

2012 Meeting With Contractors

Action Items

We gathered a great deal of feedback from you at this year's meeting, and after analyzing the comments, have identified the following potential action items:

- Review current Seed Specifications to determine if requiring both a minimum "Germ Rate" and specifying Pure Live Seed (PLS) is redundant.
- Air quality violation issues persist for projects specifying the use of blown straw. Evaluate the impact of deleting the Straw Specification. Is this treatment still valid and cost effective?
- Review deleting or revising the current Polymer Stabilized Fiber Matrix specification due to efficacy and potential sole source issues.
- Review deleting the Type A Fiber Roll option (created on site by rolling and tying erosion control blankets). Contractors are not choosing this material option.
- Review revising the Plant Establishment Specification to improve biddability.
- Review revising the Drill Seed Specification. Require only two passes?.
- Review revising the Rock Blanket Detail to ensure that we are not "over specifying" the depth of required concrete base materials.
- Review "ESA Fence" with Caltrans Specification owner to verify the availability of the materials specified.
- Review the existing Gravel Mulch Specification. Example: Does gravel mulch really need an aggregate base? Is there a benefit in compacting gravel mulch after installation?
- Discuss with Caltrans Construction Division the need to provide Resident Engineer guidance on load ticket requirements for Compost and Mulch.
- Review opportunities and constraints of Central Irrigation Control systems such as RICS or other smart controllers. Consider developing a standard specification for smart controllers.

Communicate with District Landscape Architects regarding:

- The need to consider theft of copper wire and brass heads and valves in their designs. Review discontinuing the use of brass sprinkler heads and replacing wire in conduit with direct burial wire.
- The need to provide information on existing water sources, truck watering or meters for temporary irrigation systems.
- The need to avoid "double dimensioning" quantities for compost, mulch, and groundcover.
- The opportunities and constraints of incorporating compost on steep slopes.