



Florida Department of Transportation

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ANANTH PRASAD, P.E.
SECRETARY

April 18, 2013

This Memo Has Expired

DCE MEMORANDUM NO. 09-13

(FHWA Approved: 4/18/2013)

TO: DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS

FROM: David A. Sadler, P.E., Director, Office of Construction

COPIES: Tom Byron, Bob Burluson, Jim Warren, Rafiq Darji, Chad Thompson, Caitlin Alcorn, Rudy Powell, Steve Plotkin, Dan Hurtado

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW CONCRETE SURFACE FINISH POLICY ON PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

[StructuresDesignBulletin13-03](#) was recently issued implementing a new Concrete Surface Finish Policy for the Department. The main purpose of the policy is to establish a CPR process for selecting a concrete surface finish during design. In the past, most concrete bridge and wall surfaces were coated with a Class 5 Applied Finish (Class 5) and the decision to do so was done informally and; therefore, inconsistently. In order to allow the use of Class 5 or other aesthetic enhancements, the new formal policy requires approval of the District Design Engineer, District Secretary or Chief Engineer, depending on project specifics. Approval will be based on the individual aesthetic merits of the project and it is anticipated that most projects will not be eligible for Class 5 or other aesthetic enhancements. The result of the policy implementation is an expected cost saving of approximately \$1 million per year and uncoated surfaces are expected to have a more pleasing appearance after 20 or 30 years in the later stages of service life.

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify you that, at your discretion, Class 5 may be eliminated from projects in progress if the Contractor agrees to an acceptable credit for the reduction in work and if aesthetic commitments agreed to during the project development process are not violated which must be confirmed in writing by the District Design Engineer, District Secretary or Chief Engineer as appropriate. Elimination of Class 5 or other aesthetic enhancements from projects in progress will require the execution of a Supplemental Agreement.

Construction specifications are being revised to clarify how concrete surfaces will be finished when Class 5 is not used and these revisions will be implemented for January 2014 lettings. In the interim, contact Steven Plotkin or Dan Hurtado for a preliminary version of the revisions for use in Supplemental Agreements.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Steven Plotkin at (904) 360-5501 or Dan Hurtado at (850) 414-4155 for further assistance.

SP/hh