## ITEM P-152 EXCAVATION, SUBGRADE, AND EMBANKMENT

DESCRIPTION

152-1.1 This item consists of excavation, hauling, embankment (or waste disposal), placement, grading and compaction of all materials required to construct runway safety areas, taxiway safety areas, runways, taxiways, aprons, drainage, buildings, roadways, parking, and other work. Construct according to the specifications, and conform to the dimensions and typical sections shown on the Plans.

MATERIALS

152-2.1 MATERIAL DEFINITIONS. The Contract will designate material to be removed from within the project lines and grades as classified excavation (common, rock or muck) or as unclassified excavation. Material obtained from outside the project lines and grades is borrow.

All material shall be described as defined below, but no quantity of material shall be defined or paid in more than one category:

1. **Unclassified Excavation.** All material, regardless of its nature, which is not paid for under another contract item. May include common, rock or muck.
2. **Common Excavation.** Suitable material such as silt, sand, gravel, and granular material that does not require blasting or ripping. Not rock or muck.
3. **Rock Excavation.** Rock that cannot be excavated without blasting or ripping, and boulders containing a volume of more than 0.5 cubic yard.
4. **Muck Excavation.** Soil, organic matter, and other material not suitable for embankment or foundation material, including material that will decay or produce subsidence in the embankment such as stumps, roots, logs, humus, or peat.
5. **Drainage Excavation.** Excavation made for the primary purpose of controlling drainage including: intercepting, inlet or outlet ditches; temporary levee construction; or any other type as shown on the Plans.
6. **Borrow.** Suitable material that is required for the construction of embankment or for other portions of the work. Borrow material shall be obtained from sources within the limits of the airport property but outside the project lines and grades, or from sources outside the airport property.
7. **Foundation Soil.** In-situ soil or undisturbed ground.
8. **Ditch Lining.** Use crushed or naturally occurring stones that are sound and durable, are not larger than 8 inches in greatest dimension, and containing not more than 50% by weight passing a 3-inch sieve and not more than 5% by weight passing the 1-in sieve as determined by ATM 304, or as accepted by the Engineer.

152-2.2 UNSUITABLE MATERIAL. Material that does not meet the testing requirement for suitable material. Material containing vegetable or organic matter, such as muck, peat, organic silt, or sod is considered unsuitable for use in embankment construction. Material that is contaminated by hazardous substances, including fuel or oil, in greater quantity than state and federal standards allow is considered unsuitable for use.

152-2.3 SUITABLE MATERIAL. Suitable material may be obtained from classified excavation, unclassified excavation, or borrow. The Engineer will approve material as “suitable” for use in embankment when the material meets the following criteria:

1. Sand, rock, gravel, silt, concrete, asphalt pavement, and other inorganic material;
2. Gradation of 100% by weight passing 6 inch screen; and
3. Meets definition of Non-Frost Susceptible in GCP Subsection 10-03, except delete “6%” and replace with “10%” (passing No. 200 screen).

The Engineer may, in their discretion, approve oversize material as “suitable” for use in embankment when the material meets the following criteria:

1. Sand, rock, gravel, silt, concrete, asphalt pavement, and other inorganic material;
2. Gradation of 100% by weight passing 24 inch screen;
3. Meets definition of Non-Frost Susceptible in GCP Subsection 10-03, except delete “6%” and replace with “10%” (passing No. 200 screen); and
4. Rock is well graded with an even distribution of rock sizes, and can be compacted with a minimal amount of voids.

CONSTRUCTION METHODS

152-3.1 GENERAL. Perform all necessary clearing and grubbing in accordance with Item P-151, and construction surveying in accordance with Item G-135, including staking of lines and grades, prior to beginning excavation, grading, and embankment operations in any area.

The suitability of material to be placed in embankments shall be subject to approval by the Engineer. Material with organics, when approved by the Engineer as suitable to support vegetation, may be used on top of the embankment slope.

Unsuitable material shall be disposed of in waste areas shown on the Plans or in locations acceptable to the Engineer. Material contaminated by hazardous substances shall require special handling and disposal, performed according to GCP Subsection 70-11.f. and using methods acceptable to the Engineer.

1. **Waste Areas.** All waste areas shall be graded to allow positive drainage of the area and of adjacent areas. The surface elevation of waste areas shall not extend above the surface elevation of adjacent usable areas of the airport, unless specified on the Plans or approved by the Engineer. Unsuitable material shall not be left in windrows or piles, and shall not extend into the Obstacle-Free Zone as shown on the plans.

All waste areas shall be protected from erosion according to the SWPPP. Areas where seeding is called for, in which the top layer of soil material has become compacted, by hauling or other activities of the Contractor shall be scarified and disked to a depth of 4 inches, in order to loosen and pulverize the soil.

The Contractor shall obtain all permits required for placing waste in areas they choose, and which are not covered by Department obtained permits. When the Contractor is required to locate a disposal area outside the airport property limits at his/her own expense, he shall obtain and file with the Engineer, permission in writing from the property owner for the use of private property for this purpose.

1. **Utility Work.** Utility work shall be performed, and compensation claims for utility work made, according to GCP Subsection 50-06. If it is necessary to work thorough or around existing utilities or associated structures, the Contractor shall be responsible for and shall take all necessary precautions to preserve the utilities or provide temporary services. When utilities not shown on the Plans are encountered, the Contractor shall immediately notify the Engineer, and the Engineer will determine the disposition of the utility. The Contractor shall, at no additional cost to the Department, satisfactorily repair or pay the cost of all damage to utilities or associated structures which may result from any of the Contractor's operations.

152-3.2 EXCAVATION. No excavation shall be started until the Contractor has construction surveyed the work, including staking the lines and grades, and the Engineer has reviewed stakes, elevations and measurements of the ground surface. As required in GCP Subsection 40-04, all Useable Excavation of suitable material shall be used in the formation of embankment or for other purposes shown on the Plans. All unsuitable material shall be disposed of in waste areas as shown on the Plans or as directed by the Engineer.

When the volume of the Useable Excavation exceeds that required to construct the embankments to the grades indicated, the excess material shall be used to grade the areas of ultimate development or disposed of as directed. When the volume of Useable Excavation is not sufficient for constructing the fill to the grades indicated, borrow shall be used to make up the deficiency.

The grade shall be maintained so that the surface is well drained at all times. When necessary, temporary drains and drainage ditches shall be installed to intercept or divert surface water that may affect the work. All temporary drains and drainage ditches shall be constructed and maintained according to the SWPPP.

In cuts, all loose or protruding rocks on the back slopes shall be scaled or otherwise removed to line of finished grade of slope. All cut-and-fill slopes shall be uniformly dressed to the slope, cross section, and alignment shown on the Plans or as directed by the Engineer.

1. **Selective Grading.** When selective grading is required, the more suitable material as designated by the Engineer shall be used in constructing the upper layers of the embankment or pavement structure. If, at the time of excavation, it is not possible to place this material in its final location, it shall be stockpiled in approved areas.
2. **Undercutting.** Rock, shale, hardpan, loose rock, boulders, or other material unsatisfactory for runways, taxiways, safety areas, subgrades, roads, shoulders, or any areas intended for turfing shall be excavated to a minimum depth of 12 inches below the subgrade, or to the depth directed by the Engineer. Muck, peat, matted roots, or other yielding material that is unsatisfactory for foundation soil compaction, shall be removed to the depth specified. Unsuitable materials shall be disposed of at locations shown on the Plans. The excavated area shall be backfilled with suitable material, obtained from the grading operations or borrow areas and thoroughly compacted as specified. Where rock cuts are made and backfilled with suitable material. Any pockets created in the rock surface shall be drained according to the details shown on the Plans. The material removed will be paid as Unclassified Excavation.
3. **Overbreak.** Overbreak, including slides, is that portion of any material displaced or loosened beyond the finished work, as planned or authorized by the Engineer. All overbreak shall be graded or removed by the Contractor and disposed of as directed by the Engineer. Payment will not be made for the removal and disposal of overbreak which the Engineer determines as avoidable. Unavoidable overbreak will be paid as Unclassified Excavation.
4. **Removal of Structures and Utilities.** The Contractor shall accomplish the removal of existing structures and utilities that are specified to be removed or demolished, except when another entity is identified in the Contract to accomplish the work. All existing structural foundations shall be excavated and removed to a depth at least 2 feet below the top of subgrade or as indicated on the Plans, and the material disposed of as directed. Holes left after removing foundations shall be backfilled with suitable material and compacted as specified. The material will be paid as Unclassified Excavation.
5. **Foundation Soil Compaction Requirements.** In areas of excavation**,** the top 6 inches of foundation soil under areas serving aircraft or vehicle traffic loadings shall be compacted to a density of not less than 95% of the maximum density as determined by ATM 207, ATM 212, or ATM 309. The in-place field density and moisture content shall be determined according to ATM 213.

Compaction of the foundation soil is a subsidiary cost to excavation.

The Engineer may direct the Contractor to over excavate foundation soil that is soft or compresses excessively, and to backfill excavation with compacted suitable material. The material will be paid as Unclassified Excavation.

1. **Blasting.** Blasting will be permitted only when proper precautions are taken for the safety of all persons, the work, and the property. The Contractor is responsible for blasting operations including the requirements of GCP Subsection 70-10. All damage done to the work or property shall be repaired at the Contractor's expense. All operations of the Contractor in connection with the transportation, storage, and use of explosives shall conform to all federal, state, local regulations, explosive manufacturers' instructions, and approved permits.

The Contractor shall submit a Safety Plan that includes descriptions of road and runway closures, warning signals; and plans for notification of affected local, state, and federal agencies, the airport manager, and other interested parties. Discuss in the Safety Plan methods for protection of life and health, public and private property, new work or existing work on the project, nearby structures, wetlands, waters and wildlife. When working within airport property include an emergency response contingency to clear runways of debris, to repair damaged navigational or visual aids; and get a NOTAMs before blasting. Hold a safety meeting prior to commencement of blasting operations to address safety issues.

In each distinct blasting area the Contractor shall submit a blasting plan, prepared by a qualified blaster, to the Engineer. This plan must consist of hole size, depth, spacing, burden, type of explosives, type of delay sequence, maximum amount of explosive on any one delay period, depth of rock, and depth of overburden if any. The maximum explosive charge weights per delay included in the plan shall not be increased without submitting a revised blasting plan to the Engineer.

When blasting, the Safety Plan and the Blasting Plan shall conform to FAA Order 7400.2 *Procedures for Handling Airspace Matters*, Chapter 27, and AC 150/5370-2 *Operational Safety on Airports During Construction*.

The Contractor shall keep a record of each blast fired, its date, time, and location; the amount of explosives used, maximum explosive charge weight per delay period, and, where necessary, seismograph records identified by instrument number and location. These records shall be made available daily to the Engineer.

The Engineer will keep the submitted plans and records, and has authority to review and reject plans.

152-3.3 BORROW SOURCES. Borrow sources within the airport property if available will be identified on the Plans. Excavation of borrow on airport property shall be made only at these identified locations and within the lines and grades staked.

Borrow sources outside of airport property may be identified in the Contract according to GCP Subsection 60-02. The Contractor shall furnish additional borrow sources if necessary.

Removal of overburden and waste material, permit costs, mineral royalties, and other costs of material source development are subsidiary and shall be included in the unit price for borrow.

152-3.4 DRAINAGE EXCAVATION. Drainage excavation for intercepting, inlet or outlet drains; for temporary levee construction; or for any other type as designed or as shown on the Plans. The work shall be performed in the proper sequence with the other construction and according to the SWPPP. All suitable material shall be placed in embankment fills; unsuitable material shall be placed in waste areas or as directed by the Engineer. Intercepting ditches shall be constructed prior to starting adjacent excavation operations. All necessary work shall be performed to secure a finish true to line, elevation, and cross section.

The Contractor shall maintain ditches constructed on the project to the required cross section and shall keep them free of debris or obstructions until the project is accepted.

Place and spread ditch lining materials so that the finished face is uniform and conforms with the lines and slope shown on the Plans or as directed.

152-3.5 PREPARATION OF EMBANKMENT AREA. In areas of Clearing and Grubbing, completely break up the subgrade by plowing or scarifying to a minimum depth of 6 inches. Where an embankment is to be constructed to a height of 4 feet or less, or where the embankment supports asphalt or concrete paving, compact the subgrade as indicated in Subsection 152-3.2.e. Where the height of fill is greater than 4 feet and the embankment does not support asphalt or concrete paving, compact the subgrade to the density of the surrounding ground before construction of embankment.

When new embankment is placed on slopes steeper than 4:1, the existing ground shall be continuously benched over the areas as the work is brought up in layers. Benching shall be of sufficient width to permit placing of material and compacting operations. Each horizontal cut shall begin at the intersection of the original ground and the vertical side of the previous bench. Material thus cut out and deemed suitable shall be blended and incorporated into the new embankment.

No direct payment shall be made for the work performed under this section. The necessary clearing and grubbing and the quantity of excavation removed will be paid for under the respective items of work.

152-3.6 FORMATION OF EMBANKMENTS. Embankments shall be formed in successive horizontal layers of not more than 8 inches in loose depth for the full width of the cross section, unless otherwise approved by the Engineer.

The grading and compaction operations shall be conducted, and the various soil strata shall be placed, to produce an embankment as shown on the typical cross section or as directed by the Engineer. Materials such as brush, hedge, roots, stumps, grass and other unsuitable material, shall not be incorporated or buried in the embankment.

1. **Suspension of Operations.** Operations on earthwork shall be suspended at any time when satisfactory results cannot be obtained because of rain, freezing, moisture content or other unsatisfactory conditions of the field. Frozen material shall not be placed in the embankment nor shall embankment be placed upon frozen material. Material shall not be placed on surfaces that are muddy, frozen, or contain frost. The Contractor shall drag, blade, or slope the embankment to provide proper surface drainage.
2. **Soft Foundations.** When embankments are to be constructed across wet or swampy ground, which will not support the weight of heavy hauling and spreading equipment, the Contractor shall use methods of embankment construction, and use hauling and spreading equipment, that will least disturb the soft foundation (defined as having a California Bearing Ratio less than 3). When soft foundations are encountered, and when approved by the Engineer, the lower part of the fill may be constructed by dumping and spreading successive vehicle loads in a uniformly distributed layer of a thickness not greater than that necessary to support the vehicle while placing subsequent layers, after which the remainder of the embankment shall be constructed in layers and compacted as specified. The Contractor shall not be required to compact the soft foundation, and at the Engineer’s option, may not be required to clear and grub.
3. **Moisture.** The material in the layer being placed shall be within ±2% of optimum moisture content before rolling to obtain the prescribed compaction. In order to achieve a uniform moisture content throughout the layer, wetting or drying of the material and manipulation shall be performed when necessary. Should the material be too wet to permit proper compaction or rolling, all work on all of the affected portions of the embankment shall be delayed until the material has dried to the required moisture content. Watering of dry material to obtain the proper moisture content shall be done with approved equipment that will sufficiently distribute the water. Sufficient equipment to furnish the required water shall be available at all times.
4. **Compaction.** Rolling operations shall be continued until the embankment is compacted to not less than 95% of maximum density as determined by ATM 207 or ATM 212. Under all areas serving aircraft or vehicle traffic loadings, the embankment shall be compacted to a density of not less than 98% of the maximum density as determined by ATM 207 or ATM 212. The in-place field density and moisture content shall be determined according ATM 202.

Keep dumping and rolling areas separate. Do not cover any layer by another until the proper density is obtained.

During construction of the embankment, the Contractor shall route their equipment at all times, both when loaded and when empty, over the layers as they are placed and shall distribute the travel evenly over the entire width of the embankment. The equipment shall be operated in such a manner that hardpan, cemented gravel, clay, or other chunky soil material will be broken up into small particles and become incorporated with the other material in the layer.

In the construction of embankments, layer placement shall begin in the deepest portion of the fill and progress in layers approximately parallel to the finished pavement grade line. Stones or fragmentary rock larger than 3 inches in their greatest dimensions will not be allowed in the top 6 inches of the embankment.

1. **Oversize Material.** At the Engineer’s discretion and direction, the Contractor may use oversize material orrockfill, as defined in Subsection 152-2.3, in the embankment. Place material in layers up to 2 feet thick. Fill voids with finer material. Level and smooth each layer with suitable leveling equipment. Use compaction equipment and construction methods that can form a dense, well-compacted embankment. Do not use oversize material within 4 feet of the top of finished subgrade.

Rock or boulders larger than 2 feet in thickness shall either be disposed of outside the excavation or embankment areas, in places and in the manner designated by the Engineer; or they may be crushed to less than 2 feet thickness and used in the embankment.

1. **Subsidiary Costs.** Excavation and embankment is a single pay item; there will be no separate measurement or payment. The costs for material source development, blasting, excavation, hauling, placing in layers, compacting, disking, watering, mixing, sloping, grading, and other necessary operations for construction of embankments, are subsidiary and shall be included in the contract unit prices for excavation, borrow, or other pay items.
2. **Frozen Material.** Frozen material shall not be placed in the embankment nor shall embankment be placed upon frozen material, unless this construction method is identified in the special provisions, or is part of a Contractor’s Progress Schedule that the Engineer has approved.

152-3.7 FINISHING AND PROTECTION OF SUBGRADE. After the subgrade has been substantially completed, the full width shall be conditioned by removing any soft or other unstable material that will not compact properly. The resulting areas and all other low areas, holes or depressions shall be brought to finish subgrade elevation with suitable material. Scarifying, blading, rolling and other methods shall be performed to provide a thoroughly compacted subgrade, whose top is shaped to the lines and grades shown on the Plans.

Grading of the top of subgrade shall be performed so that it will drain readily. The Contractor shall take all precautions necessary to protect the subgrade from damage. The Contractor shall limit hauling over the finished subgrade to that which is essential for construction purposes.

All ruts, ponds or rough places that develop in a completed subgrade shall be repaired, smoothed and recompacted before another layer is placed on top of the subgrade.

No subbase, or surface course shall be placed on the subgrade until the subgrade has been approved by the Engineer. Erosion and sediment control shall be done according to the SWPPP. Work described in this subsection is subsidiary and shall be included in the contract unit prices.

152-3.8 TOLERANCES. In those areas upon which a subbase or base course is to be placed, the top of the subgrade shall be of such smoothness that, when tested with a 12-foot straightedge applied parallel and at right angles to the centerline, it shall not show any deviation in excess of 1/2 inch, or shall not be more than 0.05 foot from true grade as established by grade hubs or pins. Any deviation in excess of these amounts shall be corrected by loosening, adding, or removing materials; reshaping; and recompacting by watering and rolling.

On Runway Safety Areas, intermediate and other designated areas, the surface shall be of such smoothness that it will not vary more than 0.10 foot from true grade as established by grade hubs. Any deviation in excess of this amount shall be corrected by loosening, adding or removing materials, and reshaping.

152-3.9 TOPSOIL.When topsoil is specified or required as shown on the plans or under Item T-905, it may be salvaged from stripping or other grading operations. The topsoil shall meet the requirements of Item T-905. The material may be stockpiled at approved locations in conformance with the CSPP.

Upon completion of grading operations, topsoil shall be handled and placed as directed, or as required in Item T-905. No direct payment will be made for topsoil under Item P-152.

METHOD OF MEASUREMENT

152-4.1 The quantity of unclassified excavation, common excavation, rock excavation, and muck excavation, will be measured in cubic yards of excavated material, measured in its original position. Pay quantities will be computed to the neat lines staked, by the method of average end areas of materials acceptably excavated. Measurement will not include the quantity of materials excavated without authorization beyond project lines and grades, or the quantity of material used for purposes other than those directed or approved by the Engineer.

With the Engineer’s written approval, excavation may be measured by any method described in Subsection 152-4.2.

152-4.2 The quantity of Borrow material to be paid will be by calculated by one of the following methods of measurement, as described in the Bid Schedule.

If Borrow is paid by source volume, the quantity will be measured in cubic yards of material, measured in its original position at the borrow source, after stripping of overburden and waste. Pay quantities will be computed by the method of average end areas from cross sections taken before and after borrow excavation. No shrink or swell factor will be used.

If Borrow is paid by design volume, the quantity will be measured in cubic yards of material, measured in its final compacted position. Pay quantities will be computed by the method of average end areas, as determined from original ground cross sections before placement (after clearing and grubbing) and to the neat lines staked and verified by the Engineer after placement. No allowance will be made for subsidence of the subgrade or for material placed outside the staked neat line limits. The quantity to be paid for will be the cubic yards of material placed and accepted in the completed embankment. No shrink or swell factor will be used.

If Borrow is paid by weight, the quantity will be measured in tons.

**152-4.3** Ditch Lining will be weighed by the ton or measured by the cubic yard in final position. Excavation required below normal ditch grade is subsidiary.

BASIS OF PAYMENT

152-5.1 Excavation and embankment (or waste disposal) is a single pay item. The costs for material source development, blasting, excavation, hauling, placing in layers, compacting, disking, watering, mixing, sloping, grading, and other necessary operations for construction of embankments, or waste disposal, are subsidiary and shall be included in the contract unit prices.

1. For “Unclassified Excavation” payment will be made at the contract unit price per cubic yard.
2. For “Common Excavation” payment will be made at the contract unit price per cubic yard.
3. For “Rock Excavation” payment will be made at the contract unit price per cubic yard.
4. For “Muck Excavation” payment will be made at the contract unit price per cubic yard.
5. For “Drainage Excavation” payment will be made at the contract unit price per cubic yard.
6. For “Borrow” payment will be made at the contract unit price per cubic yard. If by weight, payment will be made at the contract unit price per ton.

Payment will be made under:

Item P152.010.0000 Unclassified Excavation – per cubic yard

Item P152.030.0000 Common Excavation – per cubic yard

Item P152.040.0000 Rock Excavation – per cubic yard

Item P152.050.0000 Muck Excavation – per cubic yard

Item P152.070.0000 Drainage Excavation – per cubic yard

Item P152.190.\_\_\_\_ Borrow, Type \_\_\_\_ – per cubic yard

Item P152.200.\_\_\_\_ Borrow, Type \_\_\_\_ – per ton

Item P152.390.0000 Ditch Lining – per ton

Item P152.400.0000 Ditch Lining – per cubic yard

REFERENCES

ATM 202 WAQTC FOP for AASHTO T 255/T 265 Moisture Content of Aggregate and Soils

ATM 207 WAQTC FOP for AASHTO T 99/ T 180 Moisture-Density Relations of Soils

ATM 212 Determining the Standard Density of Coarse Granular Materials using the Vibratory Compactor

ATM 213 WAQTC FOP for AASHTO T 310 In-Place Density and Moisture Content of Soil and Soil-Aggregate by Nuclear Methods (Shallow Depth)

ATM 304 WAQTC FOP for AASHTO T 27/T 11 Sieve Analysis of Fine and Coarse Aggregates

ATM 309 Relative Standard Density of Soils by the Control Strip Method