

Section 15 Existing Highway Facilities

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4-1501 General

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The information in this section corresponds to Section 15, “Existing Highway Facilities” of the *Standard Specifications*. The following sections of the *Standard Specifications* also have related information:

- Section 7-1.11, “Preservation of Property”
- Section 7-1.12, “Indemnification and Insurance”
- Section 8-1.10, “Utility and Non-Highway Facilities”

The work described in this section covers removing existing highway facilities that interfere with construction within the area that must be cleared and grubbed, as specified in Section 16, “Clearing and Grubbing,” of the *Standard Specifications*.

The contractor is required to protect all existing highway facilities (whether shown or not shown in the contract plans) that are to remain in place, either temporarily or permanently, and that are to be salvaged, relaid, reset, relocated, or reconstructed. When such facilities are damaged as a result of the operation, the contractor is responsible for repair or replacement. Caltrans is responsible for repair or replacement of existing highway facilities that are damaged by public traffic.

4-1502 Before Work Begins

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Before work begins, take the following steps:

- Inspect existing facilities that are to be salvaged, relaid, reset, relocated, or reconstructed. If their condition has deteriorated sufficiently to prevent the planned use, write a contract change order to provide for new materials.
- When facilities to be removed belong to a city, county, or other agency, check with the applicable agency before disturbing the facility.
- The district maintenance unit maintains existing signals and lights. Keep the maintenance region manager informed of specific needs or changes.
- Document existing conditions with photographs or video.

4-1503 During the Course of Work

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During the work, take the steps below for obliterating roads and detours, removing traffic stripes, pavement markings, pavement markers, salvaging materials, removing concrete and bridges, and handling mailboxes.

4-1503A Obliterating Roads and Detours

In covering obliteration, the *Standard Specifications*’ objective is to ensure a well-drained, presentable area. You may allow the contractor the option of removing oversize material in lieu of breaking it into the required size, provided the objective is met and no other complications are involved. Update the water pollution control plan (WPCP) to reflect the new conditions.

4-1503B Removing Traffic Stripes and Pavement Markings

Take the following steps for traffic stripes and pavement markings:

- Yellow striping generally contains lead, so ensure special handling for removal and disposal. Usually, if this striping was identified in the contract, the special provisions will cover removal and disposal. However, if yellow striping needs to be removed and the special provisions did not identify special handling, contact the district hazardous waste coordinator to determine if the striping needs to be tested.
- Observe areas where traffic stripes or pavement markings have been removed. If conditions are such that, after contractual requirements for removal have been met, the resulting areas present a traffic hazard, order additional work to eliminate the hazard. Make your observations in the same conditions that public traffic will experience, such as driving during the night, on wet pavement, or in low sun angles.

4-1503C Removing Pavement Markers

Take the following steps for pavement markers:

- Observe the removal procedure for pavement markers. As early as possible, advise the contractor of the required type of repair to damaged pavement or surfacing.
- Note the provisions for protecting public traffic from fragments. Require the contractor to remove all removed markers and fragments from the right-of-way as specified in Section 15-2.03, “Disposal,” of the *Standard Specifications*.

4-1503D Salvaging Materials

During salvage operations, the contractor is responsible for any loss or damage. Keep accurate records of inventory to ensure that all materials to be salvaged are delivered in suitable condition to the specified location. For additional guidelines for handling materials to be salvaged, see Section 3-4, “Scope of Work,” of the *Construction Manual*.

4-1503E Removing Concrete

Observe concrete removal to ensure the work complies with contract requirements. Pay particular attention to items that can be observed only during the work. These items include the following:

- Removal to the specified minimum depth below finished grade. Enter notes into the appropriate daily report that this feature was checked and meets requirements.
- Disposal into adjacent embankments. See Section 19-6, “Embankment Construction,” of the *Standard Specifications*. Note that both lateral and vertical limitations are met. Make every effort to include disposal locations in as-built plans.
- Breakage of floors of concrete basements, pits, and structures to prevent entrapment of water. Note the inspections in the appropriate daily report.

4-1503F Removing Bridges

Take the following steps for removing bridges:

- The contractor must submit bridge removal plans. The Office of Structure Construction’s representative on the project has complete responsibility and authority for reviewing and approving bridge removal plans and administering bridge removal specifications. On projects that do not have a representative

from the Office of Structure Construction, consult with the structure representative assigned to the area. Further information on bridge removal oversight is contained in the Office of Structure Construction's *Bridge Construction Records and Procedures Manual*.

- When bridge removal occurs over or adjacent to public traffic or railroad property, carefully review the contractor's submittal of removal details and refer to the requirements of Section 15-4, "Bridge Removal," of the *Standard Specifications*. Also refer to the contract special provisions. Details about handling traffic around or through the area should be included.
- Ensure the contractor will have sufficient resources on hand and has planned in sufficient detail to ensure the work will be completed within specified time limits.
- Review shielding plans to ensure the contractor meets specified requirements and that shielding serves its intended purpose.
- Ensure the contractor conducts all bridge removal in a manner that protects pavement and other facilities from damage. Make sure the contractor has addressed this requirement in planning the operation.

4-1503G Handling Mailboxes

Before starting construction activities, document the existing conditions of mailboxes. Wherever possible, mailboxes should be set in their final location. However, it is often necessary to move mailboxes a number of times during construction. Any movement of mailboxes purely for the convenience of the contractor is the contractor's responsibility, but ensure the contractor maintains proper position and access to mailboxes. Here are the procedures for mailboxes encountered on construction projects:

- If the mailbox is outside of the limits of the new work, it may be allowed to remain.
- If it is within the limits of the new work and does not have to be moved either laterally or vertically to conform to the ultimate section, it may be allowed to remain.
- If under either of the above conditions the contractor desires to remove the mailbox to facilitate equipment operation, the contractor must replace the mailbox at the contractor's expense. The contractor must also arrange for the receipt of mail in the interim.
- If a change in grade or relocation of a roadway edge results in the need to raise, lower, or laterally move the mailbox, the work done to the mailbox will be made at Caltrans' expense.
- If the mailbox must be removed entirely, it must be turned over to the property owner.
- Where five or more mailboxes are concentrated at a single point, a stand, on which the property owners may place their mailboxes, may be built at Caltrans' expense. This stand will prevent the unsightly appearance resulting from a group of posts of various sizes, heights, and characters. The approach to the stand should be surfaced sufficiently to make the stand accessible under all weather conditions.

4-1504 Measurement and Payment
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