

**TRANSPORTATION FORUM COORDINATOR: Wendy Dyson**

**GENERAL ITEMS:**

- **Welcome**
- **Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 1, 2018 – Topic to be determined**
- **No July meeting - Have a Safe and Happy Independence Day!**
- **Note: Transportation Forum meetings are being recorded to simplify meeting reports.**

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

**Jennifer Larosa – provided updates on some key legislation – this is a brief summary, please listen to mp3 file via the dropbox link included at end of report**

**HB930** – Transit bill – the ‘ATL’ was established – a new transit organization that will operate under the administrative umbrella of GRTA. Created a 1% Transit only TSPLOST. The TSPLOST will be a referendum that the people will vote on.

**HB 489** - Statewide procurement registry – all local municipalities (\$10000 or greater) are required to post on the Georgia Procurement Registry, administered by the Department of Administrative Services (DOAS)

**HR 1374** - legislation that created a study committee that will look into the process whereby individual licensing boards could set their own customer service, staffing and enforcement levels, as well as the licensing fees to support those service levels. Will begin meeting in the fall

**SB 2 – Fast Act** – did not make it through. FAST - Fairness, Accountability, Simplification, and Transparency - Empowering Our Small Businesses to Succeed"), which seeks to eliminate duplicative rules, regulations and red tape to create a more efficient and transparent permitting process for Georgia businesses. 3 options: Wait normal 30 days and pay regular fee, double your fee and go private to speed up review, or pay fee and go private.

**SB 232** - Facilitating Internet Broadband Rural Expansion –touches the rural broadband issues throughout the state and impacts for economic growth.

**HB 673** – Statewide Hands-free law while driving goes into effect July 1, 2018. Fines begin at \$50 and go up to \$300 and 3 points against license, after that jail time.

**SB 17** - "Mimosa Mandate" passed and allows local governments to authorize the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages on Sundays starting at 11:00 a.m.

**COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE UPDATES:** Updates not presented are included at the end.

**1. Estimating Guidance Task Force** – meeting approximately every 2 weeks.

**Completed 3 documents so far:**

- Policy 389 – what is required and when regarding cost estimating
- Best Practices document from Road Design – they have a lot of tools used and trying to get those shared
- Earthwork Policy – Enhancing to make more user friendly,

**Moving forward:**

- Manhour/Fee Estimate spreadsheet – making sure that any policy changes and understandings etc.; that they become line items can be established so hours can be included.
- PDP and Flowchart - reconciling together
- Including If / Then statements to help guide practitioners.
- Any comments or questions please send to Scott.Gero@AECOM.com

**2. Bridge and Structural:**

- Meet every 2 months and have 2 subcommittees (ConSpan and RC-PIER)
- ConSpan – manual update is almost complete – making edits to graphics
- RC-PIER – substructure draft manual is under review.
- Committee went over upcoming changes to Bridge Design Manual
  - Changes in maximum beam spacing
  - Consideration for reduced wall thickness for MSE walls
  - Drawings being created by GDOT Bridge office for steel diaphragms
  - GA Tech is helping GDOT conduct a seismic study. Draft report due end of June

- Discussion about Accelerated Bridge Construction –
  - State Bridge Engineer wants more information going out to engineering community
  - Committee will develop a flowchart to assess potential for bridges that would benefit from Accelerated Bridge Construction (ABC) and develop a spreadsheet to be included with Concept Reports

### 3. Materials

- Updates to BFI's - many dealing with LFRD
- Soil Survey and Phase II guidelines – look for on R.O.A.D.S after July meeting
- OMAT Cost Estimating Spreadsheet – updates and instructions so that negotiation process goes smoother.
- Pavement Design Manual – OMAT is developing pavement evaluation guidelines. Guidelines on process to doing pavement evaluation survey and templates to support
- Pavement Design approvals – intent is to move pavement designs earlier in process -before PFPR. Using a paperless system with ProjectWise. All submittals and approvals.
- Special Provision 154 – Vibration Monitoring – essentially taking out vibration monitoring and will conduct post crack surveys
- OMAT may issue an On-Call contract for geophysical surveys and testing (late 2018 or early 2019)

### 4. Preconstruction Awards

- Nomination Forms are out and available on ACEC Georgia website. They are submitted online and are due by 8-13-18 and **MUST BE submitted by the owners**. A shortlist for each category is then issued and additional information requirements provided for final selection.
- Projects do not have to be GDOT projects – a project should meet the criteria of the category applying for.

### 5. Survey and Mapping

- GDOT will be issuing a new traffic control diagram to use. When you are surveying in shoulders (Flex Lane) or construction surveying (that are now travel lanes). New guidelines that require traffic barrels etc.
- Septic Tanks – Initially if 100 lots were on septic in your task order, you would have to survey all of them. Now they are looking at waiting till concept to see which lots are being disturbed before surveying for septic.
- Issues with LIDAR – it is here to stay but now we have multiple kinds, aerial, mobile, terrestrial (Tripod LIDAR used on bridges) etc. Whatever you do you must have breaklines, so you will still need to run the creeks and all the draws. There are being a lot of kickbacks on the LIDAR side
- Good News - Bill passed that eliminated the Drainage portion to the Surveying license test.

### 6. Traffic

- **Still working on same initiatives for the past few months**
  - Chapter 13 Design Policy Manual– making changes
  - Georgia standards for doing traffic operations analysis – bringing various departments together to say yes this is what we want
  - Still working on ICE document – maybe another future transportation forum
  - Traffic Simulation Subcommittee with ITE

### 7. Procurement

- Consultant Evaluations will be in CMIS (Consultant Management Information System) and is fully rolled out and training is ongoing with GDOT's staff
- GDOT Negotiations Manual – about 40 comments were received and they are addressing those
- Closing out projects in CMIS specifically task order projects.
- Phase II Past Performance on RFQ's. Currently use Reference checks, Survey Monkey, CMIS Evaluations, and the reviewers personal experience with consultant, etc. GDOT is looking at process to make as fair as possible. A task force, Scott Athey lead on consultant side, will be developed to work with GDOT to make tweaks to process.
- Updates for Cost Proposal will be coming out, and another task force implemented

- Want more focus on DBE participation. Maybe look at a project by project basis and overall goal is 15%. We are currently meeting goal so do not understand what issue is and will dig deeper
- A Right-of-Way Task Force will be implemented soon (Jody Braswell will lead on consultant side and will report directly to Steering committee for next 3 months). Concern on ability to deliver program from a Right-of-Way perspective.
- **Subcommittee call for volunteers will be coming out in October.**
- Focusing on 2018-2019 program and currently \$200 Million short. Really think about practical design, cost estimates, and more as has a direct impact on overall program.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS BY EMAIL

##### 8. Practical Design Task Force - Meeting #4 – June 1, 2018

- Project Justification Statement, Purpose and Need
  - Planning level more detail
  - Project costing, appropriate estimates
  - Planning Office and Program Delivery partnership
  - Gut checks on scope and cost estimate
  - Political aspects of planning?
- Performance Objectives
  - Safety improvement
  - Improve existing geometry
  - Capacity improvement
  - Correct structural deficiency
  - Beautification/Enhancement
  - Economic Development
- Meeting #5 – June 15, 2018 - Plan Development Process
- Meeting #6 – July 6, 2018 - Scope of the Project and Scope of Work
- Meeting #7 – July 20, 2018 - Flexibility in Design

##### 9. CEI

- Last met Feb 8 - Next meeting June 14
- Top issues discussed
  - Recruiting – have determined that recruiting has not been as challenging as when HB 170 was initially passed
  - Engineering Skills Development (ESD) – this training program which was implemented in 2001 is going through an update process in partnership with GA Tech. Scheduled to be rolled out for GDOT Construction staff (to include consultants) later this year and will replace the current ESD modules
  - Technology – working with procurement to implement tablets in lieu of laptops for future CEI contracts. AASHTOware to eventually replace SiteManager but probably not until 2019
  - Confirmed the 3 procurements scheduled to be advertised in 2018. D1, D3, and D4

##### 10. Environmental

- Interdisciplinary GPTQ- May 9th
  - Procurement focus for all sub-committees this year- Primary focus is getting groups to discuss the activities associated with tasks.
- NEPA
  - Procurement discussion—working group
  - Last meeting NEPA Subcommittee-5/14/18- Indirect and Cumulative Effects Training
- Arch
  - First week of April –sub-committee meeting
    - Beta testing of documents
    - Feedback on updated arch guidelines
- Ecology
  - Sub-committee mtg- May 21
    - Environmental Toolkits “Coming Soon” to supersede the current EPM

- New aquatic survey protocol expected June 2018. This will cover all aquatic survey methods as well as WHEN/WHETHER a survey should be conducted. In many cases, this will reduce or preclude unnecessary survey efforts entirely.
- New Regional Permits. With very few exceptions, we will be using RP 30–35, with most projects falling into RP34.
- New USACE mitigation standard operating procedures TAKE EFFECT SATURDAY MAY 27TH. This is being strictly enforced by USACE, so all permit applications submitted after this week will need to use the new SOP tables. These are still being updated, so refer to the latest versions posted on RIBITS, and do not assume you have the latest version saved locally.
- NMFS updates – These seemed fairly exciting and important, but I have no knowledge of NMFS interaction and there were a lot of acronyms in use. Notably, there is a new/upcoming programmatic agreement which is expected to dramatically streamline NMFS consultation and response times. Stay tuned for the SharePoint notes and slide deck.
- History- upcoming sub-committee 3d Quarter

### **11. Program Delivery Subcommittee**

- Our main initiative for this half of the year is developing a flowchart/ procedure for the Scoping Process that clearly defines expectations of the Consultant and GDOT. There will be three phases or steps so to speak: Pre-Scoping, Define Scope and Task List, and Finalize and Submit PRF. This is progressing.
- We are also monitoring the Process & Procedures for State Funded Projects (Environmental), Environmental Survey Boundaries (verifying consultants are not over or under surveying), A3M, Design-Build, TIA, Cost Estimating, and Risk Assessment and Management.

### **12. Roadway Design Policy**

- Our subcommittee is working to finalize the draft of Chapter 12 of the Design Policy Manual – Staging Plans. We are scheduled to have a final draft ready to submit to Design Policy in July.
- Concept Report Rating Form – our subcommittee is reviewing a draft of a Concept Report rating document, similar to what is done on Field Plan Reviews. Comments due by June 20 back to Design Policy.

### **13. Training:**

- Completed the master list of training needs and prioritized so that the most important ones get scheduled first. Remaining courses will be scheduled as GDOT’s budget allows.
- We have successfully partnered ACEC and GDOT to get a roundabout design training course scheduled that would not have happened if we had to rely on either GDOT or ACEC to schedule on their own.
- Looking for topics for in house training of GDOT and consultants. Topics mentioned were updates to Bridge policies, MS4 changes, and top 5 design or plan mistakes.
- Lastly, always looking for a consultant to present on a “best practice” to showcase where a job went well, and the decisions made to get there.

### **QUESTIONS:**

**Consultant evaluations:** Has anyone seen what GDOT is rolling out or have anyone involved in training? We had initial task force to help develop but no one has been involved since. These will include Milestone evaluations

**How will Subs get that reports:** they are currently hand-written report from OMAT.

**Note:** Wendy will check with Albert to see about a discussion or forum topic about this process.

**To listen to the meeting please click dropbox link:** [Transportation Forum MP3 2018-06-06](#)

*Information was condensed from recording of the Forum meeting. Please get in touch with Ossie if there are additions and/or revisions, call 678-677-0329.*

*Thank You! Ossie Brewer*