

ANTI-GRAFFITI COATINGS – WALLS / BRIDGES;

Section 02210.30

September 7, 2006

Construction Section

800 Airport Road

Salem, OR 97301-4798

503/986-3059

02210.30 – Anti-Graffiti Coatings – Walls / Bridges

Anti-Graffiti Coatings - Concrete (& Steel)

We do not maintain a list of anti-graffiti coatings for concrete or steel surfaces.

- Most of our concrete surfaces are too porous or textured to be effective with anti-graffiti coatings.
- Some of the anti-graffiti products require special graffiti removal products, and we are not ready to develop a database to keep track of each wall or bridge in Oregon and the graffiti removal coatings allowed on that installation. This would be a maintenance nightmare. Each installation would have to be labeled to aid in graffiti removal and waste disposal. With Statewide applications this would be impossible to administer.
- Anti-graffiti coatings come in both sacrificial and non-sacrificial versions. Each version comes with it's own problems and restrictions. With the sacrificial version, long term maintenance comes at a high price, you have to replace the coating each time it gets hit with graffiti. With the non-sacrificial version, initial cost is high, and long term appearance is not proven.
- Anti-graffiti coatings can change the appearance of the surface, even under normal conditions.
- Performance of any of these products is very subjective. Demos can look pretty good. But the "real world" can be a different picture.
- Most of these products are multi-component and multi-layer, and require long cure times between layers. So installation costs are high and very time consuming.
- In addition, there are other questions about safety. Many of these anti-graffiti products are very dangerous in their liquid form, and installation needs to be done under controlled conditions.
- Future upgrades of installations might be compromised if any existing coatings aren't completely removed.

The bottom line is that we believe that for most surfaces the quick removal of graffiti and re-coating with an acceptable concrete paint is the best line of defense.

If you have any questions, contact Mike Dunning at 503-986-3059.

Other ODOT resources are

- Structural Materials Engineer - Scott Nelson at 503-986-3056 or
- Concrete Bridge Standards Engineer - Craig Shike at 503-986-3323 or
- Structure Coatings Engineer - Ivan Silbernagel at 503-986-3018.