



## Agenda

Georgia Partnership for Transportation Quality (GPTQ)  
Consultant Relations Committee (CRC)  
February 16, 2021  
MS Teams

### 1. CRC Members & Mission

- Chris Marsengill briefly shared mission of GPTQ and this CRC.
- “The Consultant Relations Committee shall facilitate communication, knowledge transfer and goodwill between transportation consultants and GDOT. The Consultant Relations Committee will direct and provide oversight to subcommittees...”
- Andy Casey, on behalf of Hiral Patel, thanked everyone for those past and continued contributions.

### 2. Unfinished Business

- Georgia PE Stand on GDOT Plans – Chris Rudd
  - i. GA PELS Rule ([Rule 180-12-.01](#)) requires “each drawing sheet to be sealed and signed by the registrant.” This creates a challenge due to the large number of plan sheets included in GDOT final plans package.
  - ii. GDOT discussed with PELS Board who clarified that it is not the intent for this Rule to be overly burdensome to GDOT or the EOR.
  - iii. GDOT recommended Rule language modifications that would essentially allow for a “signature sheet” to be sealed by the EOR that clearly identifies those sheets the EOR (or various discipline EORs) is sealing.
    - a. Similar to [FDOT approach](#).
    - b. Changes to the Rules must be [posted](#) for 30 days prior to any Public Hearing. March 9 is the next PELS Board meeting. Any adopted changes require the Governor’s approval. The process could take as much as 6 months.
    - c. In the meantime, GDOT is developing guidance for the PDP for this “signature sheet” EOR concept. This guidance would also address multiple EORs for a given discipline and plan revisions. GDOT is also working with EPD regarding stamping and Level II DP signing of ESPCP sheets.
- QA/QC of ESPCP Sheets – Andy Casey
  - i. For GDOT developed ESPCP, multiple rounds of reviews with EPD have occurred which has caused delays to schedules. Similar challenges have been seen with Consultant developed plans.
  - ii. For GDOT developed ESPCP, an internal review milestone is being implemented. This milestone is timed with the corrected FFPR plans to Engineering Services milestone which is 18 weeks prior to letting per the [Letting Schedule for Processing Projects](#).
  - iii. The goal is to minimize the number of comments and the number of reviews with EPD. Andy noted “low hanging fruit” type comments such as following all the NPDES GAR 100002 checklist items. The larger corridor projects have been the most challenging, but there is room to improve across the board.



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- iv. Dan McDuff noted Engineering Services Subcommittee in the past has and continues to develop ESPCP commonly seen comments.
- v. **Andy to provide CRC with EPD developed PPT for ESPCP.**
- Transportation Summit - Sully
  - i. March 30, 2021 in Athens, GA at the Classic Center
  - ii. 550 to be allowed in person
  - iii. Agenda is being finalized
- OpenRoads Transition – Chris Rudd
  - i. Chris referenced [GDOT's Jan 2020 letter](#) and July 2020 ORD guidance referencing [Projects after July 1, 2020 should use OpenRoads](#)
  - ii. Conversion from Bentley V8i-SS2 to OpenRoads
    - a) Case-by case-basis that will depend on schedule status, level of effort put forth in design, other factors
    - b) GDOT, in general, does not recommend
    - c) 95% of GDOT projects are in V8i-SS2
  - iii. GDOT has no plans to sponsor OpenRoads training
  - iv. GDOT very interested in consultant feedback. Submit to [ORDFeedback@dot.ga.gov](mailto:ORDFeedback@dot.ga.gov).
  - v. Please be patient with GDOT.
  - vi. Bentley InRoads V8i-SS2
    - a) Bentley is phasing out
    - b) One consultant noted that they were told that Bentley will charge \$25/day/license to continue support
    - c) Another consultant noted that the next version Windows rollout could cause InRoads to not function anymore
    - d) GDOT noted other states are in similar situation
- Practical Design Guide – Andy Casey
  - i. Andy is presenting Guide to State Transportation Board this Thursday 2/18
  - ii. Andy thanked the Task Force and CRC for their support in developing Guide
  - iii. There is no truth to comment that a 30% level Practical Design review is required

### 3. New Business

- GDOT Office Head Update – Andy Casey
  - i. Doug Chamblin – Now serving as Interagency Office of Environmental Quality Office Head, Meg Hedeem recently retired
  - ii. D3 Engineer vacancy – Michael Presly retired
  - iii. D7 Engineer vacancy – Kathy Zahul now serving as Assistant Director for Strategic and Systems Planning
- Concept Reports (CR) – Chris Rudd
  - i. GDOT is performing an assessment of CR timelines as well as template. Everything is on the table including development, reviews, and approval process.



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Goal is to look at all types of projects. Previous efforts to streamline have focused on maintenance, safety, Traffic Ops CR.

- ii. Roadway Design Policy Subcommittee met last week to brainstorm and ask/start to answer broad brush questions.
- iii. Based on a quick assessment of date (411 report)
  - a) None of GDOT CR met schedules
  - b) Evaluated Approval milestones
  - c) Evaluated PM submitting milestones
- iv. Chris said everything is on the table to consider for opportunities to streamline. Can't lose sight either of quality documents and thoughtful risk identification with CR. Chris also highlighted the current process of gathering comments from all GDOT discipline offices that float in at various times -which may present an opportunity to improve.
- v. Krystal noted previous efforts that the Program Delivery Subcommittee identified – including enhanced communication/participation at Concept Team Meetings.

#### 4. Subcommittee Introductions and 2021 Focus

- Bridge & Structures – Donn Digamon & Greg Grant
  - i. Met on 2/3, will meet every other month
  - ii. Focus includes updates to previous developed documents including CONSPAN and RCPIER guidance, ABC utilization/design guidance
  - iii. Jennifer Napier has joined subcommittee as env SME and will help revamp permitting related guidance
- Construction Engineering & Inspection – Jeremy Scott & Joe Cowan
  - i. Discussed previous year's efforts including [online training and testing guidance](#)
  - ii. First meeting is next week, goal is to gather new ideas for Subcommittee focus
- Engineering Services – Erik Rohde & Dan McDuff
  - i. Kicked off 2/12
  - ii. Focus includes
    - a) EPD plan review comments to refresh commonly seen comments,
    - b) Joint training in virtual environment (e.g. cost estimating, earthwork),
    - c) Commonly seen engineering estimate problems
    - d) Lessons learned through the Post Construction Evaluation (PCE) process
  - iii. One initiative that will be revisited is designer's involvement during construction phase
- Environmental – Eric Duff & Jonathan Cox
  - i. Arch/History – met in Dec, focus is AOE template, Historic Districts/Bridges, next meeting in April
  - ii. Ecology – meets 2/18, focus includes JCP rollout
  - iii. NEPA – meets next week, focus includes virtual PI



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- iv. A/N – meets 2/25, focus includes new air template and TNM 3.0
- v. Arch – meets 3/25, focus includes fee proposal spreadsheet and opportunities to foster an “environmental community” that consists of GDOT and consultants with a goal being to better understand challenges regarding delivery and work together to improve processes
- Innovative Delivery – Andrew Hoenig & Saurabh Bhattacharya
  - i. Meet 2/18 and every quarter
  - ii. Focus is to build on previous efforts – Conflict of Interest management, EOR role, quality management model, process to continue to streamline DB delivery
- Land Surveying & Mapping – Benny Walden & Jeff Simmons
  - i. Met last week, meet quarterly
  - ii. Big issue at hand is “[deprecation](#)” – the conversion from US Survey Foot to International Foot as well as New Datum 2022
- Materials – Monica Flournoy & Kenneth Fluker
  - i. Met 1/21
  - ii. Focus includes new Pavement Design Manual to be rolled out in near future, and continued training for Geotech Report to capture lessons learned
- Planning and Environmental Linkage – Charles Robinson & Steve Cote
  - i. Meet every two months
  - ii. Focus on developing a PELS White Paper that identifies potential “gaps,” opportunities, landscape of States experiences. This goal is to ultimately develop a practitioner’s guide.
- Preconstruction Awards – Tim Matthews & Emilee Woods
  - i. Once the next Transportation Summit schedule is known (late 2021 or early 2022) then the awards nomination schedule can be rolled out.
- Procurement – Treasury Young & Claudia Bilotto
  - i. Met on 2/3 and monthly
  - ii. Discussed DBE Task Force and Past Performance Task Force efforts
  - iii. If folks are aware of issues, please let Procurement Subcommittee know
  - iv. Potential new business includes 1) updates to SOQ criteria and 2) prior to TO negotiations consultant should provide a contemplated staffing plan to perform effort
  - v. Another item introduced for consideration... GDOT cancelling TOs too quickly.
- Program Delivery – Krystal Stovall-Dixon & Erik Hammarlund
  - i. Met last week and every other month
  - ii. Reviewing previous initiatives including the recently developed guide to mitigating schedule risks as well as the scoping guidance document
  - iii. One area to be revisited is a focus on how to improve Consultant PM/GDOT PM relationship and understanding – PM Roundtables
- Right-of-Way – Troy Hill & Mickie McJunkin
  - i. Met 2/10



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- ii. ROW office piloting an all-electronic plan submittal process – first for in-house and then rolled out to consultants
- iii. Focus includes Local Government variances – a new Code passed that outlines procedure to meet with Local governments
- iv. A surveyor is now on the Subcommittee. Discussed septic drawings process in support of the cost-to-cure process.
- v. [HB 137](#) has been introduced which essentially creates exemption for income taxes on land being condemned which could lead to increased number of condemnation cases.
- Roadway Design Policy – Frank Flanders & Matt Thompson
  - i. Met 2/3.
  - ii. Focus on CR process, as previously mentioned by Chris R.
  - iii. DE/DV standalone guidance being considered to compliment Design Manual.
  - iv. Ongoing Bentley discussions.
- Traffic – Andrew Heath & Andrew Antweiler
  - i. Met two weeks ago.
  - ii. Considering topics for speakers to provide technological updates
  - iii. GDOT is developing Traffic Signal Ops Guidance Document. Will be offered to Subcommittee for review.
  - iv. Subcommittee developing Traffic Engineering Analysis Guidance Document.  
**Andrew to provide to other Subcommittees for review – OID, Procurement and Road Design Policy.**
- Training – Kyle Mote & Jeff Baker
  - i. Met on 2/4. Jeff thanked GDOT for their broad participation.
  - ii. NHI cancelled many training sessions last year due to COVID-19. Revisiting when they will be offered this year.
  - iii. A goal of subcommittee is to be a conduit to various training sessions offered by others to help “promote” and “market” the training opportunity to a broader group of folks who may also be in need of the training.
  - iv. Developing list of training needs.
- 3D Modeling – Sam Woods & Jonathan Langley
  - i. Met on 2/4
  - ii. Graduated from Task Force to Subcommittee
  - iii. Bridge needs for GDOT, consultants and contractors
  - iv. [Guidance document](#) previously prepared and distributed
  - v. Focus includes new guidance for 3D Designs including checklists, quality reviews, level of detail, emerging technologies, other States utilization. Future trainings will be considered. May need to collaborate with other Subcommittees.
  - vi. Sam suggested **folks provide Sam and Jonathan examples from other States regarding 3D Modeling.**



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### 5. Task Forces

- Utility Coordination – Patrick Allen & Kerry Gore
  - i. GDOT/GHCA/GUCC meeting on 3/1 and the Utility Coordination Task Force members will be in attendance.
  - ii. Training is a key focus
    - a) COVID-19 disrupted previously scheduled training and revisiting training regime virtually
    - b) Utility Companies led training – to give insight into their process
  - iii. UAS Task Force – focusing on pilot projects to do an assessment of actual relocation timeframes and challenges to be used as database of risks and opportunities. An example of opportunity could be to implement a utilities plan review milestone.
  
- Scheduling and Programming – Bobby Hilliard & Mario Macrina
  - i. Co-chairs met two weeks ago to discuss initial focus of the task force
  - ii. Questions posed include what is scheduling and programming, what is Program Controls, how is schedule information disseminated, decisions documented, current challenges.
  - iii. Initial focus is listening to customers and taking inventory of current processes and challenges.

### 6. Meetings

- Chris reminded co-chair of need and importance to prepare minutes of their meeting and send to him. Chris will coordinate with ACEC/G posting to the GPTQ webpage at [GPTQ - American Council of Engineering Companies of Georgia, GA \(acecga.org\)](https://www.acecga.org)
- Virtual for the foreseeable future due to COVID-19
- Next meeting is May 18, 2021
- Subsequent meetings
  - i. July 20, 2021
  - ii. September 21, 2021
  - iii. November 16, 2021
  - iv. January 18, 2022
  - v. March 15, 2022
  - vi. May 17, 2022
  - vii. July 19, 2022
  - viii. September 20, 2022
  - ix. November 15, 2022