

MEETING NOTES

Date: September 15, 2017
Project: ACEC Engineering Services Subcommittee
Purpose: General discussion meeting
Location: GDOT Room 408
Time: 11:00 AM

Attending:

Lisa Myers	GDOT	lmyers@dot.ga.gov
Erik Rohde	GDOT	erohde@dot.ga.gov
Walt Taylor	GDOT	wtaylor@dot.ga.gov
Chris Rideout	Croy Engineering	crideout@croyengineering.com
Scott Jordan	SEI Engineering	sjordan@seengineering.com
Johnny Lee	BWSC	Johnny.lee@bwsc.net
Michael Moseley	Atkins	Michael.moseley@atkinsglobal.com
David Henry	TranSystems	dbhenry@transystems.com

The following items were discussed:

1. The following are the goals for 2017:
 - a. Continue awareness of benefits of the Post Construction Evaluation / lessons learned.
 - b. Set a goal of holding fifteen (15) PCEs this calendar year.
 - c. Report and track project deliverables not delivered per the letting schedule. Our goal is to assist GDOT in meeting an 80% success rate.
 - d. Continue to track and publish commonly see field plan review comments twice a year - Top 10 Issues with FPR Plans for FY 2016 posted on ACEC website.
 - e. Update common EPD review comments – Now posted on ACEC website
2. General Discussion:
 - a. Construction cost estimates (problems are not always lump sum items):
 - As Directed quantities – still working on, not cut and dry
 - Linking items in CES – Engineering Services can't modify program. ODP looking at taking ownership of CES, which could help. Also looking at how another DOT uses CES as they use it similarly as GDOT
 - Once a price has been manually entered it stays, it doesn't reset when updating history.
 - Wrong Spec Year or Item History Group
 - Look at CES prices to see if they make sense.
 - b. PCE's
 - Fall Line Freeway– Overall went well. Mass concrete special provision was missing, which led to a \$20 million bust in the estimate.

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- Might want to consider adding the cost estimate to submittal to the district for PFPR. It is available thru Project Wise, but not everyone pulls it.
 - Walt is working on new list of projects. Removed projects less than 5 million and less than 80% complete.
- c. Concept Cost Estimate
- We received an email from a Consultant asking our subcommittee to discuss cost estimates at the concept phase. To paraphrase the email, this consultant received some comments about their concept cost estimate about not having line items for stop bars and words. They felt that this was too detailed for a concept cost estimate. In fact, they suggested that concept cost estimates be rounded to the nearest thousandth or hundred thousandth. They asked that our committee discuss cost estimate techniques appropriate to the phase of the project and provide guidance in an effort to reduce the number of comments and revisions at concept.

The Engineering Services committee discussed this at our meeting on Friday. We determined that it's not possible to come up with a one size fits all method of producing concept level cost estimates. GDOT Policies & Procedures requires the use of the Cost Estimation System (CES) for Construction Cost Estimates beginning with the Concept Development Phase. Cost Estimates in Approved Concept Reports are used to update Programmed Construction Costs thus they need to include all known/anticipated items. The cost estimate should reflect the level of design undertaken to develop the Concept Report. For example if you show items on a layout in the concept report, then they should be included as individual line items and quantities in the cost estimate. You should also have completeness in related items meaning if you include some striping items, you should include all the striping items. CES does allow the use of Cost Groups and Lump Sum Construction items to ensure all known/anticipated items are accounted for when the level of design doesn't support using individual line items.

One thing we want to point out is that concept level cost estimates help determine the work program. If the cost estimate is not reflective of the true cost of the project and it increases substantially at later milestones, then other projects will need to move out of the program. If the cost estimate decreases substantially then other projects that could have been funded sooner could be delayed. It is in everyone's best interest to make sure cost estimates are as accurate as possible at every milestone.

Action Items:

- **Walt to draft standard letter/email to send to DPM/PM's for PCE request. David will email out standard letter and projects to committee members for their follow up.**

Attachments:

- **Finding Bid Tabulations on BidX for GDOT Lettings**
- **2017 Striping Information**
- **2017 Typical Cost Per Mile of Construction**

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The next meeting is scheduled for November 17th at 11 am in 4th floor conference room 408.

Please contact David Henry at dbhenry@transystems.com if changes or additions are necessary.

Attached:

cc: Rob Lewis (HNTB)
Scott Gero (AECOM)