

Regional Engineers

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Special Provision for Longitudinal Tining

April 17, 2026

This special provision was developed by the Bureau of Research to replace transverse tining with longitudinal tining as the Type A final finish texture of portland cement concrete pavements to increase friction, lower noise level, and improve constructability. It has been revised to allow a broom finish, in lieu of an artificial turf drag, for hand pours where the slump is greater than 2.5 in. (63 mm).

This special provision should be inserted into contracts containing portland cement concrete pavement, continuously reinforced portland cement concrete pavement, and portland cement concrete shoulders.

The districts should include the BDE Check Sheet marked with the applicable special provisions for the July 31, 2026 and subsequent lettings. The Project Coordination and Implementation Section will include a copy in the contract.

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LONGITUDINAL TINING (BDE)

Effective: January 1, 2026

Revised: July 1, 2026

Revise ~~the first three paragraphs of~~ Replace Article 420.09(e)(1) of the Standard Specifications to read with the following:

“(e) Final Finish. Type A final finish shall be used unless Type B is specified.

- (1) Type A. Type A final finish shall be obtained by the use of a carpet drag composed of an artificial turf followed immediately by a mechanically operated metal comb longitudinal tining device.

The artificial turf shall be made of molded polyethylene with synthetic turf blades approximately 0.85 in. (20 mm) long and contain approximately 7,200 individual blades per 1 sq ft (0.1 sq m). The artificial turf shall be attached to a device that will permit control of the time and rate of texturing. The artificial turf carpet shall be full pavement width and of sufficient size that during the finishing operation, approximately 2 ft (600 mm) of carpet in the direction of drag (i.e., parallel to the pavement centerline) will be in contact with the pavement surface over the entire pavement width. The drag shall be operated in a longitudinal direction to produce a uniform appearing finish. If necessary for maintaining contact with the pavement surface, the carpet may be weighted.

The metal comb shall consist of a single line of tempered spring steel tines uniformly spaced at 3/4 in. (19 mm). The tines shall be flat and of a size and stiffness sufficient to produce a groove of the specified dimensions in the plastic concrete without tearing of the pavement surface. The mechanically operated metal comb shall be either an exclusive piece of equipment which is mechanically self-propelled or shall be combined with the curing equipment. The artificial turf carpet drag may be attached to this piece of equipment provided a surface texture is produced satisfactory to the Engineer. The tining device shall be operated to produce a pattern of grooves, 1/8 to 3/16 in. (3 to 5 mm) deep and 1/10 to 1/8 in. (2.5 to 3 mm) wide along the pavement in a single pass. The tining shall be operated parallel to the longitudinal joint or edge of pavement and shall not deviate more than 1 in. (25 mm) in 25 ft (8 m). Tining shall be withheld 1 to 1 1/2 in. (25 to 38 mm) from a longitudinal joint or pavement edge.

Hand tining or tining with a mechanically operated comb combined with the curing equipment specified in Article 1101.09 will be permitted where the specifications permit hand finishing or screeds, one lane construction up to 16 ft (5 m) wide, gaps, projects with a net length of 1/2 mile (800 m) or less, and where the production rate on any paving day will be less than 1,500 cu yd (1200 cu m) per day. A foot bridge shall be provided for the hand tining operation for all pavement over 12 ft (3.6 m) wide, unless it can be demonstrated that an alternate texturing operation produces satisfactory results.

- (2) Type B. Type B final finish shall be obtained by the use of a single artificial turf drag. The artificial turf shall conform and be operated according to the requirements for Type A finish, except this device shall be attached to a separate piece of equipment used expressly for the texturing operation.

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If the concrete is being placed by hand pouring and the slump is greater than 2.5 in. (63 mm), a broom finish may be applied transversely to the pavement centerline, in lieu of an artificial turf drag. The texturing operation shall be executed so that the surface is uniform in appearance and free from rough and porous spots, irregularities, and depressions."

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