

MoDOT Central & Northeast District / ACEC Missouri
Liaison Committee Zoom Meeting



MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, February 21, 2024



Attending from MoDOT:

Randall Aulbur
Brandi Baldwin
Jeff Cremer
Steve Engelbrecht
Rob Frese
Randall Glaser
Jason Vanderfeltz
Machelle Watkins

Attending from ACEC-Missouri

Jason Dohrmann, HR Green, Inc.
Mike Erdtmann, GBA
Dennis Heckman, Civil Design, Inc.
Kevin Heffern, Burns & McDonnell
Todd Kempker, Bartlett & West, Inc.
John Klein, Horner & Shifrin, Inc.
Travis Pfeiffer, HNTB Corporation
John Zimmermann, TranSystems
Dawn Danison, ACEC-MO Staff

1. MoDOT Leadership Updates / Central Office Staffing Changes

Jonathan Barnes is the new ROW Manager. The Central District has a new Utilities Engineer. The project managers are the same.

2. MoDOT District Updates / Staffing Changes / Major Project/Planning Updates

Some projects need to be moved up in the NE District to move ahead of the I-70 project. The CD District is happy with the first proposal on the I-70 work. The Rocheport project is on target to be completed this year.

- Six consultants submitted proposals on the Climbing Lanes on I-44 in Pulaski County RFQ.
- Improve I-70 – first project awarded for segment from Columbia to Kingdom City
- The Route AB and Route F projects in the NE District are scheduled for FY 2025 and were moved up from FY 2026 to be completed prior to the I-70 project.
- I-44 Oklahoma City to Franklin County

There is a website now for Forward 44. Two studies for I-44 have been awarded. The CD District is trying to determine segment limits. The first phase of the study is through 2024.

3. RFQ Solicitations Trends / On-Call Solicitation & Overall Consultant Usage

The NE District is working more on RFPs instead of MOUs. MoDOT senior management is not fond of raising the \$200,000 cap for MOUs. MoDOT still likes using the MOUs in creative ways, for example, separating the MOU for surveying services. There has been discussion raising the \$100,000 limit for LPA projects.

There was a discussion years ago at a Commission meeting, about ending the MOU. Although inflation is a problem for MOU contracts, MoDOT and consultants are grateful for the MOU solicitation method.

Some firms will be added to On-Call list by February 29th.

4. Construction Letting Trends

In the NE District recent bids are within 2% of the STIP budget.

5. STIP, 6-Month Outlook, and Unfunded Needs

MoDOT CD and NE Districts are working on STIP updates. In the CD District nothing is planned to be pulled out of the Unfunded Needs into the current STIP.

Call for TAP projects	March 1 st – April 26 th
Call for TEAP projects	August
Call for BRO projects	October – November

The 6-month outlook will come out on Friday, February 23rd.

6. MoDOT MicroStation ORD Implementation Updates

No updates on MoDOT ORD implementation. There will be an ORD consultant discussion/presentation at this year's TEAM Conference in March.

7. Consultant Deliverables – Quality/Areas of Improvement, Schedules, etc.

- The NE District recommends consultants review the plan checklists that MoDOT has provided.
- The CD District is hoping consultants quality of design improves after the rush of the I-70 work settles down.
- MoDOT said managing subconsultants is an ongoing issue. With two levels of QA/QC from the prime consultant and subconsultant for subconsultant work, the quality of subconsultant plans should be better.
- MoDOT mentioned issues with Section 106 coordination. MoDOT asked if consultants have readily available archaeologists subconsultants to perform the required archaeological and architectural studies for Section 106. Several consultants said archaeologists are difficult to hire and are becoming increasingly busier. Consultants may be trying to get archaeologists from other states. MoDOT said the architectural surveys requirements for the Section 106 may be spiking and may go down in the future.
- MoDOT stated utility locates going through consultants have been rough. Utility locates have become less dependable.
- MoDOT would prefer less subconsultants attend Core Team meetings. MoDOT prefers to pay for less people attending meetings.
- MoDOT wants to see less team changes. It was mentioned that several firms are having difficulty balancing management on current contracts with increased I-70 design work. MoDOT prefers that consultants are upfront about team changes and make it an open discussion. MoDOT understands that some team changes may be necessary. However, consultant PMs should not change.

8. MoDOT Consultant Contract Insurance Changes – PLI, CGL and Automobile

MoDOT is working on changes to contract language in the next few months. Two insurance changes –

- Sovereign Immunity Limits: \$600,000 per person/\$4 million

- Liability ranges: \$1 million - \$5 million
MoDOT will be selecting liability amount from range for each project.

9. MoDOT Project Scheduling Tool Progress and Updates

Three hundred projects are in system now, mostly FY 2025 projects. MoDOT plans to release training opportunities for consultants.

10. Other Discussion Items

- Letter to LPAs
MoDOT is having issues with being able to fund LPA projects that are being delayed to future years. In the past, MoDOT has been able to acquire unused LPA funds from other states.
- Additional scope added to MOU contracts
Consultants are having difficulty sometimes keeping budget under \$200,000 limit when additional scope is being added to a project.
- Consultants have been complaining about the length of time to set up standard design contracts.
- MoDOT will be gathering data on the use of MOU contracts.

11. Next Meeting Date & Location

The next meeting has been scheduled for August 14, 2024, from 1:00-3:00 PM and will be held at MoDOT Central District Office in Jefferson City.