July 17, 2013

CONSTRUCTION MEMORANDUM
13-07

TO: District Deputy Commissioners
    District Construction Directors
    District Technical Service Directors
    District Testing Engineers
    District Area Engineers
    District LPA Coordinators
    Field Engineers
    Project Engineers/Supervisors
    Office of Materials Management

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

SUBJECT: Transverse Corrugations in Sidewalk Curb Ramps

Questions have arisen regarding the need for ramp grooves, or transverse corrugations, as shown on the curb ramp standard drawings.

The standard drawing 604-SWCR series includes ramp grooves shown as part of each ramp detail. These grooves were intended to serve as detectable warning elements prior to requiring truncated domes. After truncated domes were incorporated into the 604-SWCR series of the standard drawings, the ramp grooves were considered an enhancement and remained. Ramp grooves or corrugations are not required for a curb ramp to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Effective immediately, ramp grooves may be omitted on curb ramps.

Forthcoming revisions to the 604-SWCR series of the standard drawings will include removing callouts to use the ramp grooves and the groove details. In addition the Standard Specifications section 604.03(e) will be revised to remove corrugations from the ramp surface requirements.

MAM/JR/EP