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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT
INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

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February 21, 2011
225-379-1951

MEMORANDUM

TO: ADA Engineering
 Chad Winchester – Road Design Administrator
 Debra Guest – Consultant Contracts Administrator
 Brian Buckel – Construction Engineer
 Ann Wills – Asst. to the Secretary for Policy
 Betsey Tramonte – FHWA
 Don Weathers - LAPA

FROM: Richard L. Savoie, P.E. *RS*
 Chief Engineer

Rhett Desselle, P.E. *RAD*
 Chief of Operations

Subject: Incorporating Shoulder Wedge into Construction Plans

DOTD is committed to incorporating low cost treatments on our roadways to enhance safety for the traveling public. One of these treatments is the shoulder wedge. The wedge is incorporated into the paving operation to eliminate the vertical face of the pavement at the interface with shoulder material or embankment.

Designers are hereby instructed to include the wedge in all projects, where applicable. Details are available on ProjectWise.

Projects include all new construction and reconstruction projects where right-of-way taking lines have not yet been determined or will not be affected by use of the wedge, incorporation of the wedge will not delay the project letting date, and Preservation/Rehabilitation/Replacement (PRR) projects with a letting date after June 2011.

Projects with numerous unaltered driveways having the same finish grade elevation as the final roadway elevation, projects having ditches immediately adjacent to the edge of the roadway or paved shoulder, and areas of projects with large superelevation, will require further review by the designer to determine if the use of the wedge is applicable. Justification for not incorporating the wedge into the construction plans is to be sent to the Project and/or Program Manager.

Should you require additional information, please contact Simone Ardoin at 225-379-1951.

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL DATE

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