

2026 ROAD & BRIDGE SPECIFICATIONS TRAFFIC OPERATIONS SECTIONS

VASITE Annual Meeting

 Robert Cochrane, PE

June 18, 2025

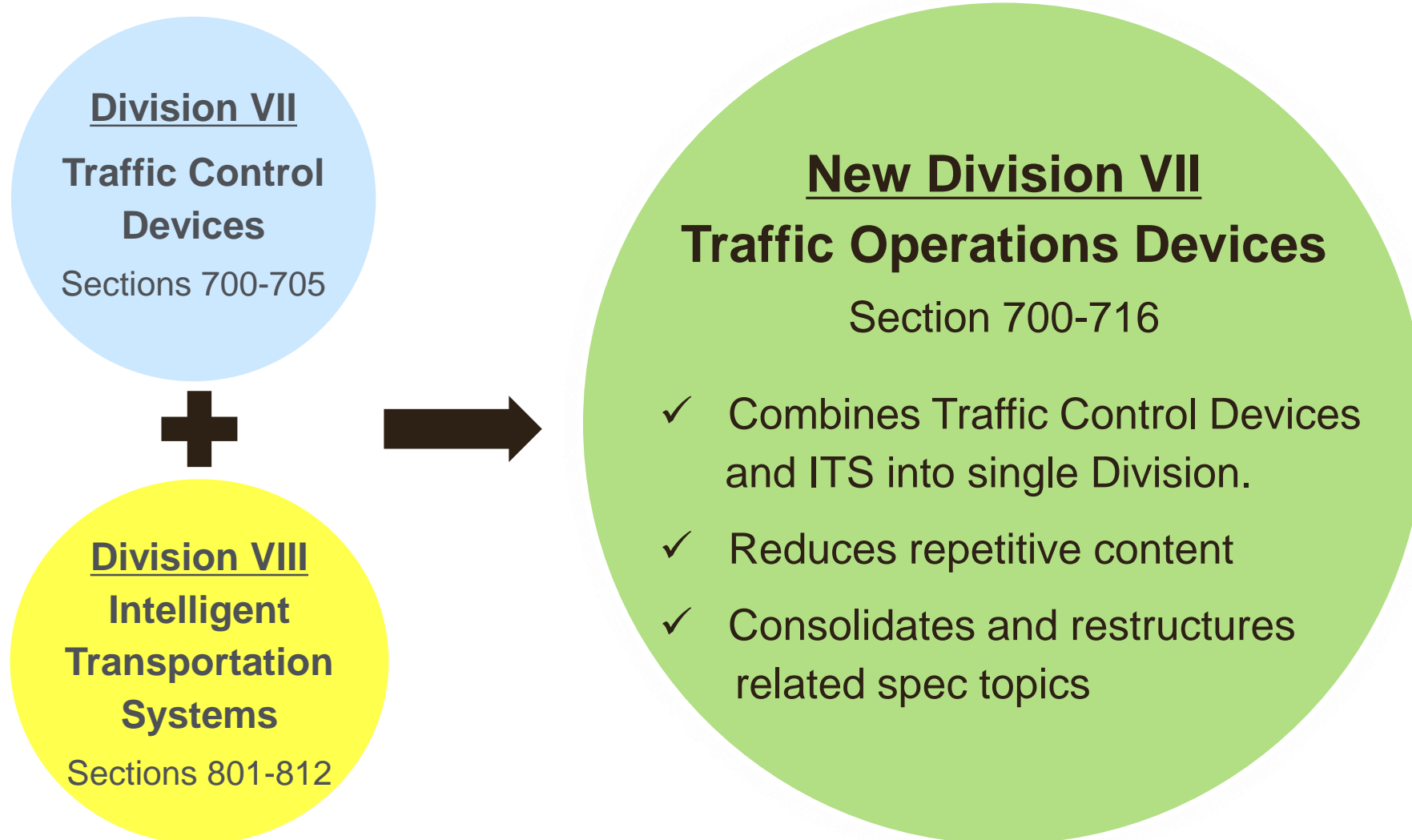
2026 SPEC BOOK UPDATE

- **Department-wide update to the Road & Bridge Specifications for a new 2026 Spec Book**
- **Not intended to be a complete re-write**
- **Opportunity to enhance, modernize, and organize information**



WHAT HAS BEEN UPDATED?

- **Reorganized Divisions VII / VIII**



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- Reorganized Divisions VII / VIII

2026 R & B Spec - Division VII and VIII Reorganization	
Draft 2026 Section	Existing 2020 Section
Section 700: General	Section VII & VIII
Section 701: Traffic Signs	701
Section 702: Delineators	702
Section 703: Traffic Operations Structures	700, 703, 803
Section 704: Pavement Markings & Markers	704
Section 705: Lighting Systems	705
Section 706: Electrical Systems	700, 801
Section 707: Equipment Cabinets	703, 801
Section 708: Uninterruptible Power Supply	703, 801, 802
Section 709: Traffic Signals and Beacons	703
Section 710: Detection and Data Collection	703, 805
Section 711: CCTV Video Equipment	803
Section 712: Changeable Message Signs	804
Section 713: Environmental Sensor Stations	806
Section 714: Communications Switches, Routers, & Terminal Servers	809, 810, 811
Section 715: Wireless Communication Systems	807
Section 716: Wired Communication Systems	808

Overall page reduction:
330 pages to
230 pages!

WHAT HAS BEEN UPDATED?

- **Incorporated Special Provisions**
 - ❖ Modifications to AASHTO's Sign Structure Specifications
 - ❖ ATC Signal Cabinets
 - ❖ Mast Arm Hanger Assembly
 - ❖ Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) Assembly
 - ❖ Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) Equipment
 - ❖ Video/Radar Detection Systems

WHAT HAS BEEN UPDATED?

- **Section 700: General (*New Content*)**
 - ❖ Repurposed this section to focus on advanced technology
 - Incorporated ITS Content from former Division VIII
 - Consolidated cybersecurity, standardized testing plans, and communication
 - Included process for approval of devices

WHAT HAS BEEN UPDATED?

- **Section 701: Traffic Signs**
 - ❖ Overhead permanent signing shall include Type XI sheeting – *eliminates need for illumination*
- **Section 702: Delineators**
 - ❖ Added specs for tubular markers, in addition to flex post delineators
 - *Flex post delineators* are generally placed on the shoulder, outside of the travel way
 - *Tubular markers* are generally used between lanes, as sidewalk extensions, and for channelizing altered travel paths

WHAT HAS BEEN UPDATED?

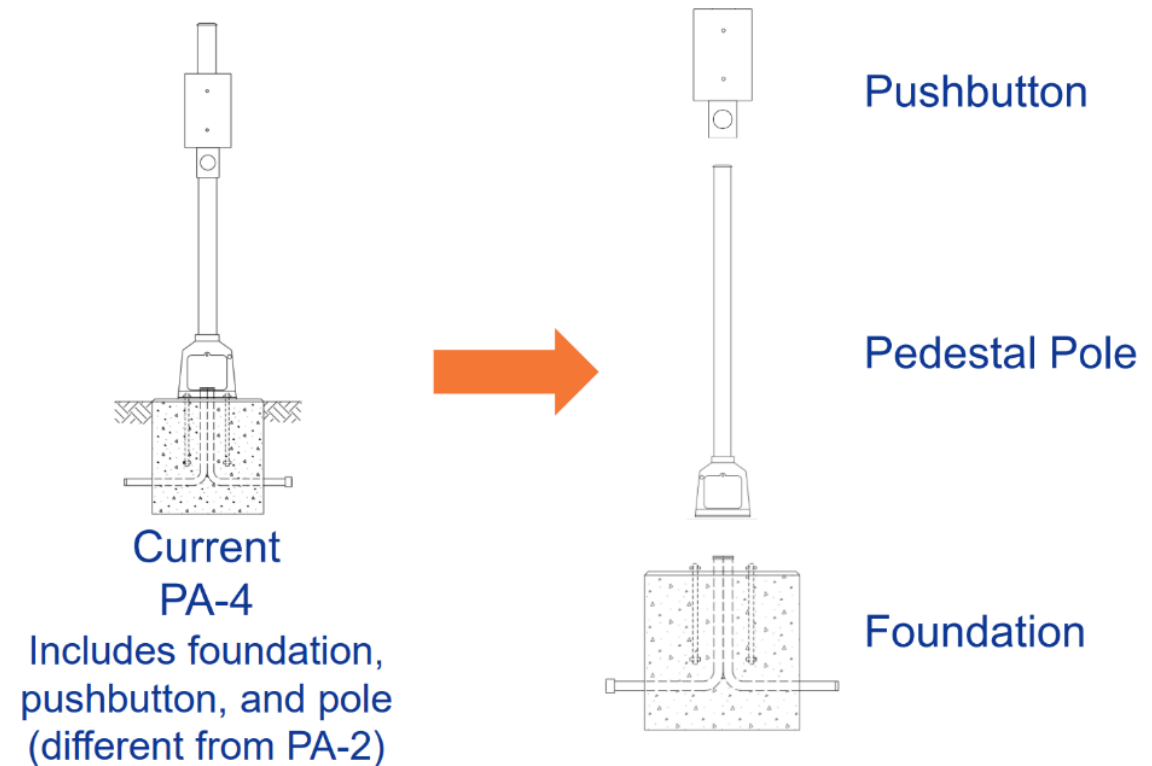
- **Section 703: Traffic Operations Ancillary Structures**
(New Section)
 - ❖ Incorporated ancillary structures content from former Section 700
 - ❖ Consolidated ancillary structures across Divisions VII and VIII
 - Signal poles and mast arms
 - ITS structures
 - Light poles
 - Overhead sign structures

WHAT HAS BEEN UPDATED?

- **Section 703: Traffic Operations**
Ancillary Structures (*New Section*)

- ❖ Pay items made more consistent for smaller structures and pushbuttons
 - Provided separate pay items for poles, foundations, and pushbuttons
 - pedestal poles, RRFBs, and flashing beacons
 - Consolidated “pedestrian actuation” pay items
 - PA-2, PA-3, and PA-4

Example: PA-4



WHAT HAS BEEN UPDATED?

- **Section 704: Pavement Markings and Markers**
 - ❖ Incorporated new pavement marking procedures for latex overlays and pavement markers
 - ❖ Removed Type B, Class IV plastic-backed preformed tape
 - ❖ Moved Temporary Type D and E markings to Section 512
- **Section 705: Lighting Systems**
 - ❖ Replaced High Pressure Sodium (HPS) with LED

WHAT HAS BEEN UPDATED?

- **Section 709: Traffic Signals and Beacons (*New Section*)**
 - ❖ Traffic signal and beacon content incorporated from former Section 703
 - ❖ Added consistent statewide specifications for
 - Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs)
 - Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS)
 - Traffic signal turn on procedures

WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT?

- **Near-term next steps**
 - ❖ Facilitate formal reviews by VDOT District, Industry, and FHWA review
 - ❖ Develop new and updated Road & Bridge Standards
 - ❖ Establish new and updated Pay Item codes
 - ❖ Develop and offer training
- **Planned Effective Date: July 1, 2026**

THANK YOU

If anyone has additional input or questions about the 2026 Spec Book Update, please contact:

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