



CITY OF RAPID CITY

Engineering Division

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Shaw and Council Members

FROM: Public Works

SUBJECT: Request Authorization to Issue Addendum to the City of Rapid City Standard Specifications for Public Works 2004 Edition as they relate to Section 8 and corrosion coatings

DATE: October 20, 2004

It has come to our attention that there is an issue with some specific products/materials complying with the 2004 specifications in regard to coating material types and coating thickness. Specifically, there appears to be a discrepancy with Joint Restraint devices, T-bolts, and MJ Glands. It is generally recognized that specifications are considered a "living document" that requires routine maintenance to remain current and up to date with changing technology. For this reason, the City of Rapid City will endeavor to meet these needs and will strive to evaluate proposed changes all the while safe-guarding and ensuring the public's interests.

The City Engineering Division anticipates contracting with a firm that specializes in corrosion issues within the next year to evaluate and fine tune the 2004 specifications as they relate to corrosion. Because there are a number of projects that are either under construction or are forthcoming we are proposing to address these immediate concerns as follows:

Water Main Fittings: A minimum epoxy coating thickness was not stated. Therefore, the epoxy coating mil thickness shall be 6 to 8 mil minimum.

Joint Restraint Devices: For the Ford Joint Restraint device the E coat system is permitted in lieu of the coatings specified. Specifically, the fluoropolymer coating for the wedge and wedge assemblies and the epoxy coating for the castings are permitted. However, because this coating does not meet the City specification entirely nor does it have a proven track record with the City, the entire joint restraint device shall be double poly wrapped and taped per City specifications for



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polyethylene encasement.

For the EBBA Joint Restraint device the MEGA-BOND coating system is permitted in lieu of the coatings specified. Specifically, the two coats of fluoropolymer for the wedge and wedge assemblies and the polyester based powder coating for the castings are permitted. However, because this coating does not meet the City specification entirely nor does it have a proven track record with the City, the entire joint restraint device shall be double poly wrapped and taped per City specifications for polyethylene encasement.

T-Bolts:

T-Bolts used with MJ fittings shall be per the specifications meaning they will be Cor-Blue, Stainless Steel, or Epoxy coated. The Fluoropolymer coating that has been utilized with the Birmingham T-bolt is not an approved equal to the Cor-Blue T-bolt and therefore is not permitted.

T-Bolts used in conjunction with a Joint Restraint Device that utilizes the fluoropolymer coating for wedges and wedge assemblies, may utilize the fluoropolymer coating system for the T-Bolts used in conjunction with the Restraint Device. However, because this coating does not meet the City specification entirely nor does it have a proven track record with the City, the entire joint restraint device shall be double poly wrapped and taped per City specifications for polyethylene encasement.

MJ Glands:

MJ Glands shall be per the specifications. Although some suppliers may not offer epoxy coating on their glands others do and therefore the specification shall apply. No change proposed.

The City reserves the right to amend or revoke these provisions, and will provide future clarifications and guidance as necessary after the completion of the proposed corrosion study. We request that the Public Works Committee and the City Council authorize City staff to issue and prepare an addendum to the Standard Specifications to address the above items.