

**MoDOT Central & Northeast District / ACEC Missouri
Liaison Committee In-Person Meeting**



MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 19, 2023



Attending from MoDOT:

Steve Engelbrecht
Randall Glaser (Virtual)
Jerad Noland (Virtual)
Jason Vanderfelt
Jim Smith (Virtual)
Ryan Libbert
Mia Peters
James Beattie

Attending from ACEC-Missouri

Tricia Bohler, Civil Design, Inc.
Bruce Green, Bartlett & West
Travis Pfeiffer, HNTB
John Klein, Horner & Shifrin, Inc.
Jeff Rensing, Oates Associates (*Cmte. Chair*)
Mike Erdtmann, GBA, Inc.
John Zimmermann, TranSystems
Morgan Mundell, ACEC-MO

1. MoDOT Updates

MoDOT staffing needs continue. The Central District has two new Project Managers – Zach Osmond and Patrick Hake. In the NE District, they have several staff that will be eligible to retire in the near future that could impact the design section.

2. Major CD and NE Projects Discussed:

1. MoDOT CD & NE District Major Projects

1. Route 740 (Stadium Dr.) Extension to Route WW
2. Interstate 70/Route 63 Design-Build project – updates & schedule on DB website
3. Route 63 Osage Beach – Is being designed by MoDOT design in-house.
4. Route 36 & 63 Interchange solicitation – out for solicitation
5. ADA and Traffic Signals project in Mexico
6. Warren County Route U project in Summer 2023
7. Governor’s I-70 Initiative and Impact to Districts (see ACEC update below)

3. ACEC/MO Updates – President & CEO Morgan Mundell

I-70 Update:

Morgan provided an update on the I-70 expansion project. The proposed \$859 million for I-70 widening in the St. Louis, Columbia, and Kansas City area was recently expanded this week with a Senate proposal. The Senate proposal expands I-70 to 3 lanes across the entire state. The new Senate plan proposal increases the funding to \$2.8 billion, with \$1.4 billion now, and \$1.4 billion in bonding. The details on how this project will be segmented and implemented will be forthcoming and will develop as discussions progress. The proposal utilizes general revenue to fund the project and details how this will impact transportation funding for and planned projects along the corridor that are already in the STIP is still to be determined.

Standard Contract Updates:

ACEC-MO and MoDOT are continuing to work on updating the standard contract language. Morgan invited anyone interested in participating to contact the ACEC office.

4. RFQ Solicitations Trends / On-Call Solicitation Usage

Design

Consultant responses to solicitations have increased since our last meeting. In the recent solicitations, CD received 6 responses for the Bridge Bundle project and NE received 10 responses for the Route K & V Interchange project. From the consulting perspective, most are still being selective about which projects they pursue based on capacity and project schedule.

The on-call selections are complete and MoDOT expects the process to be very similar to the previous on-call system. The new system will expand the list of available consultants and provide more resources for the Department. Both Districts expect to continue to use the on-call process to help them deliver their program.

Construction

MoDOT is still experiencing impacts due to inflation, about 15% based recent lettings. The number of calls on construction projects fluctuates based on the location, type, size and project schedule. The Department is working with contractors to extend schedules to create more efficiency and utilize crews more effectively.

5. STIP and Unfunded Needs Status

The unfunded needs list has not changed much due to the increased cost of construction caused by inflation. The additional funds expended on the current construction projects has limited MoDOT's ability to add new projects to the end of the STIP. Essentially, MoDOT is not delaying any projects that are currently on the STIP, but they may be reducing the number of projects being added to the STIP.

6. MoDOT MicroStation ORD Implementation and Consultant Training Updates

The transition to ORD continues and MoDOT training opportunities have been a valuable asset to help industry partners migrate to the new platform. Both MoDOT and the consultants have indicated that there is a learning curve with the new processes. MoDOT training classes have been offered at various locations throughout the state for the roadway and survey modules for ORD. ACEC members asked MoDOT if they are using the drainage package included with ORD, and if so, do they anticipate a training session that includes drainage. At this point, they were not aware of the drainage usage or future training sessions related to drainage software.

7. Consultant Deliverables – Quality / Areas of Improvement

In general, everything has been going well with the consultant quality. The largest issues have been project delays. Most of the delays have been associated with ROW acquisitions and environmental clearances. The environmental reviews have been taking longer and should be considered with setting the project schedule to ensure the overall schedule is attainable.

FAA coordination is also taking longer. Recent retirements in the FAA and the loss of institutional knowledge are a few reasons for the delays.

ACEC also asked if MoDOT is moving to Microsoft Project scheduling software. Both Districts thought that it would be coming soon, but no updates are available at this time.

8. Next Meeting Date & Location

The next meeting has been tentatively scheduled for October 11, 2023 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM and will be held virtually.