

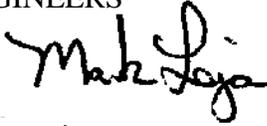
Memorandum

*Flex your power!
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To: DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTORS, Construction
DEPUTY DIVISION CHIEF, Structure Construction
CONSTRUCTION MANAGERS
SENIOR CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS
RESIDENT ENGINEERS

Date: November 30, 2010

File: Division of Construction
CPD 10-14

From: MARK LEJA 
Chief
Division of Construction

Subject: Relative Mortar Strength of Fine Aggregate

Caltrans recently revised specification requirements for portland cement concrete with the following changes:

1. Revised Section 90-2.02B, "Fine Aggregate," of the *Standard Specifications* to eliminate the quality requirement for fine aggregate tested under California Test Method 515, "Method of Test for Relative Mortar Strength of Portland Cement Concrete Sand."
2. Revised Section 90-1.01, "Description," to require a minimum compressive strength of 3,600 psi for structures or portions of structures.
3. Modified the criteria for classifying strength-designated concrete from the current requirement of greater than 3,600 psi to the new requirement of 3,600 psi or greater. However, a mix design for concrete with specified compressive strength of 3,600 psi will be exempt from pre-qualification requirements under Section 90-9, "Compressive Strength."

The Office of Structure Construction requested that this change be allowed as a contractor-requested contract change order for ongoing projects. Refer to Bridge Construction Memo 100-7 for technical guidance. You can find bridge construction memos in Office of Structure Construction *Bridge Construction Records and Procedures Manual*, which you can access online:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/construction/manuals/>

This directive serves as delegation of authority from the Division of Construction and the Federal Highway Administration to Districts for approval of contract change orders consistent with this directive. Division of Construction approval is required if the contract change order language is altered from the sample provided or the change has a total absolute value exceeding \$200,000 according to CPB 06-5, "CCO Approval Delegation." High-profile project change orders with altered language or that require time extensions will need FHWA approval.

For additional information or assistance, please contact:

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John Babcock, Office of Structure Construction, john_babcock@dot.ca.gov or (916) 227-8871

Attachments: Sample Contract Change Order Memorandum
Sample Contract Change Order
FHWA—Record of Blanket Prior Approval for Major Contract Change Order