

Memorandum

*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.*

To: DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTORS, Construction
DEPUTY DIVISION CHIEF, Structure Construction
CONSTRUCTION MANAGERS
SENIOR CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS
RESIDENT ENGINEERS

Date: November 20, 2019

File: Division of Construction
CPD 19-16



From: RACHEL FALSETTI, Chief
Division of Construction

Subject: FLAGGING

This directive provides guidance to resident engineers on revised specifications for flagging and implementing change orders for automated flagger assistance devices (AFADs) for ongoing construction contracts.

Section 12, "Temporary Traffic Control," of the Revised *Standard Specifications* dated October 18, 2019 has been updated because of numerous specification revisions and additions including:

1. Section 12-1.04, "Payment"; removed Department pays ½ cost of flagging.
2. Section 12-3.31, "Portable Flashing Beacons"; section updated.
3. Section 12-3.32, "Portable Changeable Message Signs"; section updated.
4. Section 12-3.33, "Portable Signal Systems"; renamed "Temporary Signal Systems" and system requirements moved to Section 87-20, "Temporary Electrical Systems."
5. Section 12-3.34, "Temporary Flash Beacon Systems"; system requirements moved to Section 87-20, "Temporary Electrical Systems."
6. Section 12-3.37, "Portable Radar Speed Feedback Sign Systems"; new device specifications.
7. Section 12-3.38, "Automated Flagger Assistance Devices"; new device specifications.
8. Section 12-4.02C(1), "General"; added AFADs.
9. Section 12-4.02C(9), "Flagging"; new specification section that includes requirements for flaggers, AFAD operators, additional flaggers, advanced flaggers and flagger stations.

Section 7, “Legal Relations and Responsibilities to the Public,” of the Revised *Standard Specifications* has also been updated with the following specification changes for flagging:

- Section 7-1.03, “Public Convenience”; replaced reference to Section 12-1.04, “Payment,” of the *Standard Specifications* for flagging payment when not shown and if ordered, providing flaggers is change order work.
- Section 7-1.04, “Safety,” replaced reference to Section 12-1.04 for flagging payment when not shown and if ordered, providing flaggers is change order work. A payment clause for flaggers was added. Compensation for flaggers used for all movement of workers, construction vehicles, and equipment on or across lanes open to traffic is included in the bid items of work involved.

The revised specifications contain major changes to the way the Department has historically conducted business related to flagging. Personnel responsible for temporary traffic control need to be made aware of these changes. The changes for flagging are the outcome of Caltrans and Industry working together to address the recommendations for improving worker safety from the Caltrans Safety Summit and Senate Bill 1 Construction Task Force efficiency efforts. The changes will allow the use of new technologies for traffic control, and will reduce administrative costs in the field and eliminate the submittal and processing of extra work bills for flagging.

As a result of the revised specifications, the Department will no longer pay for 50 percent of the cost of all flagging on a project regardless of why it is required. Instead, the Department will pay for all flagging necessary for public safety and convenience, not specified or shown. Contractors now will include in their contract item bid prices biddable flagging shown on the contract and standard plans and for any flagging needed for safety and convenience operations, outside performance of the contract work, such as mobilizing and movement of equipment. The following summarizes various scenarios for flagging compensation:

1. Compensation for flaggers will be included in the bid item for traffic control system.
2. Compensation for flaggers shown on the contract plans, including advanced flaggers and additional flaggers will be included in the bid item for traffic control system. If advanced flaggers or additional flaggers are not shown, then compensation is change order work (Caltrans pays 100%).
3. For public safety, when not shown on the plans and when ordered, providing flaggers is change order work (Caltrans pays 100%). However, compensation for flaggers used for all movements of workers, construction vehicles, and equipment on or across lanes open to traffic, will be included in the bid items of work involved.

November 20, 2019

Page 3 of 3

4. For public convenience, such as for routing traffic through detours, when not shown on the plans and when ordered, providing flaggers is change order work (Caltrans pays 100%).
5. Flagging required because of added or changed work (Caltrans pays 100%).

The other major change for flagging is that the specifications include requirements for the use of new innovative technologies, AFADs and portable changeable message signs (PCMS), that will remove workers from the roadway to improve worker safety. The use of AFADs will allow the operator to be located off the roadway, and for some lane closures a single operator will be able to control AFADs located at both ends of the closure. The new specifications also allow a PCMS to be used in place of an advanced flagger; this will result in removal of a worker from the side of the roadway near traffic.

For ongoing construction projects, when requested by the contractor to use an AFAD for flagging or PCMS instead of using advanced flaggers, the resident engineer should work with the contractor to determine if the proposal meets the requirements for use detailed in the specifications. If the specification requirements for use are met, then a contract change order will be necessary to implement either of these changes.

A sample change order memorandum and sample change order are attached to this directive. This directive serves as delegation of authority from the Division of Construction, except when any of the following apply to the change order:

1. The language is altered
2. The total absolute value exceeds \$200,000
3. Contract time is extended by more than 20 days

If you have questions or comments regarding this directive, please contact Chuck Suszko, Division of Construction, at Chuck.Suszko@dot.ca.gov or (916) 798-6029.

Attachments:

1. Sample Form CEM-4903, "Change Order Memorandum" AFAD
2. Sample Form CEM-4900, "Change Order" AFAD
3. Change Order Attachment AFAD Specifications
4. Sample Form CEM-4903, "Change Order Memorandum" PCMS
5. Sample Form CEM-4900, "Change Order" PCMS
6. FHWA Form CA-358(c), "Record of Blanket Prior Approval for Major Contract Change Order"