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# APPROACH SLAB REPAIR

(Effective March 13, 1997; Revised January 1, 2022)

**Description**. This work shall consist of hot-mix asphalt (HMA) surface removal, when required, the removal and disposal of all loose and deteriorated concrete, and the replacement with new concrete to the original top of approach slab. The work shall be done according to the applicable requirements of Sections 501, 503, and 1020 of the Standard Specifications and this Special Provision.

Approach slab repairs will be classified as follows:

(a) Partial-Depth. Partial-depth repairs shall consist of removing the loose and unsound approach slab concrete, disposing of the concrete removed and replacing with new concrete. The removal may be performed by chipping with power driven hand tools or by hydro-equipment. The depth shall be, measured from the original concrete surface, at least 3/4 in. but not more than 5 1/2 in.

(b) Full-Depth. Full-depth repairs shall consist of removing concrete full-depth of the slab, disposing of the concrete removed, and replacing with new concrete to the original approach slab surface. The removal may be performed with power driven hand tools or by hydro-equipment.

**Materials**. Materials shall be according to Sections 503 and 1020 of the Standard Specifications.

Concrete. Concrete for partial and full-depth repairs shall be proportioned and mixed according to the applicable portions of Section 1020 of the Standard Specifications except as follows:

No calcium chloride will be permitted in the mix.

Per Bag Per Cu Yd (Cu M)

of Cement of Concrete

Lbs (kg) Lbs (kg)

Portland Cement 94 (43) 735 (436)

Fine Aggregate\* 170 (77) 1,326 (787)

Coarse Aggregate\* 175 (80) 1,365 (810)

Water\* 42 (19) 325 (193)

4.9 gals (18.5 L) 39.2 gals (194 L)

Air entrainment 6 to 9% 6 to 9%

\*Based on saturated surface-dry aggregate with a specific gravity of 2.65. The mix will be adjusted by the Engineer to compensate for aggregate specific gravity and moisture. Coarse aggregate shall be gradation CA 13, CA 14, or CA 16, subject to approval of the mix design. Fine aggregate shall be gradation FA 1 or FA 2.

Grout. The grout for bonding new concrete to old concrete shall be proportioned by weight (mass) and mixed at the job site, or it may be ready-mixed if agitated while at the job site. The bonding grout shall consist of one part portland cement and one part sand, mixed with sufficient water to form a slurry. The bonding grout shall have a consistency allowing it to be scrubbed onto the prepared surface with a stiff brush or broom leaving a thin, uniform coating that will not run or puddle in low spots. Grout that can not be easily and evenly applied or has lost its consistency may be rejected by the Engineer. Grout that is more than two hours old shall not be used.

**Equipment**. The equipment used shall be subject to the approval of the Engineer and shall meet the following requirements:

(a) Surface Preparation Equipment. Surface preparation and concrete removal equipment shall be according to the applicable portions of Division 1100 of the Standard Specifications and the following:

(1) Sawing Equipment. Sawing equipment shall be a concrete saw capable of sawing concrete to the specified depth.

(2) Blast Cleaning Equipment. The blast cleaning may be performed by wet sandblasting, high-pressure waterblasting, shotblasting, abrasive blasting, or other methods approved by the Engineer. Blast cleaning equipment shall be capable of removing rust and old concrete from exposed reinforcement bars and shall have oil traps.

(3) Power-Driven Hand Tools. Power-driven hand tools will be permitted including jackhammers lighter than the nominal 45 lb (20 kg) class. Chipping hammers heavier than a nominal 15 lb (6.8 kg) class shall not be used for removing concrete from below any reinforcing bar for partial depth repairs or final removal at the boundary of full-depth repairs. Jackhammers or chipping hammers shall not be operated at an angle in excess of 45 degrees measured from the surface of the slab.

(4) Hydro-Scarification Equipment. The hydro-scarification equipment shall consist of filtering and pumping units operating with a remote-controlled robotic device. The equipment may use river, stream, or lake water. Operation of the equipment shall be performed and supervised by qualified personnel certified by the equipment manufacturer. Evidence of certification shall be presented to the Engineer. The equipment shall be capable of removing concrete to the specified depth and removing rust and concrete particles from exposed reinforcing bars. Hydro-scarification equipment shall be calibrated before being used and shall operate at a minimum of 18,000 psi (124 MPa).

(b) Concrete Equipment. Equipment for proportioning and mixing the concrete shall be according to Article 1020.03 of the Standard Specifications.

(c) Finishing Equipment. Finishing equipment shall be according to Article 1103.17 of the Standard Specifications. Adequate hand tools will be permitted for placing and consolidating concrete in the patch areas and for finishing small patches.

**Construction Requirements**. Sidewalks, curbs, drains, reinforcement and/or existing transverse and longitudinal joints which are to remain in place shall be protected from damage during removal and cleaning operations.

The Contractor shall control the runoff water generated by the various construction activities in such a manner as to minimize, to the maximum extent practicable, the discharge of construction debris into adjacent waters, and shall properly dispose of the solids generated according to Article 202.03 of the Standard Specifications. Runoff water will not be allowed to constitute a hazard on adjacent roadways, waterways, drainage areas, or railroads, nor be allowed to erode existing slopes.

(a) HMA Surface Removal.

The HMA surface course shall be removed and disposed of according to applicable portions of Articles 440.04 and 440.06 of the Standard Specifications.

(b) Surface Preparation:

All loose, disintegrated, and unsound concrete shall be removed from portions of the approach slab shown on the plans or as designated by the Engineer. The Engineer will determine the limits of removal as the work progresses.

The Contractor shall take care not to damage reinforcement bars or expansion joints which are to remain in place. Any damage to reinforcement bars or expansion joints shall be corrected. All loose reinforcement bars, as determined by the Engineer, shall be retied at no additional expense to the Department.

(1) Partial-Depth. Areas to be repaired will be determined and marked by the Engineer. A concrete saw shall be used to provide vertical edges approximately 3/4 in. deep around the perimeter of the area to be patched when an overlay is not specified. Where high steel is present, the depth may be reduced as directed by the Engineer. A saw cut will not be required on those boundaries along the face of the curb, parapet or joint, or when sharp vertical edges are provided by hydro-scarification. The saw cut may be omitted if the approach slab is to receive an overlay.

The loose and unsound concrete shall be removed by chipping, with power driven hand tools or by hydro-equipment. All exposed reinforcing bars and newly exposed concrete shall be thoroughly blast cleaned. Where, in the judgment of the Engineer, the bond between existing concrete and reinforcement steel within the patch area has been destroyed, the concrete adjacent to the bar shall be removed to a depth that will permit new concrete to bond to the entire periphery of the exposed bar. A minimum of 1 in. clearance will be required. The Engineer may require enlarging a designated removal area should inspection indicate deterioration beyond the limits previously designated. In this event, a new saw cut shall be made around the extended area before additional removal is begun. The removal area shall not be enlarged solely to correct debonded reinforcement or deficient lap lengths.

(2) Full-Depth. Concrete shall be removed as determined by the Engineer within all areas designated for full-depth repair and in all designated areas of partial depth repair in which unsound concrete is found to extend below a depth of 5 1/2 in. Full depth removal shall be performed according to Article 501.05 of the Standard Specifications. A concrete saw shall be used to provide vertical edges approximately 3/4 in. deep around the perimeter of the area to be patched when an overlay is not specified. A saw cut will not be required on those boundaries along the face of the curb, parapet or joint or where hydro-scarification provided sharp vertical edges. The saw cut may be omitted if the approach slab is to receive an overlay.

All voids under full depth repair areas shall be filled with a suitable material meeting the approval of the Engineer.

(3) Reinforcement Treatment. Care shall be exercised during concrete removal to protect the reinforcement bars from damage. Any damage to the reinforcement bars to remain in place shall be repaired or replaced to the satisfaction of the Engineer. All existing reinforcement bars shall remain in place except as herein provided for corroded bars. Tying of loose bars shall be required. Any existing reinforcement bars which have a loss of more than 25% of their cross sectional area through corrosion shall be replaced in kind with new steel. New bars shall be lapped a minimum of 32 bar diameters to existing bars. An approved mechanical bar splice capable of developing in tension at least 125 percent of the yield strength of the existing bar shall be used when it is not feasible to provide the minimum bar lap. No welding of bars will be permitted.

(4) Cleaning. Immediately after completion of the concrete removal and reinforcement repairs, the repair areas shall be cleaned of dust and debris. Once the initial cleaning is completed, the repair areas shall be thoroughly blast cleaned to a roughened appearance free from all foreign matter. Particular attention shall be given to removal of concrete fines. Any method of cleaning which does not consistently produce satisfactory results shall be discontinued and replaced by an acceptable method. All debris, including water, resulting from the blast cleaning shall be confined and shall be immediately and thoroughly removed from all areas of accumulation. If concrete placement does not follow immediately after the final cleaning, the area shall be carefully protected with well-anchored polyethylene sheeting.

Exposed reinforcement bars shall be free of dirt, detrimental scale, paint, oil, or other foreign substances which may reduce bond with the concrete. A tight non-scaling coating of rust is not considered objectionable. Loose, scaling rust shall be removed by rubbing with burlap, wire brushing, blast cleaning or other methods approved by the Engineer.

(c) Placement & Finishing of Concrete Repair:

(1) Grout Placement. After the repair areas have been cleaned and immediately prior to concrete placement, the grout shall be applied to a dampened surface. A thin layer of grout shall be thoroughly scrubbed into the pavement surface. All vertical as well as horizontal surfaces shall receive a thorough, even coating. The rate of grout placement shall be limited so the brushed grout does not dry out before it is covered with concrete. Grout that has become dry and chalky shall be blast cleaned and replaced at the Contractor's expense. No concrete shall be placed over dry grout.

(2) Concrete Placement. The concrete shall be placed and consolidated according to Article 503.07 of the Standard Specifications and as herein specified. Article 1020.14 of the Standard Specifications shall apply.

All concrete shall be vibrated internally with hand-held vibrators.

When an overlay system is not specified, the patches shall be finished according to Article 503.16 (a) of the Standard Specifications, followed by a light brooming.

(d) Curing.

Concrete patches shall be cured by the Wetted Burlap or Wetted Cotton Mat Method according to Article 1020.13 (a)(3) or Article 1020.13 (a)(5) of the Standard Specifications. The curing period shall be 72 hours followed by a 72 hour minimum drying period before scarifying or surfacing. In addition to Article 1020.13, when the air temperature is less than 55° F (13° C), the Contractor shall cover the patch according to Article 1020.13 (d)(1) of the Standard Specifications. Insulation is optional when the air temperature is 55° F–90° F (13° C–32° C). Insulation shall not be placed when the air temperature is greater than 90° F (32° C).

(e) Opening to Traffic.

No traffic or construction equipment will be permitted on the patch until after the specified cure period, and the concrete has obtained a minimum compressive strength of 4000 psi (27.6 MPa) or flexural strength of 675 psi (4.65 MPa).

**Method of Measurement**. When specified, HMA surface removal and full or partial depth repairs will be measured for payment and computed in square yards (square meters).

**Basis of Payment**. The HMA surface removal will be paid for at the contract unit price per square yard (square meter) for HOT-MIX ASPHALT REMOVAL (DECK). Areas removed and replaced up to and including a depth of 5 1/2 in. or as specified will be paid for at the contract unit price per square yard (square meter) for APPROACH SLAB REPAIR (PARTIAL DEPTH). Areas requiring removal greater than a depth of 5 1/2 in. shall be removed and replaced full depth and will be paid for at the contract unit price per square yard (square meter) for APPROACH SLAB REPAIR (FULL DEPTH).

When corroded reinforcement bars are encountered in the performance of this work and replacement is required, the Contractor will be paid according to Article 109.04 of the Standard Specifications.

No payment will be allowed for removal and replacement of reinforcement bars damaged by the Contractor in the performance of his/her work or for any increases in dimensions needed to provide splices for these replacement bars.