

ITEM 672

FLAGMEN

672.1 Description. This item shall provide for the furnishing of flagmen to insure the even flow of traffic through the construction site. The primary function is to move vehicles and pedestrians safely and expeditiously through or around the construction area.

672.2 General Requirements. All flagmen shall possess the minimum qualifications and meet the requirements stipulated in the Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (TMUTCD). The Contractor shall use flagmen for the work associated with the control and safety of all traffic and pedestrian flow throughout the project as shown in the project traffic control plan (TCP), Harris County standard guidelines, the TMUTCD, and as directed by the Engineer.

It is the responsibility of the Contractor to ensure that all flagmen are properly trained in flagging procedures. Flagmen will use paddles, lights, flags, and other equipment which meet the required guidelines and dimensions of the TMUTCD. The STOP/SLOW paddle, which gives drivers more positive guidance than a flag, shall be the primary hand-signaling device. Reusable, removable (temporary) white stop bars should be used to the maximum extent possible and removed when flaggers are not present. Flags should be limited to emergency situations and at low-speed and/or low volume locations that can be best served by a single flagger. The use of an orange vest and cap shall be required for all flagmen. For nighttime conditions, these similar garments shall be reflectorized.

The flagmen are provided at work sites to stop traffic intermittently, as required to protect the Contractor's workmen and equipment, pedestrians and motorists. The flagmen must, at all times, be clearly visible to approaching traffic for a distance sufficient to permit proper response by the motorist to flagging instructions and to permit traffic to reduce speed before entering the work site.

The use of flagmen does not relieve the Contractor of his responsibility to insure proper protection of the public, or of the construction. The Contractor is liable for all damages that occur at the construction site, as a result of accidents with citizens and motorists, even though he has provided flagmen.

All costs for flagmen shall be incidental to the other work.

672.3 Off-Duty Uniformed Local Law Officers. When directed by the Engineer, the Contractor shall use a combination of off-duty uniformed local law officers and flagmen for intersection work and for the implementation of initial traffic control phases or traffic switches (traffic directed to change lanes or stop). When off-duty uniformed local law officers are used, they shall be used in addition to flagmen, not as a substitute for flagmen. The

Contractor may at his own expense elect to use off-duty uniformed local law officers when not directed by the Engineer. The Engineer may direct the use of off-duty uniformed local law officers for circumstances which could not have been reasonably anticipated in the planning of the project. The direction may be based upon, but certainly not limited to, one, or all of the following reasons:

- A. traffic volume;
- B. the nature and location of the work to be accomplished;
- C. weather conditions;
- D. the safety of the motorists, pedestrians or construction workers.

672.3 Submittal Required. If flagmen are to be used during the project the contractor shall demonstrate ownership of 2 radios, 2 stop/slow paddles, 2 temporary white stop bars, 2 flags, 2 orange vests and 2 safety caps at the start of the project.

672.4 Measurement and Payment.

Flagmen. Flagmen shall not be paid for directly, but shall be incidental to the other work.

Off-duty Uniformed Peace Officers. Off-duty, uniformed, peace officers shall be paid for by the hour when the use is directed by the Engineer. The contractor may at his own expense elect to use off-duty uniformed local law officers when not directed by the Engineer. The Engineer's approval of any Contractor's request to use off-duty, uniformed local law officers does not constitute approval for payment.

END OF ITEM 672