APWA Pervious Concrete Specifications

Use of permeable concrete is one tool Washington State local agencies can utilize to help meet the Low Impact Development (LID) requirements in areas where they apply. This specification, with its companion specifications, was developed to save local agencies the time and resources necessary to write their own versions.

When utilizing Pervious Concrete it is recommended that the designer use the following set of GSPs and that you find a way to make it clear these specifications apply ONLY to the work by the name of “Pervious Concrete” and not to other concrete items that may be called for in the contract documents.

5-06 PERVERIOUS CONCRETE PAVEMENT (March 9, 2016 APWA GSP)
Specifications 5-06.1 through 5-06.5

Fiber reinforcement (Section 9-23.14) has been built into this specification but it is optional.

Additionally, the committee recommends that the Contracting Agency pay close attention to the following “Specifier’s Notes” that are sorted by specification for you.

5-06.3(3) Submittals
Specifier’s Note: For small rural sidewalk or small yardage installations, specifier may modify submittal requirements such as deleting NRMCA batch plant certification and NRMCA truck certifications.

Specifier may request that Readi Mix trucks that supply material to a pervious project be prepared to discharge pervious concrete. Trucks should have clean fins and minimal buildup in the drum. Recommend reviewing requirements at preconstruction meeting for pervious pavement.

Specifier’s Note: For small installations (such as sidewalks, single family residential driveway or similar applications) in lieu of Certificate of Compliance, batch tickets with weights may be sufficient documentation for materials as delivered. Review which elements to require for each truckload and modify section 6-02.3(4)A (or replace “Certificate of Compliance” referenced in the specification with “batch tickets with weights”) as needed through special provision. Intent is to confirm material delivered is consistent with what was submitted.

5-06.3(10)A Contractor Qualifications
Specifier’s Note: Depending upon size of job and type of job (foot paths, walks, parking lots, road), modify qualifications accordingly. For example 10’ x 20’ pervious concrete pad would not require the ACI recommended 3 NRMCA Installers; however it is recommended that the crew members have experience placing pervious concrete. For parking lots and roadway applications it is recommended to have installers with NRMCA Installer certification. For large scale installations, such as ½ acre of pervious concrete, may want to consider increasing the number of NRMCA Installers to four.
Other options to consider: Contracting Agency may pay for testing, select testing agency and/or conduct the testing in lieu of Contractor doing the testing. Recommend that you modify spec accordingly.

Specifier’s Note: Depending upon size of job, test panel size could be modified. For example, for small jobs the test panel's may be same size as the permanent pour so you could consider using the crews past projects in lieu of the test panel or note that the placement at the permanent location is the "test panel" and if it does not meet spec it will need to be removed.

At the preconstruction meeting for pervious concrete, note that the test panel is intended to represent what the permanent pour would be and will be used as the “referee” section for subjective measurements such as surface finish.

5-06.3(11)C Isolation Joints
Specifier’s Note: Isolation joints should not be used in pervious concrete as “expansion” joints such as interior pervious concrete paving joints in a parking lot, or in a sidewalk. Pervious concrete will be on one side only of an isolation joint. The specification text reflects this.