

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

REVISION IN ASPHALT LABORATORY FACILITY REQUIREMENTS

In an effort to increase safety and quality of asphalt testing, the Department has updated the requirements for Asphalt Laboratory Facilities. Major updates include:

- Laboratory minimum size 208 square feet with 12' width and 8' ceiling height or 380 square feet with 8'-12' width and 8' ceiling height (previous spec 208 square feet with 7' ceiling height). Minimum of 30 square feet designated office space in addition to laboratory square footage (previously included in total square feet).
- At least one door with minimum 36" width with a second door required for labs greater than 30' in length.
- Access to a well-maintained restroom, with a functioning sink, within reasonable proximity to the Department laboratory facility. Portable restrooms are not acceptable.
- Level and stable with substantial/durable structure capable of supporting required laboratory equipment. Movement in the lab shall not affect testing operations.
- Basic utility services shall be provided year-round as long as the plant is listed on the QPL. If utility services to the Department lab are voluntarily suspended at any time, the plant may be removed from the QPL.
- Equip the lab with heating and air conditioning units that maintain the ambient air temperature between 65 °F and 80 °F. The lab must be climate-controlled year-round.
- A work counter 30" to 36" high with a minimum depth of 30". The countertop shall be metal capped with a rolled back edge of 2" or other comparable durable surface. Total length of the work counter shall be 35' with a minimum of 12' of counter length 36" deep. A minimum of 54" width between parallel counters (Previously 30" high and 20' length.)
- At least one power outlet per every four feet of counter. At least two power outlets shall provide 220 VAC. (Previously one 220 VAC outlet.)
- A sink, approximately 25" square with a minimum depth of 9" with an outside drain. (Previously single sink 20" square.) A thermostat controlled hot water supply shall be provided to the laboratory sink (not previously required).

The new supplemental specification will be included in all projects beginning with the November 1, 2023 letting. Contractor's will be given until the date of their next plant inspection to comply with the new specifications. Existing labs can be evaluated for "reasonable compliance" with this specification prior to the annual plant inspection.

For more information contact the Department's Construction Division

david.henning@ardot.gov

Construction Division

Phone: (501) 569-2251

Fax: (501) 569-2119