

MEETING NOTES

Date: July 17, 2015
Project: ACEC Engineering Services Subcommittee
Purpose: General discussion meeting
Location: GDOT 5th floor conference room
Time: 11:00 AM

Attending:

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------|--|
| Lisa Myers | GDOT | lmyers@dot.ga.gov |
| Robert Lewis | HNTB | rtlewis@hntb.com |
| Edgardo Aponte | DP&E | eaponte@dpengr.com |
| Angela Snyder | Wolverton | angela.snyder@wolverton-assoc.com |
| Michael Moseley | Atkins | michael.moseley@atkinsglobal.com |

The following items were discussed:

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

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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 11 am in GDOT’s 5th floor conference room.

Please contact Mike Moseley at michael.moseley@atkinsglobal.com if changes or additions are necessary.

cc: Al Bowman (Michael Baker)