

Program Delivery Subcommittee

Wednesday July 8, 2015

1. **Project Manager Roundtable (Kim/Jimmy)** – The ASHE PM Roundtable is September 18, 2015 in room 402-403. The topic is scope creep/scope control. Next Roundtable is in December at the Transportation Forum.
2. **NEPA and Design (Susan/Jody)** – Expect the environmental procedures manual to be complete August 15, 2015.
3. **Project management software (Jill/Bobby)** – Wayne Mote discussed eBuilder and stated that it works very well. NEPA consultants now update P6 via a web-based version.
4. **Design-Build (Darryl)** – There are 2 local let design build projects currently: Wade Green DDI in Cobb and Redwine Trail in Fayetteville.
5. **Effective environmental permitting (Susan)** – 404 permitting was a topic discussed. Kim Nesbitt asked about utility permitting. Susan Thomas to check about utility permitting. Additional, GDOT OES is considering programmatic agreements with FHWA for delegated authority over all CE projects. GDOT would assume the legal challenges on all CEs.

Kim Nesbitt asked about re-evaluation timing. Susan said that what is important is if the plans changed and capturing it in the document. NEPA must recheck every rule in place or the time elapsed on special studies.

Discussion of the word “change” in reviewing special studies.

Rick Gurney said there is a software that identifies changes between to plan sheets. PDF software called Blue Beam makes a smart PDF. Rick to send example to Albert.

6. **Risk Assessment and Management (Albert)** – no report.
7. **TIA Program (Mike)** – no report.

Next Monthly Meeting scheduled for September 9, 2015, 11:00 am - GDOT 4th Floor.

Utilities Subcommittee

Thursday, August 13, 2015

- Attendees are GDOT Utility Staff, Utility Owners, Roadway Contractors, and Consultants
- Meeting Chaired by State Utility Engineer Lee Upkins
- Group discussed
 - Staff changes in the Department. Note Kerry Gore is new Assistant State Utility Engineer
 - HB 170 Funding
 - GUPPS (Online Permitting Software) will be rolling out major upgrade soon.
 - Construction:
 - Primavera – Training Utility Staff. Will then apply to utility construction schedules. Believe it will help with construction delays.
 - Emergency Utility Response Plane – Contractors are finding contact numbers are not accurate.
 - Reviewing Draft Section 149 Layout Specification
 - Pre-Construction

- Transferring of power from contractor to operator (SRTA for example) specification being reviewed.
 - Joint Use pole Policy completed. Be aware of policy when dealing with signal installations.
 - Designer Training – Training Outline has been developed. Meeting is scheduled the end of September for consultants and utility staff to agree on outline and develop additional details of training.
- Next Meeting February 11, 2016. Moving to twice a year format.

Engineering Services Subcommittee

Friday, July 17, 2015

1. The meeting opened with a recap of previously identified hindrances to project delivery:
 - a. Changing EPD policy to review final plans only after GDOT has submitted to contracts admin, forcing any changes to be revision.
EPD reviews are not under the control or supervision of Engineering Services. Engineering Services has made efforts to capture “common mistakes” in NPDES plans and includes those comments in field plan reviews to assist in reducing EPD review comments.
 - b. Obtaining greater consistency in Plan Review comments.
Consistency in review comments is a recurring topic. Engineering Services cannot address all inconsistencies without specific examples. In the past, specific examples of inconsistency have been addressed. Plan reviewers also work to reduce District specific preferences in plan presentation for consistency as well.
 - c. PM’s updating cost estimates at least yearly and at PDP established milestones.
Engineering Services efforts on this item are to educate PMs to the importance of updated cost estimates.
 - d. PM’s meeting deadlines established in the Letting Schedule for Processing Projects.
Engineering Services efforts on this item are to educate PMs to the importance of meeting Letting date deliverable dates.
 - e. Underutilization by PM’s of post construction evaluations
Engineering Services continues to advocate on the importance of Post-Construction Evaluations. This underutilized review might not have a direct improvement to project delivery but serves as an opportunity for PMs, consultants, contractors and GDOT to gather “lessons learned” for a completed project which would improve the delivery of subsequent projects.
2. Group discussion on NPDES plan review comments, review time turnaround, typical comments, etc now that new EPD reviewer has settled in.

Review comments - *Angela brought up recent comments from EPD requesting half size plans illustrate the printed scale as opposed to GDOT’s standard scale that can be used for full size and half size plans. Lisa has followed up and discussed with Rich Williams this specific comment. Rich noted that some recent sets of plans have been plotted “not to scale” and this comment could be a*

result of these issues. Rich suggested either call the reviewer or write a formal response of why the scale would not be changed.

Review times - *The group discussed that many projects were not receiving the “approval” letter until construction has already begun, resulting in Use on Construction revisions. In Lisa’s conversation with Rich Williams he noted that review times are now down to 30 days from submission in part due to additional reviewers sharing the workload. Rich also noted that GDOT is no longer holding project awards until EPD concurrence. In most cases if EPD review is the only outstanding item a conditional NTP is issued so the contractor can hold pre-construction conferences and order materials.*

3. Open discussion

- *Projects in the November 2015 letting will need to follow the October 2015 letting schedule for deliverables. Mike will mention at the 7/21 CRC meeting as well.*
- *It appears that the price trend is heading up based on the June 2015 lettings which realized an order of magnitude of approximately 10-15%. It is important for designers to review current bid tabs to best understand price trends as they develop/update the Engineer’s estimate. The group discussed concrete bridge beam prices have increased due to high demand so please note that projects with bridges will need close attention when preparing and updated cost estimates.*

Action Items: Subcommittee to focus on ideas to speed up delivery as it relates to Engineering Services.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 11, 2015 at 11am

Materials Subcommittee

Thursday, September 3, 2015

1. Adebola has developed an outline for a short training session for LRFD BFI preparation for GDOT consultants. Committee to review and provide comments. First training class will be held in December or January to small group of consultants as a pilot class before rolling out to larger groups.
2. Updates to LRFD guidelines, the BFI Template, SP 520 (for LRFD), and SP523 (PDA) were also provided for comment and review.
3. GDOT has contracted out a research project on LRFD for retaining wall foundation investigations (WFI’s) with Georgia Tech. Project began in May 2015, and is expected to take approximately 12 to 18 months, after which GDOT will develop templates and guidelines for LRFD WFI reports.
4. Updates to Policy 5525-1 on UST and Hazardous Waste investigations and several standard forms were handed out and discussed. All review comments and suggestions need to be provided to Ian as soon as possible.
5. Generic letter regarding access for site investigations to property owners will be prepared by consultants for GDOT’s signature, signed by either Chuck Hasty, Glen Foster or their representative, and then sent out by consultants.
6. GDOT is still reviewing updates to chapter 10 in the Pavement Design Manual. AJ will

head this effort and other committee members are reminded to provide comments and suggestions on the manual. Additional discussion on cement-treated vs. lime-treated subgrades (lime treatment is for plastic clays; cement treatment is for micaceous sandy silts & silty sands).

7. Additional discussion on performance-based material specifications. Input needed from other OMAT offices (Concrete, Bituminous, etc.), committee members and other GDOT Departments. Tom will bring up at next CRC (Consultant Relations Committee) meeting to ask for specific suggestions and ideas on changes. Specs from other states and Europe need to be reviewed and brought to the next meeting for discussion.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 21, 2016 at 10:00 am.