

Section 17:

Curbs and Gutters

SECTION 17 – CURBS AND GUTTERS

17.1 CONCRETE CURB, INTEGRAL CONCRETE CURB, COMBINED CONCRETE CURB AND GUTTER

Concrete curbing and combined concrete curb and gutter must be constructed prior to paving. Grade lines for the top of curb and flow line of the gutter should be established as far in advance of construction as possible, reviewed with the AE, and be approximately parallel with the centerline of pavement. Wherever possible, the elevation of the top of curb should be approximately 1/4 in. lower than the sidewalk or ground line. This lower elevation allows for drainage and prevents standing water from accumulating on the adjacent sidewalk. Curb and gutter must be constructed in accordance with the contract documents, and the PEMS must verify that positive drainage is established.

If it appears that the elevation of the top of curb will be above the sidewalk or ground line, the AE should be contacted in sufficient time to permit an inspection of the area before construction is started.

Attention must be given to the preparation and compaction of the subgrade and the setting of forms and forming of joints. Forms that are not straight, warped, or not strong enough to resist springing when concrete is deposited will be rejected. True line and grade on curb or combined curb and gutter is essential to prevent standing water. Rubbing, finishing, and curing must be in accordance with the SS.

The upper portion of integral curb may be constructed after the lower portion has been completed and cured with the adjacent pavement. Stirrup bars shall be placed as specified and the surface roughened prior to the concrete gutter curing. The gutter line should be checked with a straightedge, after the stirrup bars have been placed in the lower portion of the integral curb, to verify there are no irregularities.

Where HMA surfaces are constructed adjacent to curb or combined curb and gutter, the concrete must be adequately covered to prevent marring by the tack or HMA material during their placement.

17.2 HMA CURBING

Unless otherwise specified, the HMA material used for curbing will be as set out in Division 400 of the SS.

The machine used to place the curb is generally an extruding type machine that forces the HMA mixture through a mold conforming to the typical section. Irregular sections may be placed, formed, and compacted by hand methods.

Just prior to the placing of the HMA curb, the base must be thoroughly cleaned of all foreign material. If the HMA curb will not adhere to the base, the base must receive a tack coat, as provided in Section 605 of the SS. The Contractor must not proceed when the material is not extruding to the desired section and density. Any substandard curb must be removed and replaced at no additional cost to the Department.