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TO: Region Engineers

ATTN: Region Preconstruction and Area Operations, Construction, and
County Transportation Engineers

FROM: Winston J. Powe, P.E. 
State Construction Engineer

RE: Geometric Controls

Section 680 of the *Standard Specifications for Highway Construction* outlines the requirements for the Contractor to perform Geometric Controls (GC) to complete the work required by the plans when the GC pay item is included in the proposal. It has come to our attention during recent reviews of pre-letting plans and field issues that some projects do not include the GC item in the plans when it should be.

There are certain types of projects that no GC are required other than the original stakeout and stationing performed by the Department. Those include projects such as, but not limited to, maintenance resurfacing with match existing slopes, guardrail or cable guiderail, bridge painting, bridge rail retrofit, structure removal, traffic signals, roadway lighting, etc. Then, there are the traditional construction projects such as Grade & Drain, Base & Pave, Bridge Replacement, etc. that do require GC, and for these projects, the pay item is included. It is the projects that fall in between these examples (which the Department seems to be doing more of these days) that are the issue. These projects include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Resurfacing with 2% or e requirements
- Resurfacing with Safety Widening that requires drainage extensions
- Slide Corrections
- Sidewalks, Bike Trails, Multi-use Facilities
- Drainage Improvements

Subarticle 105.08(b) outlines the requirements when Item 680A Geometric Controls is not included in the proposal. In these cases, if any stakeout is required for the Contractor to establish lines, grades, and measurements necessary for the proper prosecution of the work, the Engineer will perform such work to establish the location, alignment, and elevation of all parts of the work. We have had Contractors question their responsibility during construction of the work and had cases where potential bidders ask about whether GC should be included in the proposal due to the required work. This CIM is to remind you of the requirements of Subarticle 105.08(b) and Section 680 and to include the GC pay item when the work will require such type of effort by the Contractor.

Without the GC pay item or a Project Note making GC a subsidiary obligation (which is highly discouraged and should only apply in cases of minor work), the Contractor has the right to request the item be added by supplemental agreement as Extra Work. This type of change order would be considered a Design Error/Omission and would only apply to projects let after this date.

Articles 1:2:E and 1:2:F of the *Construction Manual* outline the **Contract Administration** requirements for **Project, Field, and Office Engineering**, and **Contractor Furnished Engineering Controls**. While some of these procedures do not include the latest technology, the basis of the work to be performed by the Department and Contractor is still applicable. Please utilize these sections as a reference for the work required by each and ensure that your Project Managers and Area contract administration personnel and most importantly, your designers, are familiar with this CIM.

WJP

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