



OPS Specialty Committee Updates 2025



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November 12, 2025

OPS Overview

- The Ontario Provincial Standards for Roads and Public Works (OPS) organization is owned jointly by the **Ontario Ministry of Transportation** and the **Municipal Engineers Association**. Of equal importance is the involvement and support of many other organizations representing contractors, consulting engineers, manufacturers, and their associations.
- The mandate of the OPS organization is to develop and maintain consistent cost-effective methods to improve the administration of road building in Ontario by providing a comprehensive set of standard specifications and drawings.
- Organizational structure:
 - OPS Advisory Board – oversee the OPS organization
 - OPS Standards Management Committee – oversee the nine OPS specialty committees



OPS Specialty Committees

Nine specialties:



Drainage

Electrical

Environmental

General
Conditions

Grading

Pavement

Structure

Traffic Safety

Watermain



OPS Publications

Standards review structures

- **Two Streams of Standards:** OPSS.PROV and OPSS.MUNI, with OPSP as the common.
- **Publication Schedule:** New and revised standards are published in April and November each year, with an additional publication in July for OPSS.PROV only.
- **Review Schedule:** Specialty committees meet monthly to develop new standards or review existing ones for updates.
- **Cyclical Review Process:** Standards are typically reviewed on a 5-year cycle.

Total OPSS.MUNI Specs & Drawings

Total 264 OPSS.MUNI
and 846 Drawings

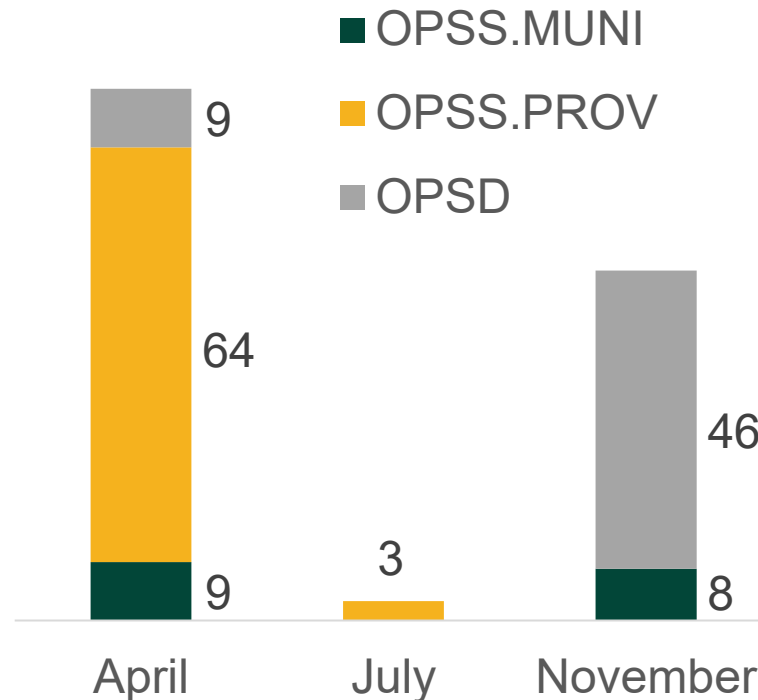
Specialty Committees	OPSS.MUNI	OPSD
Drainage	28	130
Electrical	38	192
Environmental	22	41
Grading	15	35
General Conditions	1	0
Pavement	50	103
Structures	47	56
Traffic Safety	38	237
Watermains	25	51

2025 OPS Publications

	Number of Standards
OPSS.MUNI	17
OPSS.PROV	67
OPSD	55

Note: July publication is only for OPSS.PROV

2025 OPS Publications



Drainage Committee



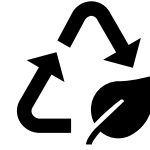
- **Responsible for** standards related to drainage such as: sewer and culvert pipes; drainage structures (e.g., maintenance holes); jacking and boring; tunnelling; rip-rap; and gabions.
- **Significant update** (currently or upcoming, and new):
 - The Committee is working on new inspection specifications, including OPSS.MUNI 433 and OPSS.MUNI 430.
 - The Committee is also working on new OPSDs for Watertight System (Rehabilitation of Existing and New Installation) - 1001/2 Series.

Electrical Committee



- **Responsible for** standards related to electrical work such as: electrical chambers, ducts, cables, grounding, luminaires, poles, traffic signals, vehicle detection, power supply equipment, and removal of electrical equipment.
- **Significant update** (currently or upcoming, and new):
 - An update to the Ontario Electrical Safety Code could impact electrical standards. The committee will be conducting a full review of any potentially affected specifications and drawings.
 - Numerous drawings which have not been updated in several years have been reviewed and are on track for publication in 2025.

Environmental Committee



- **Responsible for** standards related to the environment such as: management of excess materials, waterbody and fisheries protection, dewatering, tree protection, planting, topsoil, sodding, seed and cover, and temporary erosion and sediment control measures.
- **Significant update** (currently or upcoming, and new):
 - The Committee is reviewing OPSS.MUNI 803, 804 and 805 for a closer alignment with PROV specs.
 - The Committee recently published a major update for OPSS.MUNI 180 Management of Excess Materials.

General Conditions Committee



- **Responsible for** reviewing and revising the General Conditions of Contract, the standardization of Forms of Agreement, the format and content of information to tenderers and form of tender and other related documents.
- **Significant update** (currently or upcoming, and new):
 - The updated version of the OPSS.MUNI 100 – General Conditions of Contract was published in November 2024.
 - The Committee will continue with 5-year review cycle for OPSS.MUNI 100 with next update due in 2029.

Grading Committee



- **Responsible for** standards related to grading such as: earth and rock excavation, removal of boulders, embankments over swamp, borrow material, granular sealant, dust suppressants, compaction, removals, utility location, entrances, and geotextiles.
- **Significant update** (currently or upcoming, and new):
 - Coordinated with MTO and OPS Pavement Committee on updating several OPSDs to be included in the Roadside Design Manual.
 - These drawings have not been updated in several years and are on track for publication in 2025.

Pavement Committee



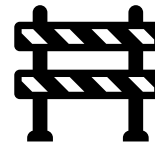
- **Responsible for** standards related to pavement such as: granular base and sub-base, surface treatment, asphalt, concrete and composite pavements, subdrains, sidewalk, curb and gutter, and weighing of materials.
- **Significant update**(currently or upcoming, and new):
 - OPSS.MUNI 1010 Material Specification for Aggregates – Base, Subbase, Select Subgrade, Granular Surface, Shouldering, Bedding, Backfill Material.
 - Revised to include language regarding the use of recycled concrete material.
 - Several specifications revised to comply with provincial directive regarding the use of gender-neutral language.

Structures Committee



- **Responsible for** standards related to structures such as: concrete structures, earth retaining structures, structural steel, pre-stressed concrete, structure rehabilitation, sign support structures, temporary modular bridges, anchorage systems for foundations, structural wood systems, and precast concrete box culverts.
- **Significant update** (currently or upcoming, and new):
 - OPSS.MUNI 909 Construction Specification for Prestressed Concrete - Precast Members
 - OPSS.MUNI 942 Construction Specification for Prestressed Soil and Rock Anchors
 - Collaborated with the MTO Structures Office to revise criteria for pre-production test anchors in various ground conditions.

Traffic Safety Committee



- **Responsible for** standards related to traffic safety such as: attenuators, delineation, pavement markings, roadside barriers, noise barriers, end treatments, crash cushions, arrestors, anti-glare screens, traffic control signing, fencing, and winter salting and sanding.
- **Significant update** (currently or upcoming, and new):
 - Published several new drawings in 2024 following the revision of OPSS.MUNI 721 Construction Specification for Steel Beam Guide Rail Systems to incorporate new and updated components.



Thank You!

Ministry of Transportation
Standards and Contracts Branch

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Municipal Engineers Association

For any questions related to specialty committees
please contact us at Ontario.Prov.Standards@ontario.ca

**Standards Management Section
Highway Design Office**

Questions?

