



Meeting Minutes

Georgia Partnership for Transportation Quality (GPTQ)

Consultant Relations Committee (CRC)

July 20, 2021

Microsoft Teams

I. Unfinished Business

- A. Georgia PE Stamp on GDOT Plans - PE stamp rule will be in effect in September and so GDOT is waiting on that to implement.
- B. Erosion Control Plans Quality Issues
 - 1) September Forum Topic
 - 2) Recently nine projects had No Review letter and 16 projects required more than three reviews
- C. OpenRoads transition
 - 1) Bentley just released a new version. Sheet views can be synchronized with the master design file. The designer will set levels once in the master model and all the sheet models will update with the levels set. GDOT is hiring a consultant to help with the level set up.
 - 2) Bentley has said they are not going to penalize for the use of SS2. If the user hasn't moved to Power InRoads yet, they won't have to at least for state employees. Not sure if that applies to consultant users.
- D. Concept Report focus
 - 1) The group is currently collecting feedback
 - 2) Looking at a simplified guidance document that would be used as a reference depending on the type of project to figure out the type of concept report document that is needed

II. New Business

- A. GDOT updates
 - 1) Mike Dover is retiring, and Brad Saxon will be the new Deputy Commissioner
 - 2) Nick Fields is now the Office of Utilities Administrator
 - 3) The Bridge Office has been busy with the crash that occurred on I-16. Charges will be filed against driver, and trucking company is liable for damage
 - 4) Only the Office of Construction Bidding responds to bidders, and there is a policy for this that all staff should be reminded to follow
- B. CRC update summaries in meeting minutes
 - 1) Please include a meeting summary at the top of each set of meeting minutes to include date of meeting, focus points, and the next meeting date
 - 2) This summary should be presented at the ensuing CRC meeting
- C. Design Exception/Design Variance Guide Update
 - 1) The Roadway Design Policy Subcommittee is working on this and using the same approach that they took for the Drainage Manual

- 2) It was asked if there has been an increase in the number of DVs and DEs requested - Frank said yes because of the nature of the projects and that Engineering Services may be paying closer attention to the need for them and that there may be grey areas that are being discussed more now than before.
- 3) Frank said that he is looking at the 3R category for interstates and non-interstates to see if there is any flexibility that is allowed in policy per that guidance

III. Subcommittee Reports

A. Bridge & Structures – *Donn Digamon & Greg Grant*

- 1) Met in June. Next meeting in August.
- 2) Top focus items were prestressed shop drawings and modifying standard beam sheets to make them less intensive to review.
- 3) Discussed design policy and design details for MASH compliant sound barrier on bridges
- 4) Three active task forces still meeting

B. Construction Engineering & Inspection – *Jeremy Scott & Joe Cowan*

- 1) Been working with technical colleges on the need for volunteers in committees. There's progress in this area after 5-6 years of developing curriculum at technical colleges across the state.
- 2) QPL list – need to join with Materials committee to discuss innovative products and new technologies to put on list.
- 3) Next meeting will probably be late August or early September.

C. Engineering Services – *Erik Rohde & Dan McDuff*

- 1) Met last in June. Next meeting in August.
- 2) Discussed A+B contract evaluation tool and the latest status.
 - a. Make sure email is sent to the address in the form
 - b. Know that the evaluation tool is not required for each project
 - c. Need to check the criteria in the form to determine if needed.
- 3) Discussed AASHTOWare. IT added resources to address the issues that people have been experiencing.
- 4) EPD comments being compiled into a spreadsheet and the information will be tracked and key comments and trends will be identified and presented in the Transportation Forum in September
- 5) Training rolled out for earthwork calculation and common engineering mistakes and errors in cost estimates coming up soon.

D. Environmental – *Eric Duff & Jonathan Cox*

- 1) Air & Noise
 - a. May meeting focused on training using TRB training sessions
 - b. T&M training session and looking to see if interest expressed for additional trainings
- 2) Archeology – Met in March and meeting again in September
- 3) Ecology
 - a. Met in July
 - b. Discussed OES policy and CMIS consultant evaluations will be starting soon
 - c. There is a USACE working group, DP&S and OES working with USACE on culvert design extensions and stream diversions during construction
 - i. USACE is wanting more design work for culvert extensions and is treating them almost like new culverts
 - ii. USACE wants temporary stream diversions to be nearly a full set of plans for that work which is conflicted with GDOT not wanting to dictate means and methods to the contractor
 - iii. Resolution close with the working group and USACE
- 4) History
 - a. Met in April
 - b. Eric gave a 4f update
 - i. FHWA policy paper defines 4f and OES did not feel that a drainage type project would fall into the criteria
 - ii. FHWA agreed and it is possible to not be require Section 4f for certain types of projects
- 5) NEPA
 - a. Met in February and will meet again in August
 - b. Discussed CMIS evaluation consistency
 - c. USACE has a new Colonel and OES met with him; there is a new group under him
 - d. USF&W has a new group in leadership

E. Innovative Delivery – *Andrew Hoenig & Saurabh Bhattacharya*

- 1) Met in May and next meeting is August
- 2) The group is reviewing HB 577 and will probably seek ACEC guidance on it
- 3) Management Plan documents for design build projects are under review
- 4) The PNA will be going out soon and industry forums coming up, GEC/CEI – CMGC services included

- 5) Innovative delivery is reviewing performance evaluations and using other states to see how they are doing it
- F. Land Surveying & Mapping – ***Benny Walden & Jeff Simmons***
- 1) Met in April and next meeting is in July
 - 2) Primary focus currently is on survey law with suggested language input for it
 - 3) The subcommittee has been coordinating with SAMSOG on the proposed language to submit to legislature for the next session
 - 4) Informal discussion between S&M subcommittee and 3D modeling subcommittee because of the information being passed to the contractor and duplicated effort where survey is being conducted more than once by surveyor for design and then contractor for construction
- G. Materials – ***Patrick Allen & Kenneth Fluker***
- 1) Met in July and next meeting is in October
 - 2) The pavement design manual is in development
 - 3) BFI template revision in progress
 - 4) Microsoft Teams Groups
 - a. Pavement design group created
 - b. Geotech group will follow
 - c. Goal is to create a network of resources for OMAT and consultants
- H. Planning and Environmental Linkage – ***Charles Robinson & Steve Cote***
- 1) Last met in June and next meeting in August
 - 2) Discussed having a better definition of scoping phase
 - 3) White papers would be first deliverable and that information is under review
 - 4) They are looking at informal and formal documents to streamline the environmental process
- I. Preconstruction Awards – ***Tim Matthews & Emilee Woods***
- 1) Met in May and next meeting is in August to review the submissions.
 - 2) There was a call for award entries on May 8th and those are due July 30th.
 - 3) Will meet to evaluate and shortlist for each category
 - 4) August 27th will be deadline for submittal of phase 2
 - 5) The Transportation Summit will be in Athens on November 16th
- J. Procurement – ***Treasury Young & Claudia Bilotto***
- 1) Last met in July and next meeting in August
 - 2) Had an IT discussion to discuss display issues of OH rates in CMIS

- 3) They also had discussion with audits on rental cars versus charging mileage for rental cars
 - a. May expense rental cars but not rental car mileage
 - b. Mileage is only chargeable for personal cars
 - 4) Three ongoing task forces
 - a. One is focused on DBEs aimed to engage DBE firms
 - b. The second task force is focused on references and past performance task force and they are looking at how to remove surveys from RFQs
 - c. The third task force is looking to make changes to the RFQ template and that is still under development
 - 5) The number and dollar value of contracts for this year has broken records for the 7th year in a row
- K. Program Delivery – ***Krystal Stovall-Dixon & Erik Hammarlund***
- 1) Met in May and next meeting in July
 - 2) May 29th a PM roundtable was conducted, and the committee has received feedback and are planning to hold roundtables every 6 months
 - 3) Other topics to be discussed are preparing Best Management Practices for PXP and developing guidance for SOQ preparation
 - 4) Task force initiatives are currently being developed
- L. Right-of-Way – ***Troy Hill & Mickie McJunkin***
- 1) Met in July and next meeting is in September
 - 2) A third GDOT ROW assistant administrator position opened and will be filled soon
 - 3) April training was held and the next one will be in 2022
 - 4) Online training is available for entry level ROW agents for free
 - 5) Topics discussed were set asides and Troy Hill said GDOT is winning 95% of set aside cases
 - 6) New offer packages have been implemented and the presentation of them has been refined.
 - 7) IT was announced that GDOT has adequate supply of agents (120 currently on the consultant list)
 - 8) There was a new policy rolled out in June for cost to cures. GDOT is meeting with local government agencies to let them know about the policy and will send out a letter and request that they grant variances.
- M. Roadway Design Policy – ***Frank Flanders & Matt Thompson***
- 1) Next meeting will be in August
 - 2) Continue to work on the Design Variance and Exception guidance document

- 3) Discussed issues and delays with concept reports
 - 4) Standards and Details Book
 - a. Working with IT on getting the book online, but are going to first publish the printed book
 - b. There will be a boilerplate statement added to the plans referencing the date of the book to be used for the plans
 - c. Any revisions that come in during the year will need to be added to the plans
 - d. Every July, the new Book will be published, and it will have an effective date of the following January
 - e. The Chief Engineer may approve interim revision dates
 - f. Book will be at the top of the standards and details page of the website
 - g. Inclusion of Section 38 details will still be required in the plans
- N. Traffic – **Andrew Heath & Andrew Antweiler**
- 1) Last met in May and next meeting will be in August
 - 2) Andrew Heath is presenting the TE document guidance at the ITE Summer Seminar
 - 3) Had a meeting with Design Policy & Support in July to discuss concept report requirements related to ICE
- O. Training – **Kyle Mote & Jeff Baker**
- 1) Last met in July and next meeting is in September
 - 2) Several sessions have been held on utility design training and environmental training for Section 20 plans
 - 3) NHI sessions in the works and registration opening but having maintenance issues
 - a. Several meetings are being opened in person
 - b. The subcommittee is working closely with Jennifer Head and the SMEs in GDOT to determine what training classes are still relevant and needed
 - 4) PDP classes continuing
 - 5) OES is continuing the summer series
 - 6) OMT is training on specific technical topics
 - 7) Looking for the consultants to talk with younger staff to help figure out training needs and opportunities
- P. 3D Modeling – **Sam Woods & Jonathan Langley**
- 1) Last met in June and next meeting is in August
 - 2) A targeted survey was sent to contractors

- 3) Subcommittee members have been added and they have split the group into three task forces
- 4) A request was made that if those in CRC have contacts in other state DOTs and are currently providing 3d models to contractors, this committee would like to talk to them
- 5) Also asked for suggestions on how to gather feedback

IV. Task Force Reports

A. Utility Coordination – *Nick Fields & Kerry Gore*

- 1) Last meeting was held in May and the next will be in August
- 2) Kerry announced that Aisha Moultrie is the new State Utility Coordination Engineer, and the new State Utilities Administrator is Nick Fields
- 3) Working to develop training sessions
- 4) UIA and SUE checklist provisions have been submitted to SUE providers to start a new form during the PURP

B. Scheduling and Programming – *Bobby Hilliard & Mario Macrina*

- 1) Last meeting was in May and next meeting will be in August
- 2) Identifying points of conflicts within each group at GDOT
- 3) Discussed the breakdown of communication between GDOT and consultants
- 4) GDOT is working on exporting P6 schedules into various forms for consultants to use
- 5) P6 has a way to indicate who owns the activities and the group is working on presenting this in the schedules going forward
- 6) Schedule Activity Matrix (SAM) was sent out and that gives a description as to what each activity is

V. Closing

- A. Meetings will be conducted via Microsoft Teams until further notice due to COVID-19
- B. Recurrence is generally the third Tuesday of every other month
- C. Meeting dates for 2021 & 2022
 - 1) September 21, 2021
 - 2) November 16, 2021
 - 3) January 18, 2022
 - 4) March 15, 2022
 - 5) May 17, 2022
 - 6) July 19, 2022
 - 7) September 20, 2022