

ACEC VT/ Vermont Agency of Transportation Meeting

March 14, 2007

Attendees:

Edna Martineau, <i>VTrans</i>	Alan Neveau, <i>AOT</i>
Harry Columbo, <i>DuBois & King</i>	Helen Estroff, <i>VTrans</i>
Mark D. Richter, <i>FHWA</i>	Dale Spaulding, <i>Louis Berger Group</i>
Greg Edwards, <i>Stantec</i>	John Wilson, <i>Edwards and Kelcey</i>
John Lens, <i>GeoDesign</i>	Bob Klimm, <i>PB Americas</i>
Dale Gozalkowski, <i>CHA</i>	Pete Ingraham, <i>Golder Associates</i>
Frank Ambrosio, <i>URS Corp.</i>	Jeff Cicerello, <i>Louis Berger Group</i>
Allen Randall, <i>Lichtenstein</i>	Bill Ahearn, <i>AOT Materials & Research</i>
Walter Windus, <i>Erdman Anthony</i>	Brian Clogston, <i>Louis Berger Group</i>
Charlie Swanson, <i>HTA</i>	Mark Colgan, <i>VHB</i>
Mark Zydel, <i>McFarland- Johnson</i>	Kristen Rutter, <i>VHB</i>
Kol Shikura, <i>Green International</i>	Chris Baker, <i>VHB</i>
Marvin W. Miller, <i>Green International</i>	John Perry, <i>D+A</i>
Jim Bush, <i>AOT</i>	Janis Dewey, <i>AOT</i>
Kevin Marshia, <i>AOT</i>	Laura Cornell, <i>AOT</i>
Chris Bean, <i>CLD</i>	

Topics and Items Discussed:

1. VAOT Bridge Division

By Pam Thurber

- Bridge ranking system presentation (see attached)
- This system was developed in response to prioritization legislation H.533
- Towns can contact Pam to see how they rank with their individual bridges
- RPC's probably have this data to some degree as well
- These rankings started last year

2. VAOT Corner

Bulletin 3.5/ VTrans Contracting Plan

- Edna Martineau– Now preparing justifications for waivers needed, will submit for internal review next week
- Examples
 - Now 2 years/ renew 2+ years—want longer terms (3 years/ 3+ year review)
 - Increase thresholds for approvals to >\$250k
 - Deadlines March 29 for Agency of Administration submittal
- Now updating specifications for consultant services
 - Retainage is now optional (PM choice) on Engineering Contracts
 - Liquidated Damages/ Penalties – want to work toward incentives/ disincentives system instead of penalties
- ACEC VT offered to give a list of items for VTrans consideration. Edna agreed to review those.

- Specifications/ Contracting plan to be handled concurrently to extent feasible, per Edna. All hopes are that this will happen – expect in next 2 months.
- Edna doesn't know if consultant community will have opportunity to comment.
- General Design Services retainer contracts- Request for Proposals being developed in Contract Administration. Expect late spring solicitation.
- Considering a similar Rail Design retainer contract also, in a similar time frame.
- General Environmental Services retainer contract also being solicited very soon.

Project Development Process – Next step for ACEC suggestions

- VTrans will consider ACEC suggestions in this. VTrans will also have FHWA input. Will have a meeting soon with ACEC + VTrans (LTF/ Structures/ Roadway).

Capital Plan Review

- Overall
 - Bike/ Pedestrian program getting smaller
 - Safety Program FHWA mandated (to capture available funding) from \$3-5 to \$5-9M
 - Park/ Ride – Level funded
 - Safe routes to school program
 - Culverts
 - Roadway (emphasize Preventive Maintenance)
 - Slopes/ Ledges/ Sinkholes – New Emphasis this year
 - Emphasize “Value”

3. Legislative Corner

- Cross- over this Friday – Results pending

4. Consultant's Corner

Professional Liability Insurance

- Chris Ekman has been speaking with AG (Bill Griffin) office per ACEC VT request
- Some proposed language being discussed
- Situation looks like probability of more favorable language (for ACEC VT) is relatively low
- Contracting Management Manual – (after bulletin 3.5) ask Greg about this

Retainage – no action

ACEC VT webpage – see for meeting notes

5. FHWA Corner

- Have asked for a consulting firm use summary from VTtrans for retainer contracts.
- Fraudulent requests have been coming through via email to obtain company financial information
- Be aware – DOT doesn't request this. Confidential information should only be released when destination is confirmed to be secure

6. Other Items

- Contracting Manual –Per Jim Bush – Need guidance from FHWA/ AOT on when E & O claims are triggered
- VTrans considering standard Invoice format.
- VTrans considering Better database on engineering costs typical of certain types of projects
- June 10-14,2007 AASHTO Subcommittee on Design, Burlington – Wyndham, 100-200 attendees
- See also NASHTO June 3-5 Manchester
- April 9 – Strategic Highway Safety Plan kickoff meeting at VTC – see VTrans website for the plan

7. Next Meeting

- Next meeting date – June 20, 2007 – to miss June 10-14 AASHTO meeting

8. Potential Future Agenda Items

- "Lessons learned sessions on projects" - NHDOT has done this – project by project reports → Distribute to contractors
- Strategic Highway Safety Program presentation
- Consultant Management Manual Update
- Project Development Process Committee Update