calendar year. At that time, the Contractor shall enter into an agreement with the Department to implement a self-imposed on-the-job training program for the calendar year. This agreement will specify the annual training goals agreed upon by both parties. The number of training assignments may range from 1 to 15 per Contractor per calendar year, unless a higher number is agreed to by the Contractor. The Contractor shall sign an agreement committing to fulfill their annual goal for the year.

Training Classifications

The Contractor shall provide on-the-job training aimed at developing full journeyman level workers in the construction craft/operator positions.

The Department has established common training classifications and their respective training requirements that may be used by the Contractors. However, the classifications established are not all-inclusive. Where the training is oriented toward construction applications, training will be allowed in lower-level management positions such as office engineers and estimators. Contractors shall submit new classifications for specific job functions that their employees are performing.

The Department will review and recommend for acceptance to FHWA the new classifications proposed by contractors, if applicable. New classifications shall meet the following requirements:

Proposed training classifications are reasonable and realistic based on the job skill classification needs, and

The number of training hours specified in the training classification is consistent with common practices and provides enough time for the trainee to obtain journeyman level status.

The Contractor may allow trainees to be trained by a subcontractor provided that the Contractor retains primary responsibility for meeting the training and this special provision is made applicable to the subcontract. However, only the Contractor will receive credit towards the annual goal for the trainee.

Where feasible, 25 percent of trainees in each occupation shall be in their first year of training. The number of trainees shall be distributed among the work classifications on the basis of the Contractor's needs and the availability of journeymen in the various classifications within a reasonable area of recruitment.

No employee shall be employed as a trainee in any classification in which they have successfully completed a training course leading to journeyman level status or in which they have been employed as a journeyman.

Records and Reports

The Contractor shall maintain enrollment, monthly and completion reports documenting company compliance under these contract documents. These documents and any other information as requested shall be submitted to the OJT Program Manager.

Upon completion and graduation of the program, the Contractor shall provide each trainee with a certification Certificate showing the type and length of training satisfactorily completed.

Trainee Interviews

All trainees enrolled in the program will receive at minimum an initial and Trainee/Post graduate interview conducted by the OJT program staff.

Trainee Wages

Contractors shall compensate trainees on a graduating pay scale based upon a percentage of the prevailing minimum journeyman wages (Davis-Bacon Act). Minimum pay shall be as follows:

60 percent	of the journeyman wage for the first half of the training period
75 percent	of the journeyman wage for the third quarter of the training period
90 percent	of the journeyman wage for the last quarter of the training period

In no instance shall a trainee be paid less than the local minimum wage. The Contractor shall adhere to the minimum hourly wage rate that will satisfy both the NC Department of Labor (NCDOL) and the Department.

Achieving or Failing to Meet Training Goals

The Contractor will be credited for each trainee currently enrolled or becomes enrolled in an approved program and who receives training for at least 50 percent of the specific program requirement. Trainees will be allowed to be transferred between projects if required by the Contractor's scheduled workload to meet training goals.

If a Contractor fails to attain their training assignments for the calendar year, they may be taken off the NCDOT's Bidders List.

Measurement and Payment

No compensation will be made for providing required training in accordance with these contract documents.

STEEL SQUARE TUBE SUPPORTS, OMNI-DIRECTIONAL:

(06-09-26)

903

PSP 9 SN

Description

Furnish, assemble, and install omni-directional steel square tube ground mounted and barrier mounted signs supports.

Materials

Refer to Division 10 of the *Standard Specifications*.

Item

Steel Square Tube Supports

Section

1094-1(D)

These omni-directional breakaway sign supports allow for sign panel orientation after the anchor is secured. Supports shall provide 100% of the signpost's strength capacity for wind loading in accordance with *AASHTO Standard Specifications for Structural Supports for Highway Signs, Luminaires and Traffic Signals*, and the Interim Specifications.

Ensure the Steel Square Tube omni-directional breakaway sign support meets NCHRP 350 or MASH, based on the federal safety evaluation for the current design, crashworthiness criteria. All components, except the shearing component, must be reusable after impact.

Ensure sign support bases are compatible with the omni-directional breakaway system. The support shall be of the size and gauge specified in the work order. Provide materials that are listed on the NCDOT Approved Product List.

Steel Square Tube omni-directional breakaway sign support shall be perforated. Use compatible hardware and supports to maintain crashworthiness and strength in accordance with NCHRP 350 or MASH, based on the federal safety evaluation for the current design.

Page 10-214, Subarticle 1094-1(D) Steel Square Tube Supports, delete and replace lines 36-43 of the *Standard Specifications* as follows:

Use steel square tube supports of variable length galvanized steel. The support shall be a minimum 14 gauge steel square tube. These supports shall be manufactured using domestic steel conforming to ASTM 1011, Grade 50. Minimum yield strength after cold forming shall be 60,000 psi. These supports shall be galvanized in accordance with ASTM A653 or ASTM A123 depending on the manufacturing process and meet G90 galvanizing requirements. Both the interior and exterior of the post shall be galvanized and all coating applications shall occur in the United States.

The posts shall be corner welded and scarfed as necessary to allow sections to telescope within each other. The finished posts shall be machine straightened and have a smooth uniform finish free from cracks, flaws, injurious seams, laps, blisters, and edges which are ragged, sharp, and imperfect, or other defects affecting their strength, durability, or

appearance. The maximum variation in straightness shall be no more than 1/4 in. in any 5 ft of length. For perforated square tubes, cut holes or knockout holes of 7/16 in. diameter shall be spaced on 1 in. centers, on the centerlines of all four sides in true alignment, and opposite to each other for back to back applications. All holes and sheared ends shall be free from burrs. The steel shall also be coated with a conversion coating and a clear organic polymer topcoat.

The zinc coating nor manufacturing process shall interfere with the telescoping properties of steel square supports. The zinc coating inside of the 7/16 inch diameter holes of perforated supports shall not exceed specification requirements enough to prevent a 3/8 inch diameter bolt from freely passing through. These supports should contain a manufacturer's mark for traceability after installation. Provide a Type 2 material certification in accordance with Article 106-3 of the *Standard Specifications* upon Engineer request.

Construction Methods

Install square tube sign supports in accordance with Section 903 of the *Standard Specifications*.

Mount sign support bases using a direct drive soil anchor, embedded flush mounting or surface mounting. Adhesive mounting is not permitted.

Measurement and Payment

Supports, Steel Square Tube ____ will be measured and paid as the actual number of linear feet of steel square tube supports incorporated into the completed and accepted supports and assemblies. Measurements of length will be made to the nearest 1/10 of a foot.

No additional payment will be made for cross braces, brackets, nuts, bolts and washers that are part of the sign support, as they will be incidental to the work.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item

Supports, Steel Square Tube 2" x 14-Gauge Heavy Duty Anchor
Supports, Steel Square Tube 2" x 14-Gauge with 2.25" 12-Gauge Sleeve
Supports, Steel Square Tube 2" x 14-Gauge Surface Mount
Supports, Steel Square Tube 2.1875" x 10-Gauge
Supports, Steel Square Tube 2.5" x 12-Gauge Heavy Duty Anchor
Supports, Steel Square Tube 2.5" x 12-Gauge Easy Drive Anchor
Supports, Steel Square Tube 2.5" x 10-Gauge
Supports, Steel Square Tube 2.5" x 10-Gauge Slip Base
Supports, Steel Square Tube 4"
Supports, Steel Square Tube 4" Slip Base

Pay Unit

Linear Foot
Linear Foot
Linear Foot
Linear Foot
Linear Foot
Linear Foot
Linear Foot
Linear Foot
Linear Foot



06/10/2026

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Division-Wide

WORK ZONE TRAFFIC CONTROL

Project Special Provisions

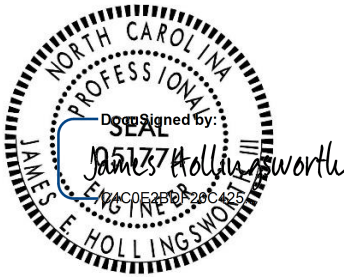
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Temporary Traffic Control

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06/10/2026

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL

(9/1/2021) (10/13/2023) (Rev. 12/17/2024)

General Requirements

Maintain traffic on all roads in accordance with Divisions 10, 11 and 12 of the *NCDOT Standard Specifications* and the following provisions:

Install Work Zone Advance Warning Signs when work is within 40 feet from the edge of the travel lane in accordance with Standard Drawing No. 1101.01 of the *NCDOT Roadway Standard Drawings* prior to beginning any other work. If signs are installed more than 3 calendar days prior to the beginning of work, cover the signs until the work begins. Install each work zone advance warning sign separately and not on the same post or stand with any other sign.

When personnel and/or equipment are working within 15 feet of an open travel lane, close the nearest open shoulder using Standard Drawing No. 1101.04 of the *NCDOT Roadway Standard Drawings* unless the work area is protected by barrier or guardrail or a lane closure is installed.

When personnel and/or equipment are working within 5 feet of an open travel lane of an undivided facility, close the nearest open travel lane using Standard Drawing No. 1101.02 of the *NCDOT Roadway Standard Drawings* unless the work area is protected by barrier or guardrail.

When personnel and/or equipment are working within 10 feet of an open travel lane of a divided facility, close the nearest open travel lane using Standard Drawing No. 1101.02 of the *NCDOT Roadway Standard Drawings*, unless the work area is protected by barrier or guardrail.

When personnel and/or equipment are working within a lane of travel of an undivided or divided facility, close the lane using Standard Drawing No. 1101.02 of the *NCDOT Roadway Standard Drawings* or as directed by the Engineer.

Conduct the work so that all personnel and/or equipment remain within the closed travel lane. Perform work only when weather and visibility conditions allow safe operations as directed by the Engineer.

Do not work simultaneously within 15 feet on both sides of an open travel way, ramp, or loop within the same location, unless protected with guardrail or barrier.

Remove lane closure devices from the lane when work is not being performed behind the lane closure or when a lane closure is no longer needed or as directed by the Engineer.

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DN12231962

Division-Wide

At the discretion of the Contractor, automated flagging assistance devices (AFAD) or portable traffic signals (PTS) may be used to assist, supplement, or replace human flaggers in accordance with the *Flaggers* provision found elsewhere in this contract.

Temporary Traffic Control (TTC)

Refer to Standard Drawing No. 1101.02, 1101.03, 1101.04, 1101.11, 1110.01, 1110.02, 1115.01, 1130.01, 1135.01, 1145.01, 1150.01, 1165.01, and 1180.01 of the *NCDOT Roadway Standard Drawings* when closing a lane of travel or shoulder in the work zone.

Notify the Engineer 30 calendar days prior to any traffic pattern alteration.

Ensure all necessary signing is in place prior to altering any traffic pattern.

When lane closures are not in effect, space channelizing devices in work areas no greater in feet than twice the posted speed limit (MPH), except 10 feet on-center in radii, and 3 feet off the edge of an open travelway. Refer to *NCDOT Standard Specifications* Sections 1130 (Drums), 1135 (Cones), and 1180 (Skinny Drums) for additional requirements.

Place additional sets of three channelizing devices (Drums, Cones, or Skinny Drums) perpendicular to the edge of travelway on 100 to 500 feet centers, as directed by the Engineer, when unopened lanes are closed to traffic.

Place Type III Barricades with “ROAD CLOSED” sign R11-2 attached, of sufficient length to close the entire roadway.

Install black on orange “DIP” (W8-2) and/or “BUMP” (W8-1) signs in advance of the uneven area in accordance with Standard Drawing 1101.11, or as directed by the Engineer.

Project Requirements

Failure to comply with the following requirements will result in a suspension of all other operations:

1. Prior to beginning work, the Contractor shall submit a written construction sequence for traffic control and construction lighting to the Engineer at the first pre-construction meeting and the sequence must be approved before closing a lane of traffic.
2. Obtain written approval of the Engineer before working in more than one location or setting

TC-4

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Division-Wide

up additional lane closures. The maximum length of any one lane closure is 1 mile unless otherwise directed by the Engineer.

3. If Lane Closure Restrictions apply, see Special Provision, "Intermediate Contract Times and Liquidated Damages".
4. Contractor shall conduct operations in an order such that water does not accumulate.
5. The Contractor on this and any adjacent projects, or subcontractors working within this project shall coordinate lane closure location, type, and direction with the Engineer to best maintain lane continuity through the limits of this and adjacent projects.
6. Operate paving equipment and conduct paving operations in the same direction as the flow of traffic unless the operation is protected by barrier or guardrail or as directed by the Engineer. Maintain vehicular access in accordance with Section 1101-05 of the *NCDOT Standard Specifications*.
7. Provide appropriate construction lighting in accordance with Section 1413 of the *NCDOT Standard Specifications*.

Measurement and Payment

Temporary Traffic Control (Each) shall include but not be limited to providing Signs (portable, stationary, and/or barricade mounted), including detour signing, Barricades, Truck Mounted Attenuators (TMA), Portable Changeable Message Signs (PCMS), Flashing Arrow Boards (FAB), Pilot Vehicle, Flaggers (including AFAD or PTS units), Cones, Skinny Drums and Drums as shown in the applicable Roadway Standard Drawings and all labor, tools, equipment and incidentals necessary to furnish, install, maintain and remove traffic control devices when no longer required.

Temporary Traffic Control (Each) does not include Portable Concrete Barrier, Waterfilled Barrier, Temporary Crash Cushions, Digital Speed Limit Signs, Sequential Flashing Lights, or Presence Lights as these devices are beyond the scope of this provision.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item	Pay Unit
Two Lane Work Zone Traffic Control	Each
Multi-Lane Work Zone Traffic Control	Each
Shoulder Closure Work Zone Traffic Control	Each

PROJECT SPECIAL PROVISIONS**EROSION CONTROL****CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS MANAGEMENT**

(3-19-19) (rev. 04-27-20)

Description

The requirements set forth shall be adhered to in order to meet the applicable materials handling requirements of the NCG010000 permit. Structural controls installed to manage construction materials stored or used on site shall be shown on the E&SC Plan. Requirements for handling materials on construction sites shall be as follows:

Polyacrylamides (PAMS) and Flocculants

Polyacrylamides (PAMS) and flocculants shall be stored in leak-proof containers that are kept under storm-resistant cover or surrounded by secondary containment structures designed to protect adjacent surface waters. PAMS or other flocculants used shall be selected from the NC DWR List of Approved PAMS/Flocculants. The concentration of PAMS and other flocculants used shall not exceed those specified in the NC DWR List of Approved PAMS/Flocculants and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. The NC DWR List of Approved PAMS/Flocculants is available at:

https://files.nc.gov/ncdeq/Water+Quality/Environmental+Sciences/ATU/PAM8_30_18.pdf

Equipment Fluids

Fuels, lubricants, coolants, and hydraulic fluids, and other petroleum products shall be handled and disposed of in a manner so as not to enter surface or ground waters and in accordance with applicable state and federal regulations. Equipment used on the site must be operated and maintained properly to prevent discharge of fluids. Equipment, vehicle, and other wash waters shall not be discharged into E&SC basins or other E&SC devices. Alternative controls should be provided such that there is no discharge of soaps, solvents, or detergents.

Waste Materials

Construction materials and land clearing waste shall be disposed of in accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, Chapter 130A, Article 9 - Solid Waste Management, and rules governing the disposal of solid waste (15A NCAC 13B). Areas dedicated for managing construction material and land clearing waste shall be at least 50 feet away from storm drain inlets and surface waters unless it can be shown that no other alternatives are reasonably available. Paint and other liquid construction material waste shall not be dumped into storm drains. Paint and other liquid construction waste washouts should be located at least 50 feet away from storm drain inlets unless there is no alternative. Other options are to install lined washouts or use portable, removable bags or bins. Hazardous or toxic waste shall be managed in accordance with the federal Resource

Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and NC Hazardous Waste Rules at 15A NCAC, Subchapter 13A. Litter and sanitary waste shall be managed in a manner to prevent it from entering jurisdictional waters and shall be disposed of offsite.

Herbicide, Pesticide, and Rodenticides

Herbicide, pesticide, and rodenticides shall be stored and applied in accordance with the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, North Carolina Pesticide Law of 1971 and labeling restrictions.

Concrete Materials

Concrete materials onsite, including excess concrete, must be controlled and managed to avoid contact with surface waters, wetlands or buffers. No concrete or cement slurry shall be discharged from the site. (Note that discharges from onsite concrete plants require coverage under a separate NPDES permit – NCG140000.) Concrete wash water shall be managed in accordance with the *Concrete Washout Structure* provision. Concrete slurry shall be managed and disposed of in accordance with *NCDOT DGS and HOS DCAR Distribution of Class A Residuals Statewide* (Permit No. WQ0035749). Any hardened concrete residue will be disposed of, or recycled on site, in accordance with state solid waste regulations.

Earthen Material Stock Piles

Earthen material stock piles shall be located at least 50 feet away from storm drain inlets and surface waters unless it can be shown that no other alternatives are reasonably available.

Measurement and Payment

Conditions set within the *Construction Materials Management* provision are incidental to the project for which no direct compensation will be made.

WASTE AND BORROW SOURCES:

(2-16-11) (Rev. 3-17-22)

Payment for temporary erosion control measures, except those made necessary by the Contractor's own negligence or for his own convenience, will be paid for at the appropriate contract unit price for the devices or measures utilized in borrow sources and waste areas.

No additional payment will be made for erosion control devices or permanent seeding and mulching in any commercial borrow or waste pit. All erosion and sediment control practices that may be required on a commercial borrow or waste site will be done at the Contractor's expense.

All offsite Staging Areas, Borrow and Waste sites shall be in accordance with "Borrow and Waste Site Reclamation Procedures for Contracted Projects" located at:

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/roadside/FieldOperationsDocuments/Contract%20Reclamation%20Procedures.pdf>

All forms and documents referenced in the "Borrow and Waste Site Reclamation Procedures for Contracted Projects" shall be included with the reclamation plans for offsite staging areas, and borrow and waste sites.

DN12231962

Contract No.

Rev. 10-31-24

County Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Polk, Transylvania, Swain

**EXECUTION OF CONTRACT
NON-COLLUSION, DEBARMENT AND GIFT BAN CERTIFICATION**

CORPORATION

The Contractor declares (or certifies, verifies, or states) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that neither he, nor any official, agent or employee has entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action which is in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with this Contract, that the Contractor has not been convicted of violating *N.C.G.S. § 133-24* within the last three years, and that the Contractor intends to do the work with its own bona fide employees or subcontractors and did not bid for the benefit of another contractor.

By submitting this Execution of Contract, non-collusion, debarment and gift ban certification, the Contractor is certifying his status under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States in accordance with the Debarment Certification attached, provided that the Debarment Certification also includes any required statements concerning exceptions that are applicable.

N.C.G.S. § 133-32 and Executive Order 24 prohibit the offer to, or acceptance by, any State Employee of any gift from anyone with a contract with the State, or from any person seeking to do business with the State. By execution of any response in this procurement, you attest, for your entire organization and its employees or agents, that you are not aware that any such gift has been offered, accepted, or promised by any employees of your organization.

SIGNATURE OF CONTRACTOR

Traffic Control Safety Services, Inc

Full name of Corporation

P.O. Box 24511, Winston-Salem, NC 27114

Address as prequalified

Attest


Signature of Secretary, Assistant Secretary
Select appropriate title

By


Signature of President, Vice President, Assistant Vice President
Select appropriate title

Mark Mielke

Print or type Signer's name

Chris Fletcher

Print or type Signer's name



DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION

Conditions for certification:

1. The prequalified bidder shall provide immediate written notice to the Department if at any time the bidder learns that his certification was erroneous when he submitted his debarment certification or explanation filed with the Department, or has become erroneous because of changed circumstances.
2. The terms *covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded*, as used in this provision, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. A copy of the Federal Rules requiring this certification and detailing the definitions and coverages may be obtained from the Contract Officer of the Department.
3. The prequalified bidder agrees by submitting this form, that he will not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in NCDOT contracts, unless authorized by the Department.
4. For Federal Aid projects, the prequalified bidder further agrees that by submitting this form he will include the Federal-Aid Provision titled *Required Contract Provisions Federal-Aid Construction Contract (Form FHWA PR 1273)* provided by the Department, without subsequent modification, in all lower tier covered transactions.
5. The prequalified bidder may rely upon a certification of a participant in a lower tier covered transaction that he is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless he knows that the certification is erroneous. The bidder may decide the method and frequency by which he will determine the eligibility of his subcontractors.
6. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this provision. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
7. Except as authorized in paragraph 6 herein, the Department may terminate any contract if the bidder knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available by the Federal Government.

County Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Polk,
Transylvania, Swain

DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION

The prequalified bidder certifies to the best of his knowledge and belief, that he and his principals:

- a. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;
- b. Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records; making false statements; or receiving stolen property;
- c. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph b. of this certification; and
- d. Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.
- e. Will submit a revised Debarment Certification immediately if his status changes and will show in his bid proposal an explanation for the change in status.

If the prequalified bidder cannot certify that he is not debarred, he shall provide an explanation with this submittal. An explanation will not necessarily result in denial of participation in a contract.

Failure to submit a non-collusion and debarment certification will result in the prequalified bidder's bid being considered non-responsive.

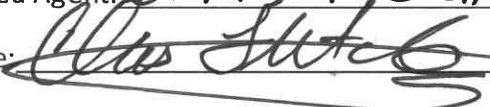
☐

Check here if an explanation is attached to this certification.

ITEMIZED PROPOSAL FOR CONTRACT NO. DN12231962							
Line #	Item Number	Sec #	Description	Qty	Units	Unit Cost	Extended Amount
ROADWAY ITEMS							
0001	0000915000-N	SP	EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION	3	EA	\$ 200.00	\$ 600.00
0002	4048000000-E	902	REINFORCED CONCRETE SIGN FOUNDATIONS	50	CY	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
0003	4054000000-E	902	PLAIN CONCRETE SIGN FOUNDATIONS	25	CY	\$ 600.00	\$ 15,000.00
0004	4060000000-E	903	SUPPORTS, BREAKAWY STEEL BEAM	7000	LB	\$ 10.00	\$ 70,000.00
0005	4066000000-E	903	SUPPORTS, SIMPLE STEEL BEAM	7000	LB	\$ 10.00	\$ 70,000.00
0006	4072000000-E	903	SUPPORTS, 3-LB STEEL U-CHANNEL	500	LF	\$ 15.00	\$ 7,500.00
0007	4078000000-E	903	SUPPORTS, 2-LB STEEL U-CHANNEL	30	EA	\$ 100.00	\$ 3,000.00
0008	4096000000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, TYPE D	15	EA	\$ 250.00	\$ 3,750.00
0009	4102000000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, TYPE E	15	EA	\$ 250.00	\$ 3,750.00
0010	4108000000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, TYPE F	15	EA	\$ 150.00	\$ 2,250.00
0011	4109000000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, TYPE A (OVERHEAD)	5	EA	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 16,000.00
0012	4109000000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, TYPE B (OVERHEAD)	5	EA	\$ 800.00	\$ 4,000.00
0013	4110000000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, TYPE A (GROUND MOUNTED)	40	EA	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 100,000.00
0014	4110000000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, TYPE B (GROUND MOUNTED)	15	EA	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
0015	4114000000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, MILEMARKERS	50	EA	\$ 75.00	\$ 3,750.00
0016	4115000000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, OVERLAY (OVERHEAD)	1	EA	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
0017	4116000000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, OVERLAY (GROUND MOUNTED)	50	EA	\$ 700.00	\$ 35,000.00
0018	4116100000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, RELOCATE, TYPE A (GROUND MOUNTED)	5	EA	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
0019	4116100000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, RELOCATE, TYPE B (GROUND MOUNTED)	2	EA	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
0020	4116100000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, RELOCATE, TYPE D (GROUND MOUNTED)	2	EA	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00
0021	4116100000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, RELOCATE, TYPE E (GROUND MOUNTED)	1	EA	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
0022	4116100000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, RELOCATE, TYPE F (GROUND MOUNTED)	1	EA	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
0023	4116100000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, RELOCATE, TYPE LOGO PANEL (GROUND MOUNTED)	5	EA	\$ 25.00	\$ 125.00
0024	4116300000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, LOGO TO PANEL	10	EA	\$ 25.00	\$ 250.00
0025	4116400000-N	904	SIGN ERECTION, LOGO TRAILBLAZER	5	EA	\$ 25.00	\$ 125.00
0026	4138000000-N	907	DISPOSAL OF SUPPORT, STEEL BEAM	15	EA	\$ 500.00	\$ 7,500.00
0027	4152000000-N	907	DISPOSAL OF SIGN SYSTEM, STEEL BEAM	2	EA	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00
0028	4234000000-N	907	DISPOSAL OF SIGN, A & B (OVERHEAD)	2	EA	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
0029	4236000000-N	907	DISPOSAL OF SIGN, A & B (GROUND MOUNTED)	10	EA	\$ 50.00	\$ 500.00
0030	4238000000-N	907	DISPOSAL OF SIGN, D, E OR F	10	EA	\$ 20.00	\$ 200.00
0031	4238500000-N	907	DISPOSAL OF SIGN, MILEMARKER	10	EA	\$ 20.00	\$ 200.00

0032	4241000000-N	907	DISPOSAL OF SIGN, OVERLAY (OVERHEAD)	1	EA	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00
0033	4242000000-N	907	DISPOSAL OF SIGN, OVERLAY (GROUND MOUNTED)	20	EA	\$ 20.00	\$ 400.00
0034	4251000000-N	907	DISPOSAL OF LIGHTING SYSTEM	1	EA	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
0035	4363000000-E	SP	SUPPORTS, STEEL SQUARE TUBE 4" WITH SLIP BASE	400	LF	\$ 25.00	\$ 10,000.00
0036	4363000000-E	SP	SUPPORTS, STEEL SQUARE TUBE 4"	60	LF	\$ 25.00	\$ 1,500.00
0037	4363000000-E	SP	SUPPORTS, STEEL SQUARE TUBE 2.5" x 10 GAUGE WITH SLIP BASE	200	LF	\$ 25.00	\$ 5,000.00
0038	4363000000-E	SP	SUPPORTS, STEEL SQUARE TUBE 2.5" x 10 GAUGE	60	LF	\$ 25.00	\$ 1,500.00
0039	4363000000-E	SP	SUPPORTS, STEEL SQUARE TUBE 2.5" x 12 GAUGE WITH HEAVY DUTY ANCHOR	250	LF	\$ 25.00	\$ 6,250.00
0040	4363000000-E	SP	SUPPORTS, STEEL SQUARE TUBE 2.5" x 12 GAUGE WITH EASY DRIVE ANCHOR	250	LF	\$ 25.00	\$ 6,250.00
0041	4363000000-E	SP	SUPPORTS, STEEL SQUARE TUBE 2.1875" x 10 GAUGE	200	LF	\$ 25.00	\$ 5,000.00
0042	4363000000-E	SP	SUPPORTS, STEEL SQUARE TUBE 2" x 14 GAUGE WITH SURFACE MOUNT	800	LF	\$ 25.00	\$ 20,000.00
0043	4363000000-E	SP	SUPPORTS, STEEL SQUARE TUBE 2" x 14 GAUGE WITH HEAVY DUTY ANCHOR	250	LF	\$ 25.00	\$ 6,250.00
0044	4363000000-E	SP	SUPPORTS, STEEL SQUARE TUBE 2" x 14 GAUGE WITH 2.25" 12 GAUGE SQUARE SLEEVE	2000	LF	\$ 25.00	\$ 50,000.00
0045	4600000000-N	SP	TWO LANE WORK ZONE TRAFFIC CONTROL	5	EA	\$ 800.00	\$ 4,000.00
0046	4600000000-N	SP	MULTI-LANE WORK ZONE TRAFFIC CONTROL	15	EA	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 27,000.00
0047	4600000000-N	SP	SHOULDER CLOSURE WORK ZONE TRAFFIC CONTROL	15	EA	\$ 275.00	\$ 4,125.00
	Total Amount Of Bid For Entire Project:						\$ 573,395.00

ITEMIZED PROPOSAL FOR CONTRACT NO. DN12231962

Contractor: Traffic Control Safety Services Inc.
Address: 4960 Indiana Ave Winston Salem NC 27106
Phone: 336-771-7676 Federal ID: 201222107
Contractor License Number (If Available): 69275
Authorized Agent: Chris Fletcher Title: Vice president
Signature:  Date: 9-10-26

Execution of Contract

Contract No: DN12231962

County: Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Polk, Swain and Transylvania

ACCEPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT

DocuSigned by:

Jeffrey E. Alsbaugh

Proposals Engineer

08/04/2026

Date

EXECUTION OF CONTRACT AND BONDS
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DocuSigned by:

Wesley Grindstaff P.E.

Division Engineer

08/04/2026

Date

Signature Sheet (Bid) - ACCEPTANCE SHEET



CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)

7/28/2026

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an **ADDITIONAL INSURED**, the policy(ies) must have **ADDITIONAL INSURED** provisions or be endorsed. If **SUBROGATION** IS **WAIVED**, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

PRODUCER MP Specialty Insurance 1179 Sunset Blvd West Columbia SC 29169	CONTACT NAME: Chandler Boyd PHONE (A/C, No, Ext): 803-936-1601 E-MAIL ADDRESS: cboyd@mpspecialty.com	FAX (A/C, No): 803-936-1366
INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE		NAIC #
INSURER A: National Union Fire Insurance Co of Pittsburgh, Pa.		19445
INSURER B: New Hampshire Insurance Company		23841
INSURER C: Homesite Insurance Co. of Florida		11156
INSURER D: Indemnity National Insurance Company		18468
INSURER E: MARKEL AMERICAN INS CO		28932
INSURER F:		

COVERAGES**CERTIFICATE NUMBER:** 2049762663**REVISION NUMBER:**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDL INSD	SUBR WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMITS
A	☒ COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY ☐ CLAIMS-MADE ☒ OCCUR GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: ☐ POLICY ☒ PRO-JECT ☐ LOC OTHER:	Y	Y	GL 5489503	4/1/2026	4/1/2027	EACH OCCURRENCE \$2,000,000 DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence) \$500,000 MED EXP (Any one person) \$25,000 PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$2,000,000 GENERAL AGGREGATE \$4,000,000 PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG \$4,000,000 \$
A	☒ AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY ☒ ANY AUTO ☐ OWNED AUTOS ONLY ☐ SCHEDULED AUTOS ☐ HIRED AUTOS ONLY ☐ NON-OWNED AUTOS ONLY	Y	Y	CA 5309782	4/1/2026	4/1/2027	COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident) \$2,000,000 BODILY INJURY (Per person) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per accident) \$ PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident) \$ \$
C D	☐ UMBRELLA LIAB ☒ OCCUR ☒ EXCESS LIAB ☐ CLAIMS-MADE DED RETENTION \$	Y	Y	CXP-053918-01 XS000204826	4/1/2026 4/1/2026	4/1/2027 4/1/2027	EACH OCCURRENCE \$2,000,000 AGGREGATE \$2,000,000 Insurer D: Occ/Agg \$3M/\$3M
B	WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? (Mandatory in NH) If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below	Y/N N	Y	WC 072113413	4/1/2026	4/1/2027	☒ PER STATUTE ☐ OTH-ER E.L. EACH ACCIDENT \$2,000,000 E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE \$2,000,000 E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT \$2,000,000
E	Installation Floater			MKLM7IM0056079	4/1/2026	4/1/2027	Any one Jobsite Deductible \$250,000 \$2,500

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)

RE: DN12231962

RE: DN12231962 ID/IQ Sign Services Along Various Segments of Primary and Secondary Routes in All Ten Counties of Division 14.

The State of North Carolina Department of Transportation, owners and others required by contract are Additional Insureds if required by contract:

Blanket General Liability Additional Insured - Owners, Lessees or Contractors - Schedule Person or Organization - CG2010 (12/19); Blanket Additional Insured - Owners, Lessees or Contractors - Completed Operations - CG 2037 (12/19); Blanket Primary and Noncontributory - Other Insurance Condition CG2001 (12/19); Blanket Waiver of Transfer of Rights of Recovery Against Others to Us Commercial General Liability Coverage Part, Products/Completed Operations Liability Coverage Part - CG2404 (12/19); Blanket Limited Advice of General Liability Cancellation Provided via E-Mail to Entities Other Than the First Named See Attached...

CERTIFICATE HOLDER**CANCELLATION**

NCDOT Division 14
253 Webster Road
Sylva NC 28779
United States

SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

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ACORD 25 (2016/03)

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THIS CERTIFICATE SUPERSEDES PREVIOUSLY ISSUED CERTIFICATE

**ADDITIONAL REMARKS SCHEDULE**Page 1 of 1

AGENCY MP Specialty Insurance		NAMED INSURED Traffic Control Safety Services, Inc. 4960 Indiana Ave Winston Salem NC 27106-2823
POLICY NUMBER		
CARRIER	NAIC CODE	EFFECTIVE DATE:

ADDITIONAL REMARKS**THIS ADDITIONAL REMARKS FORM IS A SCHEDULE TO ACORD FORM,****FORM NUMBER:** 25 **FORM TITLE:** CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

Insured - 30 Days - 107414 (03/11); Blanket Additional Insured - Where Required Under Contract or Agreement - 87950 (09/14); Blanket - Insurance Primary as to Certain Additional Insureds - 74445 (10/99); Blanket Waiver of Transfer of Rights of Recovery Against Others to Us - Business Auto Coverage Form - 62897 (06/95); Blanket Limited Advice of Business Auto Cancellation Provided via E-Mail To Entities Other Than The First Name Insured - 107414 (03/11); Blanket Workers Compensation Waiver of Our Right To Recover From Others Endorsement - WC000313 (04/84); Blanket Limited Advice Cancellation Provided via E-Mail To Entities Other Than The Named Insured (Workers Compensation Only) WC990056 (04/11); Contractors Endorsement - Blanket Additional Insured - Non-Contributing - Waiver of Subrogation CXS 20 50 (08/21); INIC EXCESS FOLLOW FORM AGGREGATE ENDORSEMENT INIC-XS-AGG (06/21)



Certificate of Liability Insurance

Delivery Memo

Attached is the certificate of insurance requested with applicable policy coverage forms and endorsements. Please let us know if there are additional requirements for this certificate, and we'll get an update to you as quickly as possible.

Pursuant to § 58-3-150 of the North Carolina Legal Code, risks, properties, or operations in the state of North Carolina, the "Description of Operations Box," located at the bottom of the ACORD 25- Certificate of Liability Insurance, may not be used to insert hold harmless agreements, verbiage that summarizes or alters policy language, contractual requirements, certificate holder instructions, requirements, or additional commentary on marked coverage sections of the certificate.

The Description of Operations Box on the ACORD 25- Certificate of Liability Insurance, may be used to reference the job/project number and job/project description and used to provide a listing of the policy forms' exact titles, form numbers and edition dates reflected on, and attached to the certificate. Partial quotation of any policy language regarding coverage, endorsements, conditions or provisions is strictly prohibited.

Certificate denoted information is subject to applicable all policy terms, conditions and exclusions. For more information please visit the North Carolina Department of Insurance: <https://www.ncdoi.com> and <https://www.ncleg.gov/Laws/GeneralStatuteSections/Chapter58>.

Best regards,

Chandler Boyd
Commercial Account Manager

cboyd@mpspecialty.com

THIS ENDORSEMENT CHANGES THE POLICY. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

**ADDITIONAL INSURED - OWNERS, LESSEES OR
CONTRACTORS - SCHEDULED PERSON OR
ORGANIZATION**

This endorsement modifies insurance provided under the following:

COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY COVERAGE PART

SCHEDULE

Name Of Additional Insured Person(s) Or Organization(s)	Location(s) Of Covered Operations
ANY PERSON OR ORGANIZATION WHOM YOU BECOME OBLIGATED TO INCLUDE AS AN ADDITIONAL INSURED AS A RESULT OF ANY CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT YOU HAVE ENTERED INTO.	PER THE CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT.
Information required to complete this Schedule, if not shown above, will be shown in the Declarations.	

A. Section II 6 Who Is An Insured is amended to include as an additional insured the person(s) or organization(s) shown in the Schedule, but only with respect to liability for "bodily injury", "property damage" or "personal and advertising injury" caused, in whole or in part, by:

1. Your acts or omissions; or
2. The acts or omissions of those acting on your behalf;

in the performance of your ongoing operations for the additional insured(s) at the location(s) designated above.

However:

1. The insurance afforded to such additional insured only applies to the extent permitted by law; and
2. If coverage provided to the additional insured is required by a contract or agreement, the insurance afforded to such additional insured will not be broader than that which you are required by the contract or agreement to provide for such additional insured.

B. With respect to the insurance afforded to these additional insureds, the following additional exclusions apply:

This insurance does not apply to "bodily injury" or "property damage" occurring after:

1. All work, including materials, parts or equipment furnished in connection with such work, on the project (other than service, maintenance or repairs) to be performed by or on behalf of the additional insured(s) at the location of the covered operations has been completed; or
2. That portion of "your work" out of which the injury or damage arises has been put to its intended use by any person or organization other than another contractor or subcontractor engaged in performing operations for a principal as a part of the same project.

- C. With respect to the insurance afforded to these additional insureds, the following is added to **Section III – Limits Of Insurance:**

If coverage provided to the additional insured is required by a contract or agreement, the most we will pay on behalf of the additional insured is the amount of insurance:

1. Required by the contract or agreement; or

2. Available under the applicable limits of insurance;

whichever is less.

This endorsement shall not increase the applicable limits of insurance.

THIS ENDORSEMENT CHANGES THE POLICY. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

ADDITIONAL INSURED - OWNERS, LESSEES OR CONTRACTORS - COMPLETED OPERATIONS

This endorsement modifies insurance provided under the following:

COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY COVERAGE PART
PRODUCTS/COMPLETED OPERATIONS LIABILITY COVERAGE PART

SCHEDULE

Name Of Additional Insured Person(s) Or Organization(s)	Location And Description Of Completed Operations
ANY PERSON OR ORGANIZATION WHOM YOU BECOME OBLIGATED TO INCLUDE AS AN ADDITIONAL INSURED AS A RESULT OF ANY CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT YOU HAVE ENTERED INTO.	PER THE CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT.
Information required to complete this Schedule, if not shown above, will be shown in the Declarations.	

A. Section II – Who Is An Insured is amended to include as an additional insured the person(s) or organization(s) shown in the Schedule, but only with respect to liability for "bodily injury" or "property damage" caused, in whole or in part, by "your work" at the location designated and described in the Schedule of this endorsement performed for that additional insured and included in the "products-completed operations hazard".

However:

1. The insurance afforded to such additional insured only applies to the extent permitted by law; and
2. If coverage provided to the additional insured is required by a contract or agreement, the insurance afforded to such additional insured will not be broader than that which you are required by the contract or agreement to provide for such additional insured.

B. With respect to the insurance afforded to these additional insureds, the following is added to Section III – Limits Of Insurance:

If coverage provided to the additional insured is required by a contract or agreement, the most we will pay on behalf of the additional insured is the amount of insurance:

1. Required by the contract or agreement; or
2. Available under the applicable limits of insurance;

whichever is less.

This endorsement shall not increase the applicable limits of insurance.

THIS ENDORSEMENT CHANGES THE POLICY. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

**PRIMARY AND NONCONTRIBUTORY –
OTHER INSURANCE CONDITION**

This endorsement modifies insurance provided under the following:

COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY COVERAGE PART
LIQUOR LIABILITY COVERAGE PART
PRODUCTS/COMPLETED OPERATIONS LIABILITY COVERAGE PART

The following is added to the **Other Insurance Condition** and supersedes any provision to the contrary:

Primary And Noncontributory Insurance

This insurance is primary to and will not seek contribution from any other insurance available to an additional insured under your policy provided that:

- (1) The additional insured is a Named Insured under such other insurance; and

- (2) You have agreed in writing in a contract or agreement that this insurance would be primary and would not seek contribution from any other insurance available to the additional insured.

THIS ENDORSEMENT CHANGES THE POLICY. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

**WAIVER OF TRANSFER OF RIGHTS OF RECOVERY
AGAINST OTHERS TO US (WAIVER OF SUBROGATION)**

This endorsement modifies insurance provided under the following:

COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY COVERAGE PART
ELECTRONIC DATA LIABILITY COVERAGE PART
LIQUOR LIABILITY COVERAGE PART
POLLUTION LIABILITY COVERAGE PART DESIGNATED SITES
POLLUTION LIABILITY LIMITED COVERAGE PART DESIGNATED SITES
PRODUCTS/COMPLETED OPERATIONS LIABILITY COVERAGE PART
RAILROAD PROTECTIVE LIABILITY COVERAGE PART
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK POLICY DESIGNATED TANKS

SCHEDULE

Name Of Person(s) Or Organization(s):

ANY PERSON OR ORGANIZATION FOR WHOM THE INSURED HAS AGREED TO WAIVE RIGHTS OF RECOVERY, PROVIDED SUCH AGREEMENT IS MADE IN WRITING AND PRIOR TO THE LOSS.

Information required to complete this Schedule, if not shown above, will be shown in the Declarations.

The following is added to Paragraph 8. **Transfer Of Rights Of Recovery Against Others To Us** of Section IV – Conditions:

We waive any right of recovery against the person(s) or organization(s) shown in the Schedule above because of payments we make under this Coverage Part. Such waiver by us applies only to the extent that the insured has waived its right of recovery against such person(s) or organization(s) prior to loss. This endorsement applies only to the person(s) or organization(s) shown in the Schedule above.

ENDORSEMENT #

This endorsement, effective 12:01 A.M. 04/01/2026 forms a part of

Policy No. **GL 548-95-03** issued to **Traffic Control Safety Services, Inc.**

By **NATIONAL UNION FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PITTSBURGH, PA**

THIS ENDORSEMENT CHANGES THE POLICY. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

**LIMITED ADVICE OF CANCELLATION PROVIDED VIA E-MAIL
TO ENTITIES OTHER THAN THE FIRST NAMED INSURED**

This policy is amended as follows:

In the event that the **Insurer** cancels this policy for any reason other than non-payment of premium, and

1. the cancellation effective date is prior to this policy's expiration date;
2. the **First Named Insured** is under an existing contractual obligation to notify a certificate holder when this policy is canceled (hereinafter, the "Certificate Holder(s)") and has provided to the **Insurer**, either directly or through its broker of record, the email address of a contact at each such entity; and
3. the **Insurer** received this information after the **First Named Insured** receives notice of cancellation of this policy and prior to this policy's cancellation effective date, via an electronic spreadsheet that is acceptable to the **Insurer**,

the **Insurer** will provide advice of cancellation (the "Advice") via e-mail to each such Certificate Holders within 30 days after the **First Named Insured** provides such information to the **Insurer**; provided, however, that if a specific number of days is not stated above, then the Advice will be provided to such Certificate Holder(s) as soon as reasonably practicable after the **First Named Insured** provides such information to the **Insurer**.

Proof of the **Insurer** emailing the Advice, using the information provided by the **First Named Insured**, will serve as proof that the **Insurer** has fully satisfied its obligations under this endorsement.

This endorsement does not affect, in any way, coverage provided under this policy or the cancellation of this policy or the effective date thereof, nor shall this endorsement invest any rights in any entity not insured under this policy.

The following Definitions apply to this endorsement:

1. **First Named Insured** means the Named Insured shown on the Declarations Page of this policy.
2. **Insurer** means the insurance company shown in the header on the Declarations page of this policy.

All other terms, conditions and exclusions shall remain the same.



Authorized Representative

Commercial Excess Liability

VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THIS POLICY RESTRICT COVERAGE. READ THE ENTIRE POLICY CAREFULLY TO DETERMINE RIGHTS, DUTIES AND WHAT IS AND IS NOT COVERED.

Throughout the policy, the words "you" and "your" refer to the Named Insured shown in the Declarations. The words "we," "us," and "our" refer to the company providing this insurance. The word "insured" means any other person or organization qualifying as such in SECTION II – WHO IS AN INSURED.

Other words and phrases that appear in quotation marks in this policy have the meanings given them in SECTION V – DEFINITIONS. Unless contradicted in this policy, words and phrases defined by "controlling underlying insurance" have the meanings given them in "controlling underlying insurance."

SECTION I – COVERAGE

1. Insuring Agreement

We will pay on behalf of the insured and in excess of "underlying limits" those sums the insured becomes legally obligated to pay as damages because of "injury or damage" to which this insurance applies. Except as otherwise stated in this policy, this insurance follows the same provisions, exclusions and limitations of the "controlling underlying insurance" in effect at the inception date of that policy. This insurance will not be broader than "controlling underlying insurance."

This insurance only applies if:

- a. the "injury or damage" is caused by an "event" in the coverage territory;
- b. the "injury or damage" first occurs during the policy period; and
- c. "controlling underlying insurance" applies to the "injury or damage" and is exhausted by the payment of, or agreement to pay, judgments or settlements to which this insurance also applies.

The amount we will pay is limited as described in SECTION III – LIMITS OF INSURANCE.

2. Defense

When there is a reasonable expectation that this insurance may be involved in a loss, we may investigate any claim, defend any suit, or associate with any insured or insurer. We may settle any claim at our discretion. We have no duty to investigate claims or defend suits until the expressed and unlimited obligation of all "underlying insurance" terminates because of the exhaustion of "underlying limits" by payment of, or agreement to pay, judgments or settlements. "Defense expenses" will not reduce our limit unless such expenses also reduce "underlying limits." Any duty to defend that we may have ends when we pay or agree to pay our applicable limit.

3. Exclusions

Exclusions applicable to "controlling underlying insurance" also apply to this insurance. Even when "controlling underlying insurance" applies, this insurance does not apply to:

- a. Asbestos
"Injury or damage" arising out of the actual, alleged or threatened exposure to "asbestos" or any goods or products containing "asbestos;"
- b. Law
Any liability that is or would be imposed under:
 - 1) The Employment Retirement Income Securities Act of 1974 or any amendments thereto, or any similar law;
 - 2) Medical payments, no-fault, personal injury protection or any similar law;
 - 3) Uninsured or underinsured motorist or any similar law; or
 - 4) Workers compensation, disability benefits, unemployment compensation or similar law;
- c. Sub-limits
"Injury or damage" to which "underlying insurance" applies but at amounts less than "underlying limits."