



MINUTES

ACEC-Missouri & MoDOT Northwest District Liaison Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

1:00 pm – 2:05 pm

NW District Office Boardroom

MoDOT NW District Representatives

Troy Slagle, Assistant District Engineer

Shannon Kusilek, District Design Eng.

Jose Rodriguez, Area Engineer

Greg Bolon, Maint & Traffic Eng.

Joyce Reynolds, Project Manager

Richard Orr, Project Manager

Brian Rosenthal, Project Manager

ACEC-MO Liaison Committee Members

Ozzy Bravo, Chair, Parsons

Matt Johnson, TranSystems

Mike McKenna, Affinis

Scott McDonald, Veenstra & Kim

Matt Spencer, Hg Consult

1. Introductions

- Ozzy led introductions

2. Assistant District Engineer Comments

- Troy Slagle gave some opening remarks listing the challenges the NW District is facing:
 - i. Staffing – Continues to be an issue throughout District. Maintenance is a critical area. Would like to have some new graduates on the design side to begin to train for expected retirements in next several years. Several senior designers will need to be replaced.
 - ii. Inflation – Let \$52 million worth of programmed work for a total of \$60 since the start of fiscal year. Latest round of lettings was close to estimated costs. 4-5 projects (none consultant led) have been placed on the at-risk list to move into a future Fiscal Year, if budget doesn't balance in the current Fiscal Year.
 - iii. Volume of Asphalt – resurfacing projects were over budget last year. Stopped letting projects early as a result. By 2025 will have overlaid about 36% of all low volume roads.
- Design-Build project expected to be released in December for 34 bridge replacements around the NW District.
- 8 interns last summer, all returned to school. Due to MoDOT wide salary adjustments District lost 25 positions. Process to open a new position has become lengthy.

- Currently 30 Central Office Bridge Division vacancies

3. General District/Project Updates

- Design/Build project for 34 bridges expected in December 2023.
- District tends to have a lot of project lettings early in the Fiscal Year.
- Have had good luck with the bundled bridges they've let. 3-5 bridges seems to be about the right size.
- Currently there are 4 on system bridges closed in the District. In a typical year, 20-30 bridges roll into the "Poor" category.

4. STIP/Unfunded Needs Updates

- Unfunded needs list completed – not many changes. New cycle / process will initiate in Spring 2024.
- Lance Taylor is new Statewide Planning Leader after Eric Curtitt's retirement.

5. Upcoming Consultant Projects (6 Month Outlook, Alternative Delivery, On-call, etc.)

- 4-5 Bridge replacement projects, some will be kept at HQ depending on staff availability. At least one RFQ / consultant package released in next few weeks.
- More bridge RFQs after 1st of year
- Concern about obtaining load posting signs in the 30-day requirement for bridges that are being re-rated as part of the statewide program.

6. Consultant Performance Feedback

- No feedback

7. ACEC MO / MoDOT HQ Liaison Committee Updates

- No update

8. Next Meeting (February 2024)

- Tentatively scheduled for Feb 21st at 1 pm. Ozzy will work with Shelly King at the NW District.