

To: All HQ Directors: Operations, Planning & Major Projects
All Regional Directors
All District Managers Transportation
All Project Directors and Senior Project Managers

Subject: Master Municipal Construction Document (MMCD)
Ministry's use of MMCD Specifications and Standards

Purpose:

This Technical Circular explains the policy of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure with regards to the use of the MMCD Association's Specifications and Standards on Ministry projects.

Background:

The MMCD Association is a Non-Profit Society whose goal is to develop and publish well defined, systematic and continuously improving construction documents for construction of roads, sidewalks, sewers, water, traffic signals and street lighting. Currently, approximately 90 municipalities and Regional Districts have subscribed to the Master Municipal Construction Documents. The Province of British Columbia endorses the Master Municipal Construction Document for the construction of municipal services. The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure participates in the review and production of the Association's documents and has a representative on its Board of Directors.

Policy on the use of MMCD specifications and standards:

The Ministry encourages that municipal works (such as water and sewer works) required within Ministry contracts be constructed in accordance with MMCD specifications.

The MMCD is aimed at providing the municipal construction sector with a standard set of construction specifications and documents currently being used by many municipalities and Regional Districts within BC. Also a large number of construction firms, project managers and construction supervisors who do municipal projects are familiar with the specifications produced by the MMCD Association.

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The Ministry is a sponsoring partner of the MMCD initiative and believes that the well developed specifications will be readily understood by potential bidders and will provide better value for money than one-off specifications, and should form the basis for municipal works executed under our contracts.

In situations where a municipality has their own specifications, or for a client who does not have a preference, Ministry staff should promote (but not demand) the use of the MMCD.

Although the MMCD does include a set of standardized Conditions of Tender and General Conditions, the Ministry will continue to use its own, with Major Works (Minor Works or DB Minor) supported by a combination of our Standard Specifications and the MMCD Volume II "Gold Book" technical specifications (or its soon-to-be-released "Platinum Edition" update).

As with any circumstance where another party's specifications are used under a Ministry contract tool (such as Major Works) there can be areas of conflict or uncertainty, due to items such as the use of defined terminology or different risk pricing structures. A Sample Special Provision (SP) has been developed that addresses those issues for MMCD specifications. If another party's specifications are to be used, a similar SP may have to be developed to address the unique issues that arise.

Documents produced by the MMCD Association can be ordered at (BC MoT is a sponsoring member): http://www.mmcd.net/order_documents.html

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Nyland', with a stylized, cursive script.

Dirk Nyland, P.Eng.
Chief Engineer