# 8A

# LOOP DETECTOR TESTING

(Effective December 1, 1999; Revised January 1, 2007)

The Contractor is advised of the presence of existing detector loops which shall be retained in the completed signal installation. The condition of each existing loop detector which will be retained shall be documented.

The required loop detector testing shall consist of measuring the following electrical characteristics of each loop within the intersection to determine if the loop meets the indicated criteria:

1. Loop Inductance. Stable frequency (frequency varies by less than +/-3 hertz) and minimum 50 microhenries when driven by amplifier.

For any loop that does not show a stable frequency, the Contractor shall determine if the unstable frequency is due to equipment malfunctions in the cabinet or outside the cabinet. The Contractor shall notify the Engineer of the source of the unstable frequency. Any problem due to existing equipment problems in the cabinet shall be repaired by city maintenance. Any problem caused by the required construction work shall be repaired and paid for separately on this contract.

Any loop that does not exceed 50 microhenries inductance shall be replaced.

1. Loop Resistance to Ground. Minimum 50 megohms.

For any loop circuit with less than 50 megohms resistance to ground or any loop that is being replaced, the Contractor shall break the loop to lead-in splice and measure the resistance to ground of the detector loop alone and each leg of the detector loop lead-in cable. If a single leg of the lead-in cable has a low resistance to ground, the Contractor shall replace the lead-in cable. If the detector loop, separated from the lead-in cable, passes the required tests, the loop shall not be replaced.

1. Loop Circuit Resistance. Maximum 3 ohms for lead-in less than 200 feet. Maximum 5 ohms for lead-in greater than 200 feet.

For any loop circuit with resistance greater than stated above, the splice shall be opened and the loop and each leg of the lead-in cable shall be tested. If the detector loop cable is the cause of the high resistance reading, the detector loop shall be replaced. If the lead-in cable is the cause of the high resistance reading, the lead-in cable shall be replaced.

The Contractor shall furnish a Decatur Electronics Loop Tester, Model DLT-150, or superior, to measure the loop resistance above ground, and quality factor of each loop. This unit shall remain the property of the Contractor.

The measurements shall be recorded for each loop circuit, including lead-in cable, following completion of the work, in the presence of the Engineer. The measurements shall be taken at the controller cabinet.

Any damaged detector loop or lead-in cable shall be replaced.

If an existing detector loop is damaged due to construction operations, the Contractor shall notify the Department at 815-434-8505 to modify the signal program until the detector loop can be replaced. The Contractor shall replace the loop as soon as possible.

Loop detector testing will be performed at each loop detector circuit following completion of work likely to damage the existing loops. The lead-in cable must be disconnected from the detector loop panel in the cabinet to prevent damage to the inductive loop detector. When the Contractor has made all necessary repairs, the Department’s Traffic Signal Section shall be contacted to meet with the Contractor at the intersection to confirm the satisfactory readings.

**Method of Measurement**. This work will be measured for payment per intersection, regardless of the number of tests required. Any work required to replace any splices broken for testing of the lead-in cable and detector loop shall be included in the cost of this pay item.

**Basis Of Payment**. This work will be paid for at the contract unit price per each intersection as LOOP DETECTOR TESTING.

DESIGNER NOTES

Use on all contracts with detector loops.