



Montana Department of Transportation
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001

Memorandum

To: Distribution

From: Matthew R. Strizich, PE, Materials Engineer

Date: April 29, 2011

Subject: Type I and Type II Cover Material Selection

Effective immediately, begin to specify Type II cover material for chip seals placed on roadways with more than 10,000 average daily traffic (ADT). On roadways with less than 10,000 ADT, specify Type I cover material.

The purpose of this change is to provide a more durable wearing surface on roadways with relatively high ADT. It has been observed that chip seals on roadways with more than 10,000 ADT may have reduced service lives due to cover material wearing off prematurely within the wheelpaths. Placing Type II cover material on these roadways should provide a more durable wearing surface, and increased service life.

There are instances where roadways with less than 10,000 ADT experience reduced service life due to chip loss. Some examples may be urban roads or intersections with stop-and-go or turning traffic. Type II aggregate should be used on these projects, also.

Document the cover type to be specified with the appropriate project report.

Implementation:

Make changes as defined in this memo on all projects before the final plan review (Act. 230 or Act. 272 for in-house or consultant design projects, respectively).

Two changes will need to be made within the Plans and Engineers' cost estimate:

1. Within the Plans, change the cover type within the summary tables.
2. Within the Engineer's cost estimate, change both the cover type and bid item price for cover material.

Note: Application rates within Basis of Plan Quantities are the same for both Cover Type I and II.

Please contact the surfacing design unit if you have questions or need assistance on this matter.

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