



# OPS Specialty Committee Updates 2025



Presented By: Steven Forte, Amanda Rodek & Rishabh Sharma  
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 OPSD 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

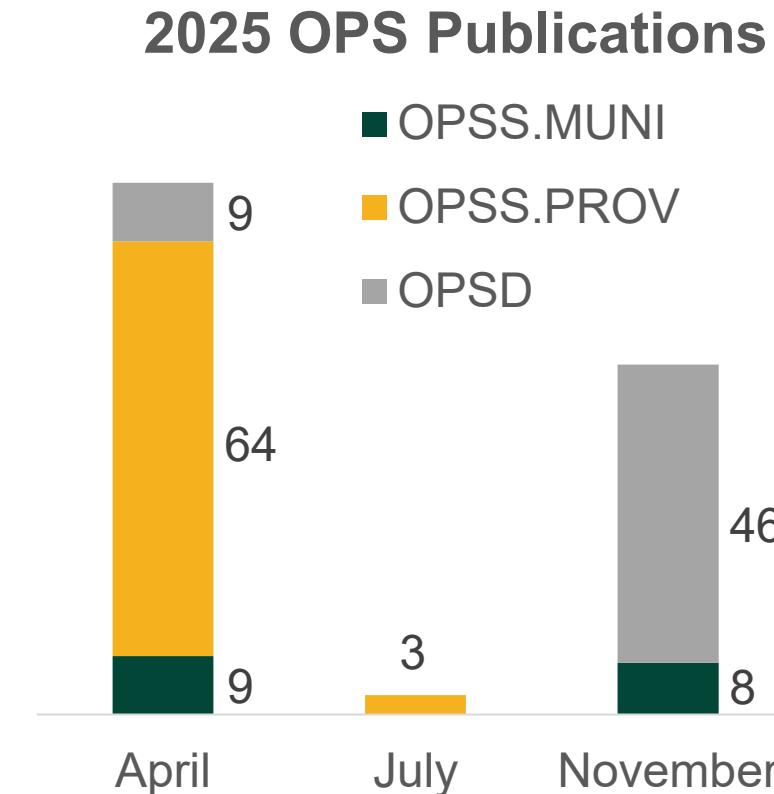


# Summary Updates

## 2025 OPS Publications

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

**Note:** July publication is only for OPSS.PROV





# 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.



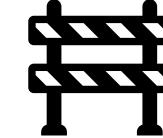
# Structures Committee



- **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

**Steven Forte, Standards Coordinator**

Ministry of Transportation

**Amanda Rodek, Standards Coordinator**

Ministry of Transportation

**Rishabh Sharma, M. Eng, Technical Services Coordinator**

Municipal Engineers Association

For any questions related to specialty committees  
please contact us at [Ontario.Prov.Standards@ontario.ca](mailto:Ontario.Prov.Standards@ontario.ca)

**Standards Management Section  
Highway Design Office**



# Questions?

