

Forum Chair: Scott Gero
Forum Coordinator: Tom Ziegler

Next Forum Meeting Date: 8/7/19
Forum Reporter: Angela Snyder

Welcome and Introductions – Tom Ziegler (Pond)

GDOT Bridge Program Update – Sean Pharr (AECOM), Carol Kalafut (GDOT), Donn Digamon (GDOT)

- Carol Kalafut talked about Bridge Batch 1
 - o \$250M worth of bridge projects in the federal program – state routes or interstates
 - o Bridge Batch 2 – mostly locally focused bridge projects including state funded bridges
 - o 90% of bridge program is managed by AECOM
 - o Consistent bundling of projects has been the goal
 - o Currently working on the 7th Batch of bridge projects
 - o Carol oversees the Low Impact Bridge Program (LIBP) – 12-15 months between PE Auth to Let
- Sean Pharr then explained the PTIP process and it is being completed on about 100 bridges currently – this process starts 2 years before bridge batches are released in the Consultant Acquisition List
 - o Bridge Batches are split into two tiers: Tier 1 – “pop and drop”; Tier 2 – stakeholder engagement needed
 - o Batch 2 - all phases are federally funded. Environmental work is being kept in-house or being completed under the Regional contracts. This puts the critical path on consultants to complete survey work and design to then give the environmental consultants the information that they need to start their Assessment of Effects.
 - o Joint kick off meetings occur upon award because internal scopes and manhours have already been completed and the team needs to get moving.
 - o Batch 1 – July; Batch 2- January
- Sean then went over Project-Level lessons learned:
 - o Detours – some early coordination has been completed before award. May need to follow up and include that information into the concept report.
 - o Desire is for the life cycle to be 4 years from NTP to Let. Be sure start dates are met.
 - o Task Order 1 should be Preliminary Plans through ROW plans. Rates based contracts can be utilized.
- Carol then went over the bridge review process:
 - o Susan Beck requests that the PM contact her if the bridge design is being handled in-house.
 - o When requesting a study from GDOT, she has specific information that is needed in DGN and PDF format. PDFs only for resubmittal.
 - o Responses on bridge review need to be provided before attending PFPR.
 - o Communication is key
- Donn Digamon then went over Section 20 plans:
 - o Purpose is to show access roads, details for staging of bridge, removal of existing bridge or structure, aquatic species
 - o It is on a roadway plan sheet and not a bridge plan sheet.
 - o Donn said that there are examples that can be provided
 - o Construction and Bridge liaisons are involved as well as the GDOT PM
 - o Start the Section 20 plans following the A3M and complete them by Lockdown
 - o Bridge design starts the Section 20 plan sheet; DGN file is then sent to the roadway engineer to incorporate into the overall roadway plans.
 - o PM coordinates the discussion and sheets are finalized – be sure to take ownership

- Questions were asked to the Forum attendees:
 - o Question was asked about the prime needing to be prequalified in both 3.01 and 4.01 – Albert Shelby explained that the idea is that non-structural firms should have the ability to work on some projects that are low risk from not having bridge design within their firms.
 - o Question was asked about in-house bridge design- Albert and Sean explained that the Bridge office gets first choice on the bridge designs that they want to keep and then the batch list gets updated accordingly.
 - o Question was asked about on-site detours with one lane closures versus off-site detours and lessons learned – local governments have concerns so options should be explored during concept report. If some coordination has already been completed when given NTP on the first task order, be sure to wrap up the coordination to avoid issues later.
 - o Question was asked about Accelerated Bridge Construction (ABC) should be discussed in concept report – if school route, ABC should be considered and complete construction during summer. Look at alternatives and see if ABC can mitigate some issues for each. Make it clear in the cost estimate when this option is appropriate and cost-effective.
 - o Question was asked about the process of how geotechnical consultants are selected for bridges. The answer was provided that those firms need to get on teams with Prime Consultants.
 - o Question was asked about DBE expectations. Albert explained that a task force has been created to look into the details about existing DBE utilization and make recommendations for how to handle it going forward.

Program Delivery Announcement – Albert Shelby (GDOT)

- Albert said that traditionally it has been difficult getting the project to the finish line.
- We need to be more Let certain.
- Process may be modified to bring the PS&E submittal in sooner to be sure that the projects are finalized and ready to go to Let.

Information was condensed from a recording of the Forum meeting. Please get in touch with Angela Snyder if there are additions and/or revisions, Angela.Snyder@wolvertoninc.com. Thank You.