

## Section 919—Raised Pavement Markers

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### 919.1 General Description

This section includes the requirements for raised pavement marker materials for use in reflective, ceramic, and channel markers.

#### 919.1.01 Related References

##### A. Standard Specifications

General Provisions 101 through 150.

##### B. Referenced Documents

ASTM C 424

ASTM C 373

ASTM D 2240

ASTM D 4280

Federal Method TT-T-141, Method 4252

### 919.2 Materials

#### A. Requirements

Do not use any marker materials until the laboratory approves it.

1. Use raised pavement marker sources as listed in [QPL 76](#).
2. Use raised pavement markers of the type shown in the Plans or specified in the proposal. This Specification references markers as follows:

Type	Description
1	One-way, one-color, 4 x 2 in (100 mm x 50 mm), reflective
2	Two-way, one-color, 4 x 2 in (100 mm x 50 mm), reflective
3	Two-way, two color, 4 x 2 in (100 mm x 50 mm), reflective
4	Round white, yellow or black ceramic, non reflective
5	Oval white, yellow or black ceramic, non-reflective
6	Oval white or yellow ceramic, reflective
7	White or yellow ceramic jiggle bar, non-reflective
8	White or yellow ceramic jiggle bar, reflective
9	White or yellow channel, non-reflective
10	White or yellow channel, reflective
11	Two-way, one-color, 4 x 4 in (100 mm x 100 mm), reflective
12	One-way, one color, 4 x 4 in (100 mm x 100 mm), reflective
13	Two-way, two color, 4 x 4 in (100 mm x 100 mm), reflective

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14	Two-way, one color, flexible reflective
15	One-way, one color, flexible reflective

### 3. Definitions

- a. **Angle of Incidence:** Formed by a ray from the light source to the marker, and the normal to the leading edge of the marker face.
- b. **Angle of Divergence:** Formed by a ray from the light source to the marker and the return ray from the marker to the measuring receptor.
- c. **Specific Intensity:** The mean candela of the reflected light at a given incidence and divergence angle for each lux at the reflector on a plane perpendicular to the incident light.

### 4. Sampling

The Department will select at random the required number of markers for initial tests for each shipment or lot, as follows:

Reflective Markers	Ceramic Markers	Channel Markers
50	25	5

### 5. Certification

Submit a certification to the Engineer from the manufacturer showing the physical properties of the markers and their conformance to this Specification.

### 6. Packaging

Pack shipments in containers that are acceptable to common carriers.

- a. Pack the containers to ensure delivery in perfect condition.
- b. Clearly mark each package of pavement markers with the size, color, type, and lot number.
- c. You are liable to replace any damaged shipments.

### 7. Acceptance

The Department will give conditional approval to raised pavement markers evaluated by the National Transportation Product Evaluation Program (NTPEP), the Georgia Department of Transportation, or other Department-approved test facilities and place them on [QPL 76](#).

All white raised pavement markers must meet the requirements of this Specification and the following field performance requirements.

- a. **Conditional [QPL](#) Placement:** The Department may add markers on a conditional basis to [QPL 76](#). These markers must maintain an average Coefficient of Retroreflected Luminous Intensity of 1.5 candles per footcandle (cd/fc)\* after a one-year field evaluation period through at least one of the test facilities specified above.
- b. **Final Acceptance or Rejection:** The Department will accept or reject markers based on the marker maintaining an average Coefficient of Retroreflected Luminous Intensity of 0.5 candles per footcandle (cd/fc)\* after a two-year field evaluation period through at least one of the test facilities specified above.

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**NOTE: Measure the coefficient of retroreflected luminous intensity at the 0 degree incident angle and 0.2 degree divergence angle.**

### 919.2.01 Reflective Pavement Markers

#### A. Requirements

Plastic reflective pavement markers are types 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, and 13 (rigid plastic reflective) and types 14 and 15 (flexible reflective).

##### 1. Rigid Plastic Reflective Markers

- a. Use prismatic markers made with a methyl methacrylate or acrylonitrile butadiene styrene, a high-impact plastic shell filled with a mixture of inert thermosetting compound and filler material.
  - 1) Ensure that the exterior shell surface is smooth and contains one or two prismatic faces, molded to reflect incident light from a single direction or from opposite directions.
  - 2) Ensure that the shell is one color or a combination of two colors that will be the same as reflective elements and shall match the size and shape in the Plans.
- b. Use two basic sizes—a standard (a base of 4 x 4 in [100 mm x 100 mm]) or a low-profile (a base of 4 x 2 in [100 mm x 50 mm]).
  - 1) Ensure that reflective raised pavement markers have one or two lens surfaces that meet the requirements of ASTM D 4280, designation H—a marker with a hard, abrasion-resistant lens surface.
  - 2) Ensure the marker base is clean and has no gloss or substance that may reduce the adhesive's bond. The Department will reject the marker if it has a soft or resin-rich film on the base.

##### 2. Flexible Reflective Markers (Type 14 and 15)

Use markers manufactured by extruding plastic into an “L” shape, with nominal dimensions of 4 in (100 mm) long x 2 in (50 mm) high (vertical face) x 1 in (25 mm) wide (base leg). Ensure that the markers have the following:

- A pressure-sensitive adhesive with a paper release liner to the bottom of the base leg.
- Strips of metallized acrylic reflective sheeting on either one or both sides of the vertical face.
- A clear plastic cover to protect the reflective strip. Ensure that the cover withstands a chip-seal operation and is easily removed after the operation.

##### 3. Color

Use clear, yellow, or red raised reflective pavement markers, as required.

If the reflection is off-color, the Department will reject the markers.

##### 4. Specific Intensity

Ensure that the specific intensity of each reflective surface, when tested at 0.2 degree angle of divergence, has at least these values:

<b>Incidence Angle</b>	<b>Clear</b>	<b>Yellow</b>	<b>Red</b>
0°	3.0	1.50	0.75

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20°	1.2	0.60	0.30
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Calculate the intensity as follows:

$$SI = (R_L \times D^2) \div I_L$$

Where:

$R_L$  = Reflected Light

$I_L$  = Incident Light

$D$  = Test Distance

$D$  = Test Distance

**B. Fabrication**

General Provisions 101 through 150.

**C. Acceptance**

The Department will accept markers based on the results of the physical tests and on the manufacturer’s certification showing the physical properties of the markers and their conformance to this Specification.

The Department will conduct the following tests:

- Specific Intensity
- Compressive Strength
- Impact
- Temperature Cycle
- Shore A Hardness (Type 14 and 15 only)

1. Specific Intensity

- a. Place markers so the center of the reflecting face is 5 ft (1.5 m) from a uniformly bright light source. Use a source with an effective diameter of 0.21 in (5 mm).  
If using a test distance other than 5 ft (1.5 m), modify the source and receptor in the same proportion as the test distance.
- b. Use a photocell receptor 0.5 in (13 mm) wide. Shield it to eliminate stray light.
- c. Place the center of the light source aperture 0.2 in (5 mm) from the center of the photocell.
- d. Use the following table to determine if the markers pass the tests (except the strength test), unless otherwise specified.

Markers that Pass	Department Action
48 of 50	Accept the lot.
44 or less of 50	Reject whole lot; no retest allowed.
45-47 of 50	Contractor can request a retest on 100 markers. The Department will pass each marker through all tests except the strength test.
96 of 100 retested	Accept the whole shipment
95 or less of 100 retested	Reject the whole shipment

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2. Compressive Strength

Test for compressive strength as follows:

Standard Raised Markers 4 x 4 in (100 x 100 mm)	Low-Profile Markers 4 x 2 in (100 x 50 mm)
1. Select three random markers for the test.	
2. Center the base of the marker over the open end of a hollow, vertically positioned metal cylinder (1 in (25 mm) high, internal diameter of 3 in (75 mm), wall thickness of 0.25 in (6 mm)).	2. Position the marker on its base at the center of a flat, steel plate that has a minimum thickness of 0.5 in (13 mm).
3. Apply a load to the top center of the marker with a 1 in (25 mm) diameter solid steel plug at a rate of	
0.2 in (5 mm) per minute.	0.03 in (0.75 mm) per minute.
4. The marker fails if it breaks or deforms at a load less than	
2,000 lbs (8.9 kN)	4,000 lbs (17.8 kN)
Or if the shell and the filler material significantly delaminate, regardless of the load required to break the marker.	
5.If any of the 3 samples fail, the Department will test 6 additional samples.	
6.If any of the 6 additional samples fail, the Department will reject the entire lot.	

3. Impact Test

- a. Condition all prismatic reflective faces that meet the requirements of ASTM D 4280, designation H, before the impact test.
- b. Choose at random 20 markers for each test.
- c. Condition the markers in an oven at 130 °F (54° C) for one hour.
- d. While at this temperature, drop a 0.42 lb (0.2 kg) dart fitted with a 0.25 in (6 mm) radius spherical head from 18 in (450 mm) above the reflective face.
- e. Drop the dart perpendicularly onto the center of the reflective surface. The cracks in the impact area shall appear generally concentric.
- f. The Department will reject the marker if more than two radial cracks longer than 0.25 in (6 mm) appear, or if radial cracks extend to the edge of the reflective face.
- g. Use the following table to determine if the markers pass the tests.

Markers that Pass	Department Action
18 of 20	Accept the lot.
16 of 20	Reject the lot.
17 of 20	The Contractor may request a retest. The Department will test 20 additional lenses.
19 or less of 20 retested	Reject the lot.

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4. Temperature Cycle
  - a. Subject the same markers used for impact testing to 3 cycles of 140 °F (60 °C) for 4 hours followed by 20 °F (–7 °C) for 4 hours.
  - b. The Department will reject the markers if they crack or delaminate after this test.
  - c. Use the following table to determine if the markers pass the tests.

Markers That Pass	Department Action
18 of 20	Accept the lot.
16 of 20	Reject the lot.
17 of 20	The Contractor may request a retest. The Department will test 20 additional lenses.
19 or less of 20 retested	Reject the lot.

5. Hardness (Type 14 or 15 only)
  - a. Select five random markers.
  - b. Use ASTM D 2240 to determine the Shore A hardness.
  - c. Measure the hardness. The Department will reject markers whose body and clear protective cover hardness is less than 80.

### D. Materials Warranty

General Provisions 101 through 150.

## 919.2.02 Ceramic Pavement Markers

### A. Requirements

Ceramic pavement markers are types 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

1. Use ceramic pavement markers made from a heat-fired, white, vitreous, ceramic base and a heat fired, opaque, glazed surface to produce the properties required in these Specifications.
  - a. Do not place glaze on the marker bottom where it connects to the road surface.
  - b. Thoroughly and evenly mature the markers. Ensure that they have no defects that affect appearance and serviceability.
  - c. Use reflective ceramic markers that meet the specific intensity of each reflective surface according to [Subsection 919.2.01.A.4.](#)
  - d. Ensure that the mean thickness of the glazed surface is at least 0.005 in (0.13 mm) when measured at least 0.25 in (6 mm) from the edge of the marker.
  - e. Ensure that the water absorption of the ceramic markers does not exceed 2 percent of the original dry weight when tested according to ASTM C 373.
  - f. Ensure that the glazed surface does not craze, spoil, or peel when passed through one cycle of the Autoclave test at 250 psi (1724 kPa) (ASTM C 424).

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2. Use the designated colors for the white and yellow markers.
  - a. Ensure that the colors are uniform.
  - b. Ensure that black matches Federal Color No. 595-27038.
  - c. Determine the color by visually comparing each marker with calibrated standards having CIE Chromaticity Coordinate limits. Determine the limits with Federal methods of test TT-T-141, Method 4252, using a rectangle with the following corner points:

	1		2		3		4		(90MGO)
White	.290	.316	.310	.296	.330	.320	.310	.344	80 min.
Yellow	.435	.485	.445	.435	.544	.456	.516	.484	50 min.

### B. Fabrication

General Provisions 101 through 150.

### C. Acceptance

1. Use a random sample of five markers for each of the required tests in [Subsection 919.2.01.C.3](#) to [Subsection 919.2.01.C.4](#), and [Subsection 919.2.01.C.5](#). Use the Compressive Strength Test in [Subsection 919.2.02.C.3](#).
2. Use the following table to determine if the markers pass the tests.

Markers that Pass	Department Action
5 of 5	Accept the lot.
3 or less of 5	Reject the lot; no resample allowed.
4 of 5	The Contractor may request a retest. The Department will retest an additional 25 random markers in the test or tests where the original sample failed.
20 of 25 retested	Accept the lot.
19 or less of 25 retested	Reject the lot; no resample allowed.

3. Compressive Strength Test
  - a. Center the markers with the base down over the open end of a vertically positioned hollow metal cylinder. Use a cylinder 1 in (25 mm) high with an internal diameter of 3 in (75 mm) and a wall thickness of 0.25 in (6 mm).
  - b. Apply a load at 0.2 in (5 mm) per minute to the top of the markers through a 1 in (25 mm) diameter solid metal cylinder centered on the top of the markers.
  - c. Apply the load until the marker breaks.
  - d. The markers pass if the average compressive load of all five markers is at least 1,500 psi (6.7 kN). No individual marker shall be less than 1,200 psi (5.3 kN).

### D. Materials Warranty

General Provisions 101 through 150.

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### 919.2.03 Channel Pavement Markers

#### A. Requirements

Channel pavement markers are type 9 and 10 markers only.

1. Use channel pavement markers made of either a heat-fired, white, vitreous, ceramic base with a heat-fired, opaque, glazed surface, or a 9 gauge (3.9 mm) steel body with a heat-fired porcelain finish.
  - a. Ensure both ceramic and steel channel markers have no defects that affect appearance and serviceability.
  - b. Ensure that the mean thickness of the glazed surface of ceramic channel markers is at least 0.005 in (0.13 mm) when measured at least 0.25 in (6 mm) from the edge of the marker.
  - c. Ensure that mean thickness of the porcelain finish on the steel channel markers is at least 0.030 in (0.76 mm).
  - d. Ensure that the water absorption of the ceramic markers does not exceed 2.0 percent of the original dry weight when tested according to ASTM C 373.
  - e. Ensure that the surface of the markers do not craze, spoil, or peel when passed through one cycle of the Autoclave test at 250 psi (1724 kPa) (ASTM C 424).
2. Use the designated colors for the white and yellow markers.
  - a. Ensure that the colors are uniform.
  - b. Determine the color by visually comparing them with calibrated standards having CIE Chromaticity Coordinate limits. Determine the limits with Federal methods of test TT-T-141, Method 4252, using a rectangle with the following corner points:

	1		2		3		4		(90MGO)
White	.290	.316	.310	.296	.330	.320	.310	.344	80 min.
Yellow	.435	.485	.445	.435	.544	.456	.516	.484	50 min.

#### B. Fabrication

General Provisions 101 through 150.

#### C. Acceptance

1. Ensure that Type 10 markers meet the specific intensity of each reflective surface according to [Subsection 919.2.01.A.4](#)
2. Use a random sample of five markers for each of the required tests in [Subsection 919.2.01.C.2](#), [Subsection 919.2.01.C.3](#), [Subsection 919.2.01.C.4](#), and [Subsection 919.2.01.C.5](#).
3. Select two of the five markers and subject them to all the required tests.
4. Use the following table to determine if the markers pass the tests.

Markers that Pass	Department Action
2 of 2	Accept the lot.
0 of 2	Reject the lot; no resample allowed.

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1 of 2	Retest the three remaining markers.
3 of 3 retested	Accept the lot.
2 or less of 3 retested	Reject the lot; no resample allowed

### D. Materials Warranty

General Provisions 101 through 150.