



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF GEORGIA

MEETING MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION FORUM

August 3, 2016 @ 12:00 pm
GDOT 4th Floor

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Chris Marsengill, Moffatt & Nichol
2. **Consultant Relations Committee Subcommittee (SC) updates (see individual SC meeting minutes for full report)**
 - **Bridge & Structures:** Tom Tran – Gresham Smith & Partners
 - The SC is working on guidance to assist with environmental permitting issues related to bridge construction
 - A draft was sent to Environmental Services for review; further discussion is planned for the September 2016 Bridge SC meeting
 - The SC is also reviewing reinforced concrete pier and CONSPAN structure implementations
 - **Engineering Services:** Michael Moseley – ATKINS
 - The SC discussed increasing the completion of post-construction evaluations; only 12 have been completed to date
 - Plans submittals to Engineering Services are still falling behind schedule
 - Missing pay items and issues with Special Provisions are still a significant cause of change orders on construction
 - Concern was expressed over the fact that GDOT communication fiber is not included in a typical utilities locate (811 call)
 - The GDOT Standard Specifications will be updated in November; current Supplemental Specifications will be incorporated
 - **Environmental:** Wendy Dyson – ATKINS – A recent MOA includes significant changes in the process for preparing and submitting reevaluations and minor changes
 - **Materials:** Tom Hruby – NOVA
 - The SC has a few new members
 - A Geotech-based LRFD training class is scheduled for September 15, 2016; slots for 20 people
 - Research results on the effectiveness of LRFD should be available this month
 - Revisions are in progress for UST & HazMat guidelines to improve efficiency
 - Performance-based specifications have been discussed; this SC is not necessarily the appropriate author but will be one of many reviewing those involving materials
 - **Preconstruction Awards:** Michael Thomas – Moffatt & Nichol
 - Deadline for nominations is August 15, 2016
 - Only one nomination received to date
 - Reminder: owner must submit nomination
 - **Procurement:** Davietta Jenkins – CH2M Hill
 - Consultant contracts for FY16
 - 561 contracts and task orders; previous record 511
 - \$286 M value; previous record \$171 M
 - Phase 1 submittals will be disqualified if consultants “drop” unsolicited information into the white spaces of responses; more specific rules to follow
 - Reference checks are time consuming and GDOT may begin utilizing a tool like Survey Monkey to improve efficiency

LIST OF ATTENDEES

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- Program Delivery: Jeff Church – STV
 - A standard project status/history report is being developed
 - Once complete, the report will be added to the OPD website
 - The report is setup such that it can be used as an agenda for monthly status meetings
- Roadway Design Policy: Chris Marsengill – Moffatt & Nichol – SC has not meet since the last Transportation Forum
- Traffic: Todd DeVos – Wolverton & Associates – No Update
- Utilities: Jeff VanDyke – HNTB – No Update
- CEI: Ed Hill – Atkins No Update

3. Discussion Topic: What is “value” in transportation design; how far will folks go to achieve it?

- What constitutes value from the owner’s perspective?
 - Meeting schedules and milestones
 - Expertise
 - Trust that project will be delivered
 - Safety
 - Cost
 - Quality
 - Public benefit
 - Resourcefulness/relationships
 - Client Satisfaction
- What constitutes value from the engineering firm’s perspective?
 - Cost
 - Client satisfaction
 - Clear scope of services
 - Well-defined schedule
 - Big picture concentration
- What are reasonable metrics of value?
 - Number of change orders – design and construction
 - Maintained budget & schedule
 - Staff availability vs. funding trends (GDOT)
- Bigger picture: both the GDOT and transportation community share a major responsibility in delivering quality and maximizing the benefit of State Funding

4. New business

- A question was raised regarding SB 366 resurfacing during the next Session, and Michael Sullivan stated that he is not aware of any activity and he does not expect any.
- QBS at the local level was discussed, and Michael Sullivan noted:
 - First step is to educate local governments, because may think QBS is a more onerous process than fee-based selections
 - The second step is legislation requiring QBS for engineering services at all levels of government
- North Fulton Transportation Referendum
 - ACEC is engaged in advocating and education campaign; \$500,000 commitment
 - ACEC is seeking financial support from engineering community
 - \$600 M in transportation projects including MARTA, roads & bridges