CHAPTER 2 – STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS

STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS
The contractor is required to comply with the following contract documents when bidding on and constructing a traffic control signal system or lighting system:

- MnDOT Standard Specifications for Construction (hereinafter Spec Book)
- Contract proposal including special provisions
- Supplemental specifications
- The plan
- Standard plates
- Temporary Traffic Control Field Manual

The first three documents are discussed in Chapter 2. The remaining documents are covered in other chapters.

2.1 MnDOT Standard Specifications for Construction

The MnDOT Standard Specifications for Construction is a collection of provisions and requirements pertaining to the performance of work and materials. The Spec Book contains three divisions:

1. Division I – General Requirements and Covenants
2. Division II – Construction Details
3. Division III - Materials

2.1.1 DIVISION I – GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND COVENANTS

Each Division I specification number begins with “1” (1101 - 1911). Note that each section of Division I is given a numeric series. For example, “Control of Work” is the 1500 series (1501 - 1517). Division I is divided into nine (9) sections, including “Definition of Terms” and “Control of Work”, both of which are presented below.

Definition of Terms (1103)
Examples from “Definition of Terms” (1101-1103) are presented in Terms Figure below.

ENGINEER.
A Department engineer authorized as the Department’s representative responsible for the engineering supervision of the work and delegated with those duties and authorities defined in the contract. The contract may redefine the Engineer as a specific Department engineer (i.e. Concrete Engineer, Bridge Engineer, Materials Engineer, Traffic Engineer, Roadway Engineer, etc.)” with jurisdiction over the engineering details of specific construction items; however, the Engineer is the main point of contact for the Contractor and should receive copies of all correspondence between the Contractor and other Department representatives.

INSPECTOR.
The Engineer’s authorized representative assigned to make detailed inspections of Contract work.
Control of Work (1500)

An example within Control of Work (1501-1517) is Specification 1504 – Coordination of Contract Documents. Specification 1504 states the following:

A requirement appearing in one of the Contract documents is as binding as though the requirement appears in all. If discrepancies exist between the Contract documents, the following order of precedence applies:

1. Addenda
2. Special Provisions
3. Project Specific Plan Sheets
4. Supplemental Specifications
5. Standard Plan Sheets and Standard Plates
6. Standard Specifications

Figure 2-3: Specification 1504

2.1.2 DIVISION II – CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Each Division II specification number begins with “2” (2021 - 2582) and as in Division I, each section is given a numeric series. Division II is divided into six sections:

1. General (2021 - 2051)
2. Grading (2101 - 2131)
3. Base Construction (2201-2232)
4. Pavement Construction (2301 - 2360)
5. Bridges and Structures (2401 - 2481)
6. Miscellaneous (2501 - 2582)
   a. 2545 Lighting Systems
   b. 2550 Traffic Management System
   c. 2565 Traffic Control Signals

The Miscellaneous Construction section contains 2545 - Lighting Systems and 2565 - Traffic Control Signals. Each section is broken down similarly. A detailed discussion of Specification 2565 is presented below.

MnDOT 2565 is divided into the following sections:

1. 2565.1 Description
2. 2565.2 Materials
3. 2565.3 Construction Requirements
4. 2565.4 Method of Measurement
5. 2565.5 Basis of Payment
Description of Work (2565.1A)

Within 2565.1 Description, the section describes the required work and other types of systems governed by these specifications. Note that within the Spec Book page, there are vertical lines along the left margin.

These lines show what content has changed between the 2016 version of the Spec Book and the 2018 version.

Qualifications of Workers (2545.1.B and 2565.1.B)

This specification requires MnDOT Signal and Lighting Technician Certification for all contractors, supervisors, or foremen actively involved on the job site with the field installation of the traffic control signal systems and lighting systems.

The language within this specification also requires certified contractor personnel to be on the project work site at all times to perform or directly supervise the installation of a lighting system or traffic control signal system.

Definitions (2565.1.C)

This section covers specific definitions of terms. These terms required clarification to help avoid confusion during project planning, design, and construction.
Construction Requirements (2565.3)

Specification 2565 presents the requirements of the actual construction of a traffic control signal system. It should be noted that some of these specifications refer to other specifications in other sections of the Spec Book. For example, “Permits and Inspections” refers to MnDOT 1702 (Permits, Licenses, and Taxes).

This type of referral is found throughout the Spec Book and on applicable detail drawings, standard plates, etc.

Method of Measurement (2565.4)

Section 2565.4 explains how the components of a traffic control signal system will be measured for payment.
**Basis of Payment (2565.5)**

Section 2565.5 explains how traffic control signal systems are paid for.

The sections of 2545 (Lighting Systems) that differ from 2565 (Traffic Control Signals) are in the “Method of Measurement” and “Basis of Payment” sections. Lighting systems will be paid for as a complete system (Lump Sum) or as individual components (Itemized).

The Spec Book lists both “complete systems” and individual system components. The following is an example of how 2545 lists items as individual components:

### 2.1.3 DIVISION III - MATERIALS

Division III specification numbers begin with “3” (3101 - 3973) and as in Divisions I and II, each section is given a numeric series. This Division is divided into eighteen sections. MnDOT 2545 and 2565 cross-reference various sections of this Division. The most commonly referenced sections for traffic control signals and lighting systems are sections 3801 through 3850 (Electrical Systems Materials).

There are a number of instances where documents will refer the contractor to other areas within the Spec Book. An example of this is the Pole and Mast Arm Standard Plate 8123.

In the “NOTES” section on Standard Plate 8123, the Standard Plate refers the contractor to Specification 2471 Structural Metals, which specifies the requirements for fabrication of the pole and mast arm.
2.2 Contract Proposal

2.2.1 CONTRACT PROPOSAL CONTENT
Each project has a proposal. The following information is printed on the front cover of the proposal:

- Name and address of the contractor awarded the contract
- State project number
- Governing specifications
- Contract number
- Location of work
- Starting and completion dates

On the back cover of the proposal additional information is printed. These include bid amount, signatures, etc.

The following list includes items contained within the proposal:

- Addendums
- Notice to bidders
- Drawings and details
- Special provisions by Division: Division S, Division SS, Division SL, etc.
- Attachments
- Schedule of prices

2.2.2 SPECIAL PROVISIONS
Special provisions are additions and revisions to the Spec Book covering conditions unique to an individual project. Special provisions are just that “special provisions.” If an item is properly specified in the Spec Book, plans, Standard Plate, or other contract document, then it is not to be duplicated in the special provisions.

In the proposal, the special provisions for traffic control signal systems are located in Division SS. Special provisions for lighting systems are located in Division SL. Division SS and Division SL may contain two or more sections. For example:

**SIGNALS**  
SS-1  Traffic Control Signals  
SS-2  Traffic Control Interconnection  
... and so on.

**LIGHTING**  
SL-1  Removing Miscellaneous Structures  
SL-2  Lighting Systems  
... and so on

Each section of Division SS and Division SL is setup in a format similar to the Spec Book format. Look at Division SS (Traffic Control Signal Systems) as an example:

SS-2.1  General Section  
SS-2.2  Materials Section  
SS-2.3  Construction Requirements  
SS-2.4  Measurement and Payment
Division SS may include detail drawings that are pertinent to the specific project. This same format is used for other types of Division SS systems such as Revise Traffic Control Signal System, Flashing Beacon System, and Loop Detector Replacement.

MnDOT has developed an Approved/Qualified Products List (APL) for most signal and lighting components. The Spec Book and in some cases the special provisions will refer contractors to MnDOT’s APL for those materials.

The following is a closer look at a typical set of special provisions for a typical traffic control signal system.

**Traffic Control Signals (SS-2)**
The description paragraph describes the work, the location, and the rules, which govern the work.

![SS-2 (2565) Traffic Control Signals](image)

This work shall consist of furnishing and installing materials and electrical equipment and installing Department furnished materials as specified herein, all to provide two complete operating new hardware interconnected coordinated full-traffic-actuated traffic control signal systems.

1. SYSTEM “A” — At the intersection of Prairie Center Drive and Technology Drive in Eden Prairie, Hennepin County, and

2. SYSTEM “B” — At the intersection of T.H. 212 (South Ramp) and West 78th Street in Eden Prairie, Hennepin County

--- in accordance with the applicable provisions of MnDOT 2565; with the current edition of the National Electrical Code; with the plan and as follows;

**General (SS-2.1)**

If the Department is furnishing to the contractor any signal components, a list of the material to be furnished would be included in this section. This section also includes a list of the material that the contractor is required to furnish and install in order to complete the installation of the Department furnished material. It also indicates the requirements of the contractor for picking up the Department furnished materials.

MnDOT provides traffic control signal cabinets, the controller, and other equipment needed to operate the signal (and non-intrusive detection units for temporary traffic control signal
systems). At times, other items will be furnished and they will be described in the special provisions for each individual project.

All Department furnished materials shall be requested by the contractor at least thirty (30) normal working days in advance of the time the contractor needs them on the project.

It is the contractor’s responsibility to deliver components that need to be installed within the Department furnished traffic control signal cabinet to MnDOT Electrical Services Section (ESS) at least thirty (30) normal working days in advance of when the Department furnished traffic control signal cabinet is required to be on the job site.

To obtain Department furnished material, the contractor must provide ESS with the T.E. number for this project. The T.E. number is located in this section of the special provisions and in the plan (See Chapter 4). The T.E. number must be marked on the container of any components required to be delivered to ESS.

Other items that may be included in this section are:

- Notes to bidders
- Special insurance language for projects involving Hennepin County
- Information dealing with any agreements with cities or counties

**Materials (SS-2.2)**

This section covers any special provisions that deal with materials. For example:

**Conduit**

On most MnDOT projects, the contractor may have the option of using schedule 80 rigid polyvinyl chloride (PVC), high-density polyethylene (HDPE), or rigid steel conduit (RSC). The specific requirements for conduit are included in the contract documents.

Bridges now require PVC coated, urethane lined RSC.

**LED Roadway Luminaires 40 Foot Mounting Height**

Provide and install MnDOT approved LED roadway luminaires for mounting at 40 feet as specified herein and in the plan.

**Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) Pushbutton Bases**

MnDOT has specific APS pedestrian station requirements. The materials and requirements for the new pedestrian station are in the Spec Book and are shown on the detail supplied with each traffic control signal plan.
Rodent Intrusion Barrier in Pole Bases
MnDOT requires rodent intrusion barrier be installed in pole bases.

Service Equipment
MnDOT traffic control signal system projects require a signal service cabinet type SSB. SSB cabinets are specified with or without the actual battery backup system and batteries on a per intersection basis.

Be sure to check the SSB cabinet requirements shown on the plan or detailed in special provisions for each intersection.

Special provisions and the Spec Book refer the contractor to the APL for signals for SSB cabinets. Both versions of signal service cabinets type SSB are listed.

Pavement Markings
Some MnDOT Districts require pavement markings to be furnished and installed as part of the traffic control signal system construction. If this is the case, the requirements are specified in this section of the special provisions and a number of attachments are included within the contract proposal.
Mast Arm Signs
If the contract requires the contractor to furnish and install mast arm mounted signs, most requirements are contained in the plan and Spec Book, however, the Minnesota Standard Signs Manual Detail 105A has additional installation requirements.

Construction Requirements (SS-2.3)
Construction requirements may be presented in the special provisions when required.

Conduit Placement
In addition to the language in the Spec Book, some MnDOT districts may have additional requirements for conduit placement. They are included in the special provisions.

Equipment Pads
Installation requirements for equipment pads are detailed in contract documents.

Loop Detector Installation
The special provisions or the plan will refer the contractor to the standard plates for all installation requirements for saw cut loop detectors or loop detectors in preformed rigid PVC conduit.

The contract documents will refer the contractor to MnDOT’s APL for the approved loop detector splice kits and loop detector sealant material to be used.

Removals
When an existing traffic control signal system is to be removed, the removal requirements are specified in the special provisions. The special provisions also specify where salvaged equipment is to be delivered.
**Measurement and Payment (SS-2.4)**

The special provisions will specify the methods of measuring and paying for contract items.

For example:

- 2565.516 Traffic Control Signal System
- 2565.501 Traffic Control Interconnect
- 2565.501 Emergency Vehicle Preemption System

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**SS-2.4 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT**

Removing and salvaging, or disposing of the existing traffic control signal system; furnishing and installing materials and electrical equipment; and installing Department furnished materials as specified herein, all to provide a complete operating new full-traffic-actuated traffic control signal system at the intersection of T.H 100 (Ford Parkway) and Elm Street in Eagan, Dakota County as contained in these Special Provisions and in the Plans will be measured as an integral unit and paid for as specified in MnDOT 2565.4 and MnDOT 2565.5 respectively for Item No. 2565.516 (TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL SYSTEM).

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**Traffic Control Interconnect (SS-3)**

If the project requires that traffic control signal systems be interconnected, some requirements are specified in the special provisions. This item will be paid for as a separate pay item and the requirements will be a separate SS Section from the actual traffic control signal system.

These are some “samples” of items that will be included in a typical set of special provisions for a traffic control signal system. Each project is unique and will require additional items not listed here. New technology, changes to the Spec Book, etc. will also be included within the special provisions.

It is very important that contractors and agency inspectors are aware of what is contained in both the traffic control signal system and lighting system special provisions for each individual project.
2.2.3 ADDENDUMS

At times, it may become necessary to provide additional information, corrections, additions, or deletions to the special provisions, plans, and/or Spec Book after the project is advertised and put on sale, but before the actual letting of the project. This information is provided to bidders by creating an “Addendum.”

An “Addendum” is defined as:

“A supplement to the proposal package covering additions, corrections, or changes in the bidding conditions for the advertised work that is issued by the Department to prospective bidders before the date and time for opening proposals.”

Addendums are found in the front portion of the contract proposal.

2.2.4 SHOP DRAWINGS (2545.2.A.7)

The contractor must provide to the engineer shop drawings as specified in the contract documents. Shop drawings must be reviewed and signed off by the appropriate MnDOT personnel prior to the contractor procuring the material unless otherwise specified in the contract.

A.7 Shop Drawing Submittals

Prepare shop drawing submittals in accordance with 1502 for all products not on MnDOT’s Approved/Qualified Products List (APL).
Submit products showing compliance with contract documents. Review shop drawings for accuracy, completeness, and compliance with contract documents prior to submittal.

Figure 2-19: Shop Drawing Submittal Requirement
2.2.5 MNDOT APPROVED PRODUCTS MATERIALS LIST (2545.2A.8)
The contractor must provide to the engineer an Approved Products Material List. Products included must be from MnDOT’s APL only.

### A.8 MNDOT Approved Products Materials List
Before performing the Work, submit to the Engineer, in accordance with 1502, a Signals and Lighting product materials list of the products selected from MnDOT’s Approved/Qualified Products List to be used on the Project for Signals and Lighting. Ensure the products selected meet the requirements of this section. For MnDOT’s approved products, see MnDOT’s Approved/Qualified Products website.

In the Signals and Lighting product materials list submitted to the Engineer, provide the following information:
1. Title the document — MnDOT’s Approved/Qualified Products List for Signals and Lighting, centered at the top of the document.
2. Directly under the title include the Trunk Highway, County, and State Project number.
3. For each product listed from MnDOT’s Approved/Qualified Products List, provide a separate line that includes the following:
   3.1 Name of the manufacturer,
   3.2 Name of the product,
   3.3 Catalog number, and
   3.4 Quantity ordered for the project.

This submittal and the Engineer’s review of the submitted list do not relieve the responsibility for providing products that comply with MnDOT’s Approved/Qualified Products List.

Figure 2-20: Approved Products Materials List

2.3 Chapter 2 Resources
- MnDOT Standard Specifications for Construction
- Standard plates
- Temporary Traffic Control Field Manual
- Minnesota Standard Signs Manual
- Special provisions (SS/SL)
- Signal and lighting sample plan sheets