

**Item No. 591S**  
**Riprap for Slope Protection**

**591S.1 Description**

This item shall govern the excavation of all materials encountered for placing riprap, disposal of excess material and backfilling around the completed riprap to the grade indicated on the Drawings. The work shall include all pumping and bailing, furnishing and placing riprap of rock or concrete in accordance with the details and to the dimensions indicated on the Drawings.

This specification is applicable for projects or work involving either inch-pound or SI units. Within the text, the inch-pound units are given preference followed by SI units shown within parentheses. The work conducted under this item pertains to riprap for protection of slopes, cuts, fills, drainage facilities and other features susceptible to erosion.

\* See Modifications for additional information

**591S.2 Submittals**

The submittal requirements for this specification item shall include:

- A. The type, size, gradation, physical properties and source of rock riprap material; test data for specific gravity, absorption, soundness and field verification of the rock riprap gradation including a size distribution plot and a list of the measured D15, D50, D85 and D100 (refer to Item No. 591S.3.A).
- B. The type, size, and source of broken concrete riprap material.
- C. Aggregate types, gradations and physical characteristics for the Portland cement concrete mix,
- D. Proposed proportioning of materials for the mortar mix,
- E. Type, details and installation requirements for reinforcement, joint material, tie backs and anchors,
- F. Description of filter fabric including characteristics, test data and manufacturer's recommendations for installation.
- G. The type, size, gradation and source of granular filter material.

Where vegetated soil-riprap is used, and proposed materials differ from the materials already approved for use elsewhere on the project, the submittal requirements also include:

- H. Identification of the seed species, source, mixture, pure live seed (PLS) as listed on the analysis tags, certification tags from all seed bags, and seed calculation worksheet per item No. 604S, Table 9.
- I. Soil retention blanket material type, evidence that the material is listed on the TxDOT Approved Product List, one (1) full set of manufacturer's literature and installation recommendations and any special details necessary for the proposed application.
- J. Identification of fill soil class, source, and characteristics of proposed borrow material as described in Item No. 130S Borrow.
- K. Identification of topsoil source and characteristics including textural (clay/silt/sand) percentage.

\* See Modifications for additional information

### 591S.3 Materials

#### A. Rock

The rock shall be suitable in all respects for the purpose intended. Rock sources shall be selected well in advance of the time the rock will be required and shall be pre-approved by the Engineer. Rock used for riprap shall be hard, durable, and angular in shape and consist of clean field rock or rough unhewn quarry rock as nearly uniform in section as practicable. Neither the width nor the thickness of a single rock shall be less than one third of its length. The rocks shall be dense, resistant to weathering and water action, and free of overburden, spoils, shale, and organic material. Shale, chalk, and limestone with shale or chalk seams shall not be acceptable. Rounded rock (river rock) shall not be acceptable.

The rock durability shall be evaluated by visual inspection and laboratory tests for specific gravity, absorption, and soundness. The minimum specific gravity shall be 2.4 (150 pounds per cubic foot) and the maximum absorption 4.2% using ASTM D 6473 or Tex-403-A. Soundness shall be tested in accordance with ASTM D 5240 or Tex-411-A and weight loss shall not exceed 18% after 5 cycles of magnesium sulfate solution, nor 14% after 5 cycles of sodium sulfate solution.

The rock riprap material shall be provided as a gradation of larger and smaller rock sizes associated with a rock class or median diameter (D50) as specified in the drawings. Rock diameter for angular material represents the length of the intermediate axis of an individual rock. The material gradation shall conform to table below for the class sizes corresponding to the D50. The D15, D50, D85, and D100 are the rock sizes for which 15%, 50%, 85%, and 100% of the total sample are of equal size or smaller, respectively.

Rock Riprap Class by Median Particle Diameter (D50)		D15 (in)		D50 (in)		D85 (in)		D100 (in)
Class	Diameter (in)	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Max
I	6	3.7	5.2	5.7	6.9	7.8	9.2	12.0
II	9	5.5	7.8	8.5	10.5	11.5	14.0	18.0
III	12	7.3	10.5	11.5	14.0	15.5	18.5	24.0
IV	15	9.2	13.0	14.5	17.5	19.5	23.0	30.0
V	18	11.0	15.5	17.0	20.5	23.5	27.5	36.0
VI	21	13.0	18.5	20.0	24.0	27.5	32.5	42.0
VII	24	14.5	21.0	23.0	27.5	31.0	37.0	48.0
VIII	30	18.5	26.0	28.5	34.5	39.0	46.0	60.0
IX	36	22.0	31.5	34.0	41.5	47.0	55.5	72.0
X	42	25.5	36.5	40.0	48.5	54.5	64.5	84.0

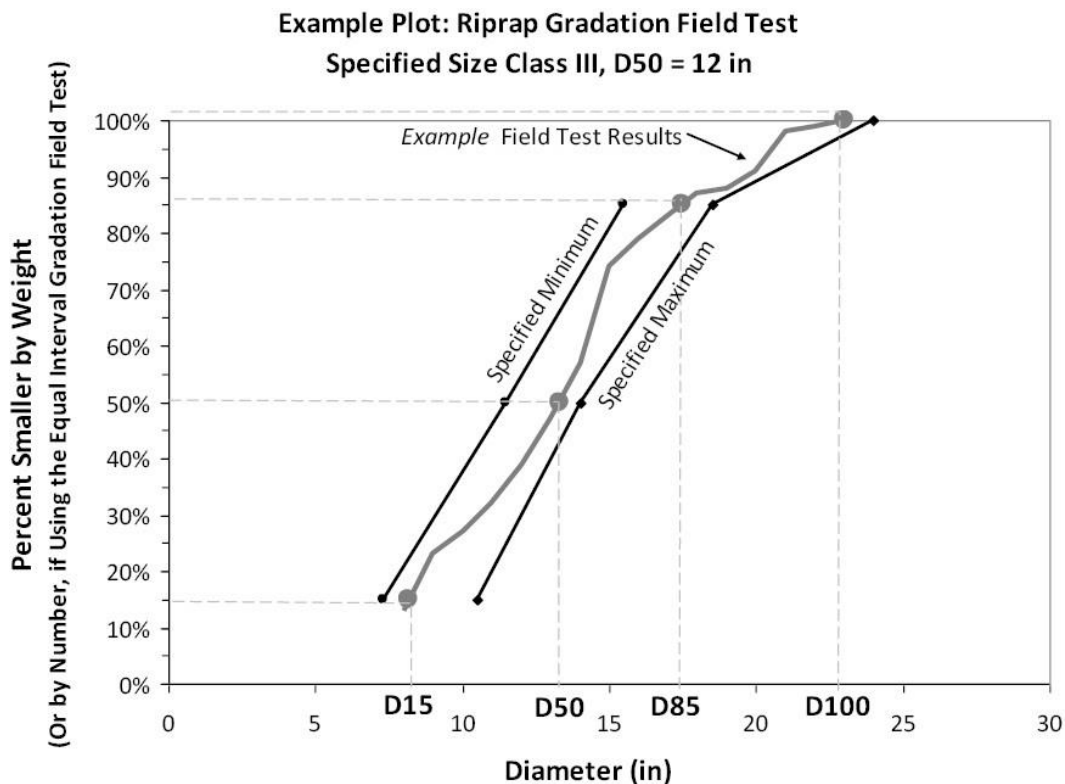
1. Reference: NCHRP Report 568
2. Conversion to weight-based gradation:  $W = 0.0275D^3S_g$  where W is rock size in lbs, D is diameter in inches and  $S_g$  is the specific gravity of the rock.

Conformance of rock riprap to the gradation requirements shall be accomplished by field tests for rock sizes that cannot be analyzed via sieve or mechanical sorting machines. In order to perform a field test, the contractor shall provide a sample of the proposed rock riprap material meeting the gradation for the specified size class. Gradation field tests shall follow the equal interval test

procedure in NCHRP Report 568, Section 3.2.3, ASTM D 5519, or the modified equal interval method. The general steps of the modified equal interval method are:

1. Spread a representative, well mixed sample of riprap to form a flat, rectangular pile. The thickness of the pile should be approximately equal to D100. The length and width of the footprint should be determined based on the rock size and the minimum sample size that is requested by the Engineer.
2. With a large tape measure, create a linear transect across the sample pile. Mark each rock that falls directly under the tape measure at an equal interval. The interval should be two feet or greater, depending on the D50, such that no rock is marked more than once.
3. Lay additional transects parallel to the first transect, at a spacing equal to the interval between marked rocks, Repeat step B for each transect such that the marked rocks form an equally spaced grid across the pile.
4. Measure the diameter of each marked rock across the intermediate (middle or B axis). The number of rocks measured shall be equal or greater than the minimum sample size.
5. Analyze the data by sorting and plotting a curve of percent smaller by number vs. diameter. Identify the diameters.

Gradation tests shall result in: (1) a size distribution plot comparing the measured sample data with the specified diameter ranges for the rock size class (example below) and (2) the calculated D100, D85, D50, and D15 of the rock sample. The sample gradation is acceptable if the calculated diameters fall within the specified ranges of the applicable gradation. The acceptability of rock that falls outside the specified gradation ranges shall be at the discretion of the Engineer.



Approved rock rip-rap samples shall be stored onsite as a reference for ongoing visual inspection of additional materials supplied. Supplementary tests may be required for supply materials where visual inspection determines there may be a deviation from the required gradation. Labor, equipment and site location needed to assist in checking gradation shall be provided by the contractor at no additional cost to the owner.

B. Broken Concrete

The rock used for mortar riprap may consist of broken concrete removed under the contract or obtained from other approved sources. Broken concrete shall be as nearly uniform in section as practicable and of the sizes indicated in Section 591S.5, "Dry Riprap".

C. Concrete

Cast in place concrete shall be Class A Concrete and shall conform to Standard Specification Item No. 403S, "Concrete for Structures".

D. Grout and Mortar

Grout and mortar shall consist of 1 part Portland Cement and 3 parts sand, thoroughly mixed with water. Mortar shall have a consistency such that it can be easily handled and spread by trowel. Grout shall have a consistency such that it will flow into and completely fill all joints.

E. Reinforcement

Reinforcement shall conform to Standard Specification Item No. 406S, "Reinforcing Steel".

F. Joints

Premolded expansion joint material shall conform to Standard Specification Item No. 408, "Concrete Joint Material".

G. Tie Backs and Anchors

Galvanized tie backs and anchors shall be as indicated on the Drawings.

H. Filter Fabric

Filter Fabric shall conform to Standard Specification Item No. 620S, "Filter Fabric".

I. Granular Filter

Aggregate used for granular filters shall conform to Standard Specification Item No. 403S "Concrete for Structures".

J. Soils

For vegetated soil-rock rip-rap, soil shall be integrated with the rock rip-rap at 30% soil to 70% rock by volume with minimal voids. Unless specified otherwise in the drawings, soil that is placed below six inches (6") below the rip-rap top surface shall be Class A Select Borrow material, as described in Item No. 130S Borrow, and referred to herein as "fill soil." Soil that is placed within the top six inches (6") of the rip-rap top surface shall be topsoil material as described in Item No, 601S Salvaging and Placing Topsoil, Section 3.

K. For vegetated soil-rock rip-rap, the type of seed mix and application rates shall be as

specified on the Drawings and within the referenced Standard Specification. If no seed mix is specified, apply according to Item No. 604S Seeding for Erosion Control, Section 6.

L. Soil retention blanket

For vegetated soil-rock rip-rap, soil retention blanket shall be a TxDoT approved Class I Type C or D, shall be made of 100% biodegradable fibers, unless specified otherwise in the Drawings. Blanket shall comply with the requirements of Item No. 605S Soil Retention Blanket, Section 3.

\* See Modifications for additional information on new sections

#### 591S.4 Construction Methods

Prior to commencement of this work, all required erosion control and tree protection measures (Standard Specification Item 610S, "Preservation of Trees and Other Vegetation") shall be in place and utilities located and protected as set forth in the "General Conditions". Construction equipment shall not be operated within the drip line of trees unless indicated on the Drawings. Construction materials shall not be placed under the canopies of trees. No excavation or embankment shall be placed within the drip line of trees until tree wells (Standard Detail Number 610S-6, "Tree Protection, Tree Wells") are constructed. Spalls and small stones used to fill open joints and voids in rock riprap shall be rocked and wedged to provide a tight fit.

Unsuitable excavated materials or excavation in excess of that needed for construction shall be known as "Waste" and shall become the Contractor's property and sole responsibility to dispose of this material in an environmentally sound manner off the limits of the right of way at a permitted disposal site.

All blasting shall conform to 01550, "Public Safety and Convenience." The Contractor shall comply with all laws, ordinances, applicable safety code requirements, International Fire Code Chapter 27 "Hazardous Materials General Provisions" and Chapter 33 "Explosives and Fireworks" and any other regulations relative to handling, storage and use of explosives. In all cases, a Blasting Permit must be obtained in advance from the appropriate City agency.

Areas to be protected by rock riprap shall be free of brush, trees, stumps and other objectionable materials and be graded to a smooth compacted surface. All soft or spongy material shall be removed and replaced with appropriate material to the depths shown on the plans or as directed by the engineer. Fill Areas, unless otherwise specified will be compacted in accordance with 132S - Embankment. Unacceptable subgrade conditions shall be reworked according to the Engineer's recommendations. Excavation areas shall be maintained until the riprap is placed.

A. Dry Rock Riprap

The mass of rock riprap shall be placed as to be in conformance with the required gradation mixtures, to the lines, grades and layers thickness that is shown on the drawings.

When the riprap will be placed on an erodible soil, as determined by the Engineer or designated representative, a layer of geotextile filter fabric or a granular filter layer shall be placed, prior to placement of the riprap material. In some cases multiple layers of granular filter material of varying gradations may be required. The median rock riprap size (D50), rock riprap layer thickness, filter type, when applicable the number of granular filter layers, granular filter aggregate gradations (grade/size classification), granular layer thicknesses shall be specified on the plans. The minimum granular filter layer thickness shall be 4 inches (102 mm). Geotextile filter fabric shall conform to Standard Specification No. 620 and be installed

with sufficient anchoring and overlap between seams according to the manufacturer's recommendations to ensure full filter barrier protection of the subgrade after riprap installation. When specified on the plans a four (4) inch minimum thickness granular cushion layer of gravel or sand may be placed over the filter fabric to prevent damage the fabric during placement of rock riprap.

Rock riprap shall be machine placed and distributed such that there will be no large accumulations of either larger or smaller sizes. Placing rock riprap by dumping into chutes or similar methods shall not be permitted. The rocks shall be placed in a single layer with close joints. The rock riprap layer thickness shall be no less than the maximum stone size (D100) or 1.5 times the D50, whichever produces the greater thickness. In areas exposed to flowing water the rock riprap layer thickness should be no less than 2.0 times the D50. The upright axis of the rocks shall make an angle of approximately 90 degrees with the embankment slope. The courses shall be placed from the bottom of the embankment upward, with the larger rocks being placed on the lower courses. Open joints shall be filled with spalls. Rocks shall be arranged to present a uniform finished top surface such that the variation between tops of adjacent rocks shall not exceed 3 inches (75 mm). Rocks that project more than the allowable amount in the finished work shall be replaced, embedded deeper or chipped.

#### B. Mortared Rock Riprap

Rock for this purpose, as far as practicable, shall be selected as to size and shape in order to secure fairly large, flat-surfaced rock which may be laid with a true and even surface and a minimum of voids. Fifty percent of the mass rock shall be broad flat rocks, weighing between 100 and 150 pounds (45 and 69 kilograms) each, placed with the flat surface uppermost and parallel to the slope. The largest rock shall be placed near the base of the slope. The spaces between the larger rocks shall be filled with rocks of suitable size, leaving the surface smooth, reasonably tight and conforming to the contour required on the Drawings. In general, the rocks shall be placed with a degree of care that will insure plane surfaces with variation from the true plane of no more than 3 inches in 4 feet (no more than 60 mm per meter). Warped and curved surfaces shall have the same general degree of accuracy as indicated for plane surfaces.

Before placing mortar, the rocks shall be wetted thoroughly and as each of the larger rocks is placed, it shall be surrounded by fresh mortar and adjacent rocks shall be shoved into contact. After the larger rocks are in place, all of the spaces or opening(s) between them shall be filled with mortar and the smaller rocks then placed by shoving them into position, forcing excess mortar to the surface and insuring that each rock is carefully and firmly embedded laterally. After the work described above has been completed, all excess mortar forced up shall be spread uniformly to completely fill all surface voids. All surface joints then shall be pointed up roughly, either with flush joints or with shallow, smooth raked joints.

#### B. Vegetated Soil-Rock Riprap

Adjacent stockpiles of rock riprap, fill soil, and topsoil shall be treated and there shall be no premixing of fill soil, top soil and rock prior to placement. Sufficient soil volume shall be provided to result in a final, complete-in-place ratio of 30% soil to 70% rock riprap by volume.

Place underlying filter material and first layer of rock riprap in accordance with 591S.4.A to a thickness equivalent to the D50 rock size of half the design rock layer thickness, whichever is greater. Place a layer of soil over and within the rock voids such that the top of the soil layer is approximately 75% of the rock layer thickness. Work the soil into the rock layer voids by wetting, prodding with a rock bar, and/or vibratory compaction until the soil height is

approximately 50% of the rock height. If the soil height becomes less than 50% of the rock height then repeat the previous steps.

Place the second layer of rock riprap per 591S.4.A up to the final design grade. Place soil over and within the rock riprap, working it into the voids as in the previous step and repeating application as needed until the top of the soil layer approximately matches the top surface of the rock riprap. Excess soil shall not be placed in the voids to the extent that the rock riprap is displaced. The resulting soil-riprap surface shall be smooth, with no lumps or depressions greater than two inches ( $\pm 2$ " ) from the final design grade.

Once the soil-rock matrix is placed, the surface of the soil-rock riprap shall be seeded per the Drawings and covered with biodegradable erosion control fabric.

### C. Concrete Riprap \* See Modifications for additional information

Concrete for riprap shall be placed as indicated on the Drawings or as directed by the Engineer or designated representative. Unless otherwise indicated on the Drawings, concrete riprap shall be ~~reinforced using wire or~~ bar reinforcement.

Concrete shall be Class A or as indicated otherwise on the Drawings and shall conform to Standard Specification Item No. 403S, "Concrete for Structures".

~~When welded wire reinforcement is indicated, it shall be a minimum of 6 x 6 W1.4 x W1.4 (150 x 150 MW9 x MW9) with a minimum lap of 6 inches (150 mm) at all splices. At the edge of the riprap, the wire fabric shall not be less than 1 inch (25 mm) nor more than 3 inches (75 mm) from the edge of the concrete and shall have no wires projecting beyond the last member parallel to the edge of the concrete.~~

When bar reinforcement is used, the sectional area of steel in each direction shall not be less than the sectional area of the wire fabric described above. The spacing of bar reinforcement shall not exceed 18 inches (450 mm) in each direction and the distance from the edge of concrete to the first parallel bar shall not exceed 6 inches (150 mm).

Reinforcement shall be supported properly throughout the placement to maintain its position approximately equidistant from the top and bottom surface of the slab.

Unless otherwise noted, expansion joints of the size and type indicated on the Drawings shall be provided at intervals not to exceed 40 feet (12.2 meters) and shall extend the full width and depth of the concrete. Marked joints shall be made 3/8 inch (9.5 mm) deep at 10 foot (3 meter) intervals. All joints shall be perpendicular and at right angles to the forms unless otherwise indicated on the Drawings.

Slopes and bottom of the trench for toe walls shall be compacted and the entire area sprinkled before the concrete is placed.

After the concrete has been placed, consolidated and shaped to conform to the dimensions indicated on the Drawings and has set sufficiently to avoid slumping, the surface shall be finished with a wooden float to secure a reasonably smooth surface.

Immediately following the finishing operation, the riprap shall be cured conforming to Standard Specification Item No. 410S, "Concrete Structures".

#### D. Pneumatically Placed Concrete Riprap, Type I and Type II

Pneumatically placed concrete for riprap shall be placed as indicated on the Drawings or as established by the Engineer or designated representative. Pneumatically placed concrete shall conform to Standard Specification Item No. 404S, "Pneumatically Placed Concrete". Reinforcement shall conform to the details indicated on the Drawings and Standard Specification Item No. 406S, "Reinforcing Steel". Reinforcement shall be supported properly throughout placement of concrete. All subgrade surfaces shall be moist when concrete is placed.

The surface shall be given a wood float finish or a gun finish as indicated on the Drawings.

The strength and design of Pneumatically Placed Concrete Riprap shall be either Type I or if indicated, Type II conforming to Standard Specification Item No. 404S, "Pneumatically Placed Concrete".

Immediately following the finishing operation, the riprap shall be cured conforming to Standard Specification Item No. 410S, "Concrete Structures".

#### 591S.5 Measurement

\* See Modifications for additional information

Measurement of acceptable riprap will be made on the basis of the (a) area in square yards (square meters: 1 square meter equals 1.196 square yards) indicated on the Drawings, complete in place or (b) the volume of concrete placed in cubic yards (cubic meters: 1 cubic meters equals 1.308 cubic yards), complete in place as indicated on the Drawings for the thickness specified.

Concrete toe walls will not be measured separately but shall be included in the unit price bid for riprap of the type with which it is placed.

#### 591S.6 Payment \* See Modifications for additional information

The riprap quantities, measured as provided above, will be paid for at the unit bid prices per square foot or per cubic yard as indicated for riprap of the various classifications. The Unit Bid Price shall include full compensation for furnishing, hauling and placing all materials, including toe walls, geotextile filter fabric, granular filter material, fill soil and top soil, seed, erosion control fabric, granular cushion, reinforcement and premolded expansion joint material and for all labor, tools, equipment and incidentals necessary to complete the work.

Payment for excavation of toe wall trenches and for all necessary excavation below natural ground or the bottom of excavated drainage channels will be included in the unit bid price for riprap. Excavation, grading and fill materials required to shape drainage channels shall not be included in the unit bid price for riprap.

Payment for excavation required for shaping of slopes for riprap shall be included in the unit bid price for riprap, except for the situation when the header banks upon which the riprap is to be placed are built by prior contract. In this specific case the excavation for shaping of slopes, will be paid for conforming to Standard Specification Item No. 401, "Structural Excavation and Backfill".

Payment will be made under one of the following:

Pay Item No. 591S-A:	Dry Rock Riprap	Per Square Yard.
Pay Item No. 591S-B:	Dry Rock Riprap	Per Cubic Yard.



Pay Item No. 591S-D:	Mortared Rock Riprap	Per Square Yard.
Pay Item No. 591S-F:	Concrete Riprap, ___ In.	Per Square Yard.
Pay Item No. 591S-G:	Concrete Riprap	Per Cubic Yard.
Pay Item No. 591S-I	Vegetated Soil-Rock Riprap	Per Square Yard
Pay Item No. 591S-J	Vegetated Soil-Rock Riprap	Per Cubic Yard
Pay Item No. 591S-P	Pneumatically Placed Concrete Riprap, ___In.	Per Square Yard.

End

<i>SPECIFIC</i> CROSS REFERENCE MATERIALS
Specification 591S, "Riprap for Slope Protection"

International Fire Code

Designation	Description
Chapter 27	Hazardous Materials
Chapter 33	Explosives and Fireworks

City of Austin Standard Contract Documents

Designation	Description
01550	Public Safety and Convenience

City of Austin Standard Specifications

Designation	Description
Item No. 130S	Borrow
Item No. 403S	Concrete for Structures
Item No. 404S	Pneumatically Placed Concrete
Item No. 406	Reinforcing Steel
Item No. 408	Concrete Joint Material
Item No. 410	Concrete Structures
Item No. 601S	Salvaging and Placing Topsoil
Item No. 604S	Seeding for Erosion Control
Item No. 605S	Soil Retention Blanket
Item No. 610S	Preservation of Trees and Other Vegetation
Item No. 620S	Filter Fabric

American Society for Testing and Materials, ASTM

Designation	Description
ASTM D 5240	Standard Test Method for Evaluation of Durability of Rock for Erosion Control Using Sodium Sulfate or Magnesium Sulfate
ASTM D 5519	Standard Method Methods for Particle Size Analysis of Natural and Man-made Riprap Materials
ASTM D 6473	Standard Test Method for Specific Gravity and Absorption of Rock for Erosion Control

Texas Department of Transportation: Manual of Testing Procedures

Designation	Description
Tex-403-A	Test Procedure for Saturated Surface-Dry Specific Gravity and Absorption of Aggregates
Tex-411-A	Soundness of Aggregate Using Sodium Sulfate or Magnesium Sulfate

Texas Department of Transportation: Standard Specifications for Construction and Maintenance of Highways, Street, and Bridges

Designation	Description
Item No. 432	Riprap

<b>RELATED CROSS REFERENCE MATERIALS</b>
Specification 591S, "Riprap for Slope Protection"

City of Austin Standard Specifications

Designation	Description
Item No. 623S	Dry Stack Rock Wall

Engineering Design Manuals

Federal Highway Administration, 1989, Design of Riprap Revetment, Hydraulic Engineering Circular HEC-11, FHWA-1P-89-016.

National Cooperative Highway Research Program, 2006, Riprap Design Criteria, Recommended Specifications, and Design Criteria, NCHRP Report 568.

United States Bureau of Reclamation, 1983, Hydraulic Design of Stilling Basins and Energy Dissipators, Engineering Monograph No. 25.

U.S Department of Agriculture, 1983, Soil Conservation Service, Riprap for Slope Protection Against Wave Action, Technical Release No. 69, February.

US Army Corps of Engineers, 1994. Hydraulic Design of Flood Control Channels, US Army Corps of Engineers Engineer Manual EM 1110-2-1601.

Federal Highway Administration, 1998. "Geosynthetic Design and Construction Guidelines," FHWA-HI-95-038.