

**From:** [Micah Shaw](#)  
**To:** [DES-FPP District Contacts Group](#)  
**Cc:** [DES-FPP](#)  
**Subject:** Item 5 precast general note update - required for October 2025 letting utilizing items 420, 422, or 425 where precast alternates might be used.  
**Date:** Friday, August 15, 2025 11:23:35 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Good morning,

Since February 2021, at the request of Bridge Division (BRG), we have been instructing the districts to include this note when using applicable items under 420, 422, or 425:

When a precast or cast-in-place concrete element is included in the plans, a precast concrete alternate may be submitted in accordance with "Standard Operating Procedure for Alternate Precast Proposal Submission" found online at <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/forms-publications/consultants-contractors/publications/bridge.html#design>. Acceptance or denial of an alternate is at the sole discretion of the Engineer. Impacts to the project schedule and any additional costs resulting from the use of alternates are the sole responsibility of the Contractor.

***This note is no longer valid.***

BRG has advised us to change the note to this:

"A precast concrete alternate may be submitted in accordance with the latest version of the *Bridge Design Manual – LRFD*. The Contractor must submit the alternate design for review and approval. Acceptance or denial of an alternate is at the sole discretion of the Engineer. All alternate designs must be signed and sealed by a Professional Engineer. Impacts to the project schedule and any additional costs resulting from the use of alternates are the sole responsibility of the Contractor."

If you have the previous note under item 5 in your general notes, please update it. We recommend updating your master general notes as well.

This note works in conjunction with bridge standards **PCA-SUP and PCA-SUB**.

Here are some answers to commonly asked questions:

- Does the submittal of a precast alternate design take place once the contractor has been awarded the contract between award and notice to proceed? If not, when does the process take place?

Yes, the alternate precast substructure design is submitted after contract award but before the Notice to Proceed.

- Would the pay item remain the same (for example, 420-7022 CL C CONC (CAP)) or would a bid item request have to be made?

The original pay item would remain unchanged.

- Are there any popular additions that Bridge Division has seen or included when drafting the PCA-SUB Sheet?

For example for Item 420, the PCA-SUB Sheet (MS-PCA-SUB-24.dgn) includes standard notes and requirements for precast alternates. Common additions or considerations include:

- Connection details to superstructure, columns, and foundations.
- Construction tolerances and lifting requirements.
- Note that the PCA-SUB sheet is not to be used as a standard and must be signed and sealed. Also the new design must be signed and sealed by the new Engineer of Record.
- Removal of unused notes and customization for the specific project must be made on the PCA-SUB sheet.

For additional information, please contact the Bridge Division.

Thank you,



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