



Planning and Development Committee

Board Action Item III-B

February 15, 2007

New Platform Tile Standard

**Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority
Board Action/Information Summary**

Action
 Information

MEAD Number:

Resolution:
 Yes No

PURPOSE

To obtain Board approval to adopt the 12-inch square porcelain tile in a warm reddish-brown color as the new standard for all new construction and for all major platform rehabilitations.

DESCRIPTION

On October 19, 2006 the WMATA Board of Directors was requested to approve the initiation and award of a competitive contract to rehabilitate/replace deteriorated platform slabs at Minnesota Avenue and Deanwood Stations, and as part of that contract approve a proposed change to the paver tile standard (porcelain tile in lieu of quarry tile). This would then become the new standard for all new construction and similar major platform replacements. The new porcelain tile would provide better maintainability, durability and slip resistance.

The Board approved the initiation and award of the contract, but held in abeyance the approval of the new porcelain tile standard pending further discussion on the color and shape (12-inch square or 8-inch hexagonal) of the flat paver tiles and input from the Riders' Advisory Council (RAC).

(Porcelain tile would also be used for the truncated dome tiles. Its tactile pattern will be identical to that of truncated dome quarry tile and its color would be similar, but its size will be 12-inch square instead of 6-inch square for the quarry tile.)

WMATA staff made presentations which included sample panels (consisting of granite, truncated dome tiles and flat tiles) to the RAC on January 3, 2007, and also to the Elderly and Disabled (E&D) Committee on January 8, 2007. A presentation with individual sample tiles was made to the Jurisdictional Coordinating Committee (JCC) on December 21, 2006.

The RAC endorsed the new porcelain tile in "the most economical configuration" for the Minnesota Avenue and Deanwood Stations. The E&D Committee and JCC endorsed the porcelain tile as the new standard and preferred the 12-inch square shape. All Committees appreciated and preferred the warm reddish-brown color of the sample tiles.

The cost to furnish and install the 12-inch square porcelain tile on a typical platform of 18,000 square feet is comparable to the current 8-inch hexagonal quarry tile, about \$1.1M. The cost of the 8-inch hexagonal porcelain tile is approximately \$1.25M or 14% more.

WMATA staff recommends the 12-inch square porcelain tile be adopted as the new standard for all new construction and all major platform rehabilitations. The warm reddish-brown color or something very similar to it would be maintained. The truncated dome porcelain tiles would also be 12-inch square. The 12-inch square tile is more cost-effective and is the technically superior choice due to its minimal joints. This will result in the least maintenance costs.

FUNDING IMPACT

The funding in the amount of \$2.8M approved for the Minnesota Avenue and Deanwood Stations rehabilitation contract on October 19, 2006 included the new porcelain tile. It is expected that use of the porcelain tile will decrease future maintenance expenditures.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board approve the 12-inch square porcelain tile standard in a warm reddish-brown color for all new construction and for all major platform rehabilitations.



New Platform Tile Standard – Update

Presented to the Board of Directors:

Planning and Development Committee

February 15, 2007





Background

- On October 19, 2006, Board approved initiation and award of a competitive contract for rehabilitation and replacement of the platform edge slab at Minnesota Avenue and Deanwood Stations.
- Staff to report back for further discussion of color and shape of proposed new porcelain paver tile standard after receiving input from Riders Advisory Council (RAC).
- Presentations were also made to the Elderly and Disabled (E&D) Committee and the Jurisdictional Coordinating Committee (JCC).



Existing conditions of Platform edge Slab at Minnesota Ave and Deanwood Stations



Platform Tile Samples



Current 8" hexagonal
& 6" Square Truncated
quarry tiles.



Proposed 12" Square
& Truncated Porcelain tiles.



Proposed Hexagonal
& Truncated Porcelain tiles.



Summary of Meetings

Council/ Committee	Meeting Date	Endorsed Porcelain Tile	Size/Shape Preferred	Opinion of Sample Color <small>(Warm reddish brown)</small>
RAC	01/03/07	Yes*	Most Economical Configuration	Favorable
E&D	01/08/07	Yes	12" square	Favorable
JCC	12/21/06	Yes	12" square	Favorable



*For Minnesota Avenue and Deanwood Stations..



Platform Tile Costs

Platform Rehab Cost
per Station (18,000 SF)

Costs Comparison
with Quarry Tile

Quarry tiles:

8" hexagonal quarry tiles

\$1.1M

Porcelain tiles:

12" Square Porcelain tiles

\$1.1M

Less than 1%

8" Hexagonal Porcelain tiles

\$1.25M

14% Higher



Staff Recommendation

- Staff recommends that the 12-inch square porcelain for both flat and truncated dome tiles be adopted as the new standard for all new construction and major platform rehabilitations for the following reasons:
 - more cost-effective
 - technically superior due to minimal joints
 - will prove to be the most durable
 - least maintenance cost
 - proven track record





Recommendations

- Committee concur with the recommendation to adopt the 12-inch square porcelain tile as the new standard for all new construction and major platform rehabilitations

PROPOSED AND ADOPTED:

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF NEW PLATFORM PAVER TILE STANDARD

PROPOSED
RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, On October 19, 2007, the Board of Directors (the "Board") approved the initiation and award of a competitive contract to replace two station platform structures, at Minnesota Avenue and Deanwood Stations; and

WHEREAS, The Board held in abeyance the approval of a new tile standard pending recommendations on the proposed tile, specifically color, size, and shape from the Riders' Advisory Council (RAC); and

WHEREAS, Staff presented to the RAC, and also the Elderly and Disabled (E&D) Committee and the Jurisdictional Coordinating Committee (JCC) the proposed new porcelain tile standard; and

WHEREAS, Presentations to the RAC and the E&D Committee included mock-up panels of the porcelain tile and current quarry tile, which were viewed and sampled; and

WHEREAS, The E&D Committee and JCC endorsed the new porcelain tile standard preferring the 12-inch square shape and the RAC endorsed the new porcelain tile in the most economical configuration; and

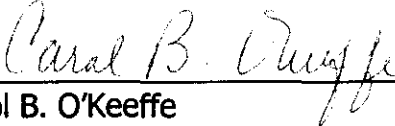
WHEREAS, The color will be maintained as the warm reddish-brown color of the sample panels or a color close to it; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors approves the new porcelain tile standard using the 12-inch square shape for new construction and for the major rehabilitation of existing stations; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the warm-reddish brown color of the sample panels or a color closely to it will be used; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That this Resolution shall be effective immediately.

Reviewed as to form and legal sufficiency,



Carol B. O'Keeffe
General Counsel