

Date: February 12, 2021
Project: ACEC Engineering Services Subcommittee
Purpose: February Monthly Meeting Agenda
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting: [Click here to join the meeting](#)
 Video Conference ID: 125 139 384 7
Time: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

ATTENDEES:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Erik Rohde	GDOT Co-Chair	erohde@dot.ga.gov
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fletcher Miller	GDOT	fmiller@dot.ga.gov
<input type="checkbox"/>	Katherine Park	GDOT	dpark@dot.ga.gov
<input type="checkbox"/>	Daniel Pass	GDOT	dpass@dot.ga.gov
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Josh Taylor	GDOT	jotaylor@dot.ga.gov
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Walt Taylor	GDOT	wtaylor@dot.ga.gov
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dan McDuff	Atkins Co-Chair	dan.mcduff@atkinsglobal.com
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Warren Dimsdale	HLE	wdimsdale@heath-lineback.com
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Fox	QK4	dfox@qk4.com
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Scott Jordan	SEI	sjordan@seengineering.com
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Moses	WSP	Robert.moses@wsp.com
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shawn Reese	GS&P	shawn.reese@greshamsmith.com
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Umit Seyhan	CHA	useyhan@chacompanies.com
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rick Strickland	NV5	rick.strickland@nv5.com

MISSION

To promote communication, innovation, and cooperation between GDOT and consultant design firms on plan presentation, review constructability and construction issues.

Grey Text = Original Meeting Agenda
 Black Text = Minutes and discussion points
 Red Text = Action Items

INTRODUCTIONS

As this is the first session with the new team, each team member provided a brief introduction.

ATTENDANCE

- Attendance and Interaction key to team success
- Conflicts do come up – contact Dan McDuff via email or cell/text if you are unable to attend (678-315-3101)

TOPICS

1. Welcome New Members and Thank you for efforts of outgoing members and Co-Chair Scott Jordan

2. Current 2021 goals:

Team discussed initiatives being carried over from the 2020 session and for new ones that should be considered by the team.

a. Training

Trainings provided through 2019 and 2020 (pre-COVID) were in person and very interactive. Erik has concerns that past trainings and ones under development would need to be reworked to be more conducive to learning in a webinar type environment. Several from the team mentioned that recent virtual trainings were effective using break-out rooms. At times during the training, smaller groups would break out to work through problems and each either have an individual facilitator or have the trainer jump between the smaller groups to answer questions or assist. Five to eight people in each group was an ideal number for a recent training.

Likely that GDOT platform would be Teams for future trainings. **Will look into TEAMS capabilities for break-out sessions.**

Another Engineering Services course is being developed by Katherine Park and Josh Taylor – will focus on common mistakes, errors in estimates and calculations. **The internal deadline for this course was set for April.**

Several in the group discussed adding additional information for how to calculate Lump Sum items. These are difficult to develop as a designer and it would be helpful if there were several rules of thumb that would be provided to make this more consistent across design teams.

Erik cautioned that internal GDOT spreadsheets being used to calculate quantities for some of these items should not be used by the consultant community. These are not adopted standards and should not be relied on. Good engineering judgment of the Engineer of Record should be reflected in the estimates. Erik may bring this issue up at a future Consultant Relations task Force meeting.

Another discussion – instead of training, could a quick reference guide be developed to give some direction for cost estimates. Would include lump sum items and common erosion control items.

BlueBeam discussion:

- Several groups are using BlueBeam within GDOT for reviews. This will likely continue to grow over time.
- GDOT having challenges with full participation in sessions, but still working on that. Ultimately, there are still Field Plan Review Inspection reports that will continue to be developed. Benefit is that now the comments are housed in BlueBeam to reference from this report.
- Bridge and TMC are using BlueBeam more frequently, but for now email comments are still being allowed as part of these reviews.

Jordan asked about new spec book coming out. This is a comprehensive update of specs into the new book. Spec books are not being printed by GDOT and will only be made available electronically. There was some discussion about the importance of having these printed and available in the field. It is possible that there could be a printing company that would perform this service if enough pre-ordered books were paid for. No action at this time.

b. Field Plan Reviews (FPR's)

Site visits are not being done as part of most meetings, no anticipated changes until situations change. Designers can reach out if they feel the project necessitates a field visit. A small group such as reviewer, district representative and consultant could be done if proper precautions are followed and all are comfortable with this approach.

c. Cost Estimating

Training already discussed.

d. Post Construction Evaluations (PCE's)

Erik shared his current list of PCEs and their reasons for selection. Team should suggest PCEs if they think they are good opportunities. Send PCE requests to Erik and copy Chuck Hasty, who is charge of facilitating these meetings.

e. Tracking Commonly Received EPD Comments

Goal is to reduce in the number of iterations in reviews and in comments. To aid in that, there needs to be a layer of quality assurance added. Josh working on adjusting comments per the checklist. McDuff volunteered members of the consultant team if they could assist with that effort.

f. Other Needs or Initiatives for Discussion

Reese – noted that he would like to see a higher level of post-construction services where engineer can meet with CE&I team and contractor during construction and ensure that design intent is met. Erik asked if Dan would bring up at Consultant Relations Committee next week. This might be a candidate to grow into a task force, coordinating with overlapping subcommittees. **McDuff said he would bring up at CRC meeting.**

3. Website Information for Subcommittee

4. OpenRoads Roll-Out Progress

Miller says that GDOT currently has four pilot projects using OpenRoads, but there are lots of challenges to this transition. The 3D modeling subcommittee will continue to assist in this rollout with designers.

5. Other Discussion

Erik- GDOT/GT is currently in a partnership to develop a report looking at lump sum grading complete numbers across a range of project. This is a 2-year research project and will take a while before these numbers are developed. **Erik will keep the team informed if any information comes out of the study.**

Erik – nothing has been shared with him on a change in GDOT’s reopening strategy. Will keep an eye on how this develops over time.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting tentatively scheduled for April 16, 2021 10 am.