



DAVENPORT

ENGINEERING & CAPITAL
PROJECTS

The construction season is upon us. Here's what you need to know as we head into a productive 2024 construction season.

The City of Davenport has updated its Supplemental Specifications and its Supplemental Design Specifications. With this year's update, the engineering, design and construction community should be aware addendum(s) to the supplemental specifications may occur multiple times during the year. You can stay on top of changes by subscribing to notifications at www.davenportiowa.com/ss.

As we focus on the upcoming year and specification changes, we do need to highlight a few areas of concern. Together, our role, is to design, construct, and deliver infrastructure improvements that meet the standards established by the City. As such, the citizens of Davenport expect us to be fiscally responsible stewards of our resources and environment. This expectation extends to all involved in the delivery of infrastructure projects and improvements.

2024 Highlighted Points of Concern | Inadequate Compliance and Required Improvement

- 1. Use of Maturity Method.** The City of Davenport will no longer provide concrete cylinder testing services for City projects. Rather, the time for opening pavement will be determined by use of maturity testing. Maturity testing(s) will be provided by the City, following SUDAS specifications.
- 2. Temporary Services During Construction – Coordination of Solid Waste Collection.** Contractors should be aware that solid waste collection occurs, as scheduled, whether or not work is being performed on site. The Contractor is responsible for the coordination of solid waste collection through the duration of the project, until the project is substantially complete and accessible by the City's solid waste collection vehicles. → Rain days, in particular, require the same attention to solid waste as working days!
- 3. Construction Survey.** SUDAS Section 11010 provides guidance for what is expected from the Contractor providing construction survey for a given project. Recently, contractors have not been providing verification of benchmarks, staking records, and/or hubs or lath at the prescribed intervals for various layout tasks. This construction season, and in future construction seasons, City staff will be focusing on requiring the contractor to verify the benchmarks used for construction and providing hubs and associated lath as described in SUDAS 11010.

As part of the construction survey scope, Contractors are expected to assist utility companies with any utility relocations that may be needed to complete the project. At the Engineer's

request, the Contractor shall provide limited staking (lath and hubs) sufficient for a given utility to ascertain a new location for a utility to be relocated.

- 4. Sodding/Seeding.** → Restoring healthy, relatively weed free and debris free, grass has been an ongoing issue for City staff and affected property owners. To remedy this issue, City staff will continue its property owner notification requirements, and will be more focused on adherence to SUDAS Section 9010 for those projects already designed prior to the availability of the 2024 Supplemental Specifications. Beginning with those projects designed using the 2024 Supplemental Specifications, the City intends to specify sod for those projects constructed primarily in the ROW. With that change, many of the provisions listed below remain the same, recognizing the differences between seeding and sodding requirements.

Property Owner Notice. Contractors are provided seeding or sodding letter templates by the City at www.davenportiowa.com/ss. Contractors are required to update and distribute these turf restoration notices to affected properties upon seeding or sodding, 7 days before the acceptance period ends, and with temporary/out-of-growing season seeding that may be performed.

Example of Adequate Coverage. Find examples of adequate coverage on the website, www.davenportiowa.com/ss.

Restoration Period. Watering, care, maintenance and repair are left to the discretion of the contractor with the understanding that final payment will only be made when 70% coverage of healthy, relatively weed free and debris free, grass is achieved in restored areas. Also refer to Section 1070, 2.08 C of SUDAS.

- **Watering.** While watering is only required as needed during the first three-week seeding window, we recommend contractors water as frequently as needed to achieve the established restoration benchmark. Watering is required each week of the 4-week acceptance period for sod installations.
- **Mowing.** Contractors will be required to mow grass reaching three to four inches during the restoration period. Mowing should only be conducted with well-maintained equipment and removing only 1/3 of the growth or approximately one inch.
- **Weeding.** Weeding frequency is at the discretion of the contractor. Keep in mind a key to successfully seeding an area and achieving acceptance is weed prevention.
- **Solid Waste.** Litter and debris should be managed on the job site and disturbed areas at all times.
- **Repair.** The contractor is responsible to repair damages as a result of construction and maintenance of disturbed areas. Should repair issue be the result of property owner activities consult the Project Manager.

Temporary Seeding (Out-of-Growing Season). The Project Manager will direct the Contractor during out-of-growing season applications. The contractor will be compensated for temporary

and in-season seeding when temporary seeding is necessary. This provision does not apply to sodded areas because, if properly maintained during the acceptance period and proper notification given to the property owner regarding the transfer of maintenance, the sod will provide 100% coverage at the end of the acceptance period.

Acceptance and Final Payment. Final payment will only be made for “seeded or sodded areas that are in a live, healthy, growing and well-established condition without eroded areas, bare spot, weeds, undesirable grasses, disease or insects” no sooner than 60-days (30-days for sod) from the date that all activities were completed.

Should areas be over seeded during the acceptance period, acceptance may be delayed until the seeded or sodded areas are suitable for acceptance. If new seed is placed, after the 60-day acceptance period, to repair bare areas, the 60-day acceptance period (30-days for sod) will restart on the date of the new seeding or sodding.

- 5. Intake and Manhole Castings.** There has been some confusion between the SUDAS specifications and the City of Davenport Supplemental Specifications as to when new castings are required for manholes and/or inlets. This was formally clarified with the release of the City of Davenport’s 2023 Supplemental Specifications, but is generally clarified as follows: *All new storm or sanitary manholes or stormwater manholes shall receive new castings. For major or minor adjustments, all storm or sanitary sewer manholes shall receive new castings, external chimney seals and boxouts. All inlets indicated to receive major or minor adjustments shall reuse existing castings, unless otherwise indicated in the plans.*

Thank you for your time and attention as we begin the 2024 construction season.

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