



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
100 North Senate Avenue
Room N758
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2216
(317) 232-5533 FAX: (317) 232-0238
An Equal Opportunity Employer • <http://www.in.gov/dot>

Driving Indiana's Economic Growth

MITCHELL E. DANIELS, JR., Governor
THOMAS O. SHARP, Commissioner

Writer's Direct Line
317-232-5456

July 18, 2006

**CONSTRUCTION MEMORANDUM
06-21**

TO: District Directors
District Highway Operation Directors
District Construction Engineers
District Testing Engineers
District Area Engineers
Project Engineers/Supervisors

FROM: Mark A. Miller, Director *Mark Miller*
Division of Construction Management

SUBJECT: Basis of Use for Detectable Warning Elements for Sidewalk Curb Ramps

As everyone should be aware, INDOT has for some time included sidewalk curb ramps in construction contracts. As these have been constructed over the years, the use of "Detectable Warning Elements" has become an important part of the make up of a useable curb ramp by vision impaired persons. INDOT has agreed to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA guidelines) which outlines the shape, size, and location of the detectable warning buttons on the walking surface.

INDOT specifications, Sections 604 and 905, deal with the construction of curb ramps and the materials that are to be incorporated in them. The specifications state in 905.05 that the detectable warning elements shall be a brick in accordance with ASTM C 902, Class SX, Type II. The color shall be approximate 30109 or 30166 in accordance with Federal Standard No. 595a. Specification 604.02 also states that a Type A Certification in accordance with 916 is required and shall be furnished by the contractor to the PE/S prior to use of the materials. This Type A certification is no longer required because INDOT's "Manual for Frequency of Sampling and Testing and Basis for Use of Materials" refers to a list of approved suppliers for detectable warning elements. The specification will be revised accordingly. If a contractor provides an element not on the approved list, the PE/S will need to submit samples of that product to central testing for approval prior to use. As additional elements are approved the list will be revised.

There are many products out in the market place which appear to meet the ADA requirements but at this time there is only one company, Whiteacre-Greer, with products on the approved list. They have two colors that are acceptable and that are considered to meet the color requirements of our specifications. Those colors are "30 Clear Red" and "32 Antique". We are aware that contractors are being allowed to use other types of units such as; tiles, cast iron products, etc. which are not on the approved list and have not been tested. These units, if used, will be considered as failed materials. Please be sure you are following the requirements of the above referenced specifications on your project.

MAM:dak