

April 17, 2025

To: Contractors and City Staff

Subject: Asphaltic Concrete Policy

The City of Great Falls is implementing the following policy clarification on asphalt specification.

All references to Montana Public Works Standard Specifications (MPWSS) are the **Sixth Edition, dated April 2010.**

Materials:

- 1) Bituminous materials shall conform to Section 702 of the “Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction” adopted by the Montana State Highway Commission.
- 2) Asphalt concrete shall consist of aggregate conforming to the MPWSS Section 02510.
- 3) Asphaltic cement shall be performance graded asphalt binder, PG58-28.
- 4) Table 1 from MPWSS Section 02510, Subsection 2.2 shall be used

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADING OF SURFACE COURSE AGGREGATE

Percentage by Weight Passing Job Mix Target Bands						
Sieve Size	Type A	Type B		Type C		Job Mix Tolerances
1” (25.0 mm)	100	---		---		---
¾” (19.0 mm)	91-93	100		---		+/- 7
½” (12.5 mm)	76-89	83-93		100		+/- 7
3/8” (9.5 mm)	61-79	73-87		91-93		+/- 7
No 4 (4.75 mm)	41-54	47-63		51-71		+/- 6
No 10 (2.00 mm)	31-39	32-43		34-46		+/- 6
No 40 (0.425 mm)	16-27	15-25		16-26		+/- 5
No 200 (0.075 mm)	4-7	5-7		5-9		+/- 2

- (a) The above gradation bands represent the job mix target limits, which determine the suitability of aggregate for use. The final job mix target

gradation must be within the specified bands and uniformly graded from coarse to fine and not vary from the low limits on one screen to the high limits on the adjacent screen, or vice versa. The final job mix gradation limits are established by applying the job mix tolerances to the job mix targets.

- (b) The job mix formula establishes target values. During production of the mix, the gradations shall lie within the job mix gradation limits specified in Table 1. For example, "Type A, No. 200" band is "4-7". QA job mix target of 5 has been selected for the final mix. The job mix gradation limits is 5, plus and minus 2. Therefore, the job mix gradation limits for production is 3-7.
- 5) A job mix design performed within the last twelve months shall be provided for the proposed asphaltic concrete mixes. All information listed in MPWSS Section 02510 Subsection 2.5 shall be included in the design.
- 6) The City will order Marshall Quality Control tests to be performed by an independent testing laboratory during the course of accepting delivery of asphaltic concrete material. The Contractor shall provide the tests at no costs to the City. Three tests found to be not in compliance with specifications may be considered as cause to void the contract with supplier and purchase asphalt from the next responsive bidder.
- 7) The contractor shall certify that the plant conforms with the mixing plant specifications in the MPWSS Section 02510, Subsections 2.1 and 3.6. The City may inspect the plant during normal working hours to verify compliance.
- 8) Unreasonable delays, as determined by the City, will result in required materials being purchased from the next responsive bidder and that amount being deducted from the quantities of this contract.

Method of Measurement and Basis of Payment:

- 1) Measurement: Tonnage shall be measured by a certified weigh scale. The actual weight will be used as a basis for payment.
- 2) Payment:
 - a. Asphaltic Concrete Material shall be paid for at a unit price bid per ton as furnished to the City. Payment shall be full compensation for materials furnished in full compliance with this policy.
 - b. No payment will be made for material rejected for deviations from this policy.

Abbreviations:

MPWSS: Montana Public Works Standard Specifications, Sixth Edition dated April 2010

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact Eric Boyd, Street Manager at (406) 771-1401 or Dan Palagi, Street Superintendent at (406) 455-8157.

Sincerely,

Eric Boyd
Street Manager
City of Great Fall