



Bob Riley
Governor

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Montgomery, Alabama 36110



Joe McInnes
Transportation Director

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MATERIALS AND TESTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY I-08

TO: Division Engineers

FROM: Larry Lockett, P. E. *Larry Lockett*
Materials and Tests Engineer

RE: Material for Flushing of Shoulders

Guidelines For Operation (GFO) 6-11, PAVEMENT TREATMENT AND DESIGN IN RESURFACING-REHABILITATION OF ASPHALT PAVEMENTS, was recently revised to include guidance on bringing any unpaved shoulder areas up to the grade of the newly placed overlay by flushing the shoulders with a suitable borrow material, or other suitable material, as soon as practical after resurfacing.

It was stated in GFO 6-11, that the material utilized for the purpose of flushing the shoulders should have suitable binder or cohesive properties to keep the material in place and to help prevent it from being washed away during rainfall events. To clarify this statement, effective immediately, borrow material that is shown as being required to flush the shoulders will also be required to have a minimum clay content of 10%. In addition, to help facilitate grass growth, a layer of topsoil will also be required to be placed on top of the borrow material that is used to flush the shoulders.

GFO 6-11 further stated that preferably, some type of soil aggregate base course material, crushed aggregate base course material, crusher run material, or other materials with similar binder or cohesive properties should be used to flush the

shoulders adjacent to an overlay, when required. In consideration of cost and specification requirements, a crusher run material is preferred over a crushed aggregate base course material, and when utilized, the crusher run material will be required to be 1" down in size.

If a soil aggregate base course material is used to flush the shoulders, it will be required to have a minimum clay content of 8%. The placement of a layer of topsoil on top of the soil aggregate base course material will also be required to facilitate the growth of grass.

If a section roadway is let to contract for resurfacing through the state bid process, any and all shoulder work required in conjunction with the resurfacing will be contract work items to be done under the same contract as the resurfacing. Due to possible delays in flushing the shoulders and potential liability issues, it will not be acceptable for non-contract work forces to come back at a later date and flush the shoulders after the contractor has completed his resurfacing work.

Cc: Mr. G. M. Harper, P. E.
Mr. Terry L. McDuffie, P. E.
Mr. Ed Phillips, P. E.
Mr. John Lorentson, P. E.
Division Construction Engineers
Division Materials Engineers
FHWA (Mr. Steve Mills, P. E.)
File