

## TxDOT Directive

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**Subject: Placement of Underseals**

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**Purpose:** To promote cost savings by limiting the placement of underseals for mixes with low permeability.

**Policy:**

No underseals shall be placed under low permeable asphaltic concrete pavement (ACP) mixes or on top of thick subsurface mix sections of 6" or greater.

Exceptions to this policy must be approved by the District Engineer.

**General Comments:**

Seals placed below low permeable mixes provide a little additional protection to pavement structure.

If base layer of mix is exposed to traffic and weather, consider using a less permeable mixes than Dense-Graded TY-A, TY-B or TY-C.

Examples of low permeable mixes include Stone-matrix Asphalt (SMA and SMAR) and Crack Attenuating Mixture (CAM).

Elimination of underseals for mixes such as Dense-Graded mixes Type F and Superpave mixes (SP-D) are encouraged as a cost savings measure, especially if well drained.

The DE may consider and approve exceptions to the policy based on the following criteria:

- Placement over granular layers or thin (less than 6") permeable mixes that will carry traffic prior to the placement of the low permeable mix,
- Used to eliminate traffic control markings and sealing should be limited to those areas that might create confusion,
- Urban areas where it may be carrying water along the curb and gutter, limit seal to the ponding width or offset and shoulder or outside lane,
- Other factors.

02/26/2010  
Effective Date

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Signature  
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