

## Design Scene Newsletter October 2021

The Design Scene document has been updated to reflect current practices and the 2020 Standard Specifications for Construction. It is now two separate documents as described below.

### Design Scene Part 1 – Pay Item Guidance

This document provides information specifically related to pay items and their use when preparing the Statement of Estimated Quantities (SEQ) for a construction plan.

### Design Scene Part 2 – Plan Conventions (Chapters 1-18)

This document is arranged in the same format and chapters as our previous Design Scene. It provides guidance in the application of statewide standards, policies and procedures used in the development of MnDOT construction plans. The use of standardized plan conventions helps ensure that information is presented in a clear and consistent format; easy to understand by both the department and industry.

### Design Guidance and Resource information on website

This section on the website contains PowerPoint presentations, checklists, and guidance documents that have been created to assist with plan preparation. Please be advised that this section is a work in progress and will be updated by the Design Services Unit as time permits. The Design Scene will be the most current source of information.

### Latest Guidance

- “AS DIRECTED BY THE ENGINEER” should be eliminated from plan notes since it may introduce ambiguity (depending on the district, engineer, etc) or direct the contractor’s means and methods. “AS APPROVED BY THE ENGINEER” should be used with discretion, for example, when it is necessary to approve the details of an operation.
- Roundabout truck aprons should be designed using standard 7” CONCRETE WALK. If the apron is colored concrete, use the pay item 7” COLORED CONCRETE WALK. For additional guidance see Design Scene Chapter 10 Paving.
- The pay items for 4” or 6” COLORED CONCRETE WALK should be used for colored sidewalk rather than 4” or 6” CONCRETE WALK SPECIAL. This provides more descriptive information on the bid item and helps us track bid prices.