



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
1401 EAST BROAD STREET
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219-2000

Stephen C. Brich, P.E.
COMMISSIONER

August 5, 2019

To: District Construction Engineers
Area Construction Engineers
Construction Managers
District Maintenance Engineers
District Traffic Engineers
District Materials Engineers
Regional Operations Directors
District Operations Maintenance Managers

From: Kerry A. Bates, P.E., State Construction Engineer

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kerry A. Bates".

Subject: Plastic Inlaid Markers

The Department has determined that cast-iron Snowplowable Raised Pavement Markers (SRPMs) will no longer be installed on VDOT projects throughout the Commonwealth. Moving forward, the Department will begin implementation of the Plastic Inlaid Markers (PIMs) system as a replacement for SRPMs. Accordingly, the Department's Approved Product List 22 will be revised to include PIMs. The change to PIMs will be done in accordance with the guidance set forth below.

- 2020 Schedule Paving Contracts - PIMs will be included in all 2020 Schedule Paving Contracts that currently call for SRPMs, except for THMACO or other "thin lift" of asphalt 1.0" or less in depth.
- Regular Projects (RAAP/SAAP) – PIMs will be included in projects requiring a marker system that are scheduled to be advertised after January 1, 2020.
- Active Projects - Current active projects requiring installation of SRPMs will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Where feasible, SRPMs should be eliminated and replaced with PIMs by Change Order.

Traffic Engineering will be publishing an Instructional & Information Memorandum (IIM) on the subject in the near future and Construction Division will be issuing a PIMs Special Provision for use (a draft Special Provision was shared with Industry partners on July 30, 2019 with comments due back on August 14, 2019).

It is anticipated that the switch to PIMS will have minimal impact to Districts as they prepare 2020 paving schedules, as they can assume no significant changes to quantity or cost for planning purposes. Based on product constraints, PIMs will be excluded from paving projects involving THMACO or other “thin lift” paving. Traffic Engineering’s IIM will have additional information on VDOT’s expectations under such circumstances.

Construction Division will be scheduling a statewide call prior to the 2020 paving schedule submissions to provide more guidance.

Please contact either myself or one of my Construction Division Assistant Administrators if you have any questions concerning this Memorandum and/or if you have questions on individual projects related to this subject.

Cc: District Engineers
Engineering Directorate Division Administrators
Maintenance & Operations Directorate Division Administrators
Engineering Division Administrators
Construction Division Assistant Division Administrators
District Contract Administrators
Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance
Old Dominion Highway Contractors Association
Virginia Asphalt Association
American Concrete Pavement Association
Virginia Ready-Mixed Concrete Association
Virginia Precast Concrete Association
American Traffic Safety Services Association