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| **Location** | | **Time**  1:00 PM to 3:00 PM | |
| Virtual | |
| **Purpose of Meeting** | | |  | | |  | |
| 3rd Quarter Meeting - 2020 | | | | | |
| **Invitees** |  | | | |  | |
| ☒ Jeff Folsom, MaineDOT  ☒ Leanne Timberlake, MaineDOT  ☒ Garrett Gustafson, MaineDOT  ☒ Laura Krusinski, MaineDOT  🞎 Kathy Parlin, MaineDOT  🞎 Ben Foster, MaineDOT  ☒ Richard Myers | ☒ Jason Gallant, HDR  ☒ Chris Taylor, T.Y. Lin  ☒ Owen Krauss, HTA  ☒ Adam Stockin, WSP  ☒ Josh Olund, HNTB | | | |
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1. Introductions
   1. Chris Taylor & Owen Krauss have joined the committee.
   2. This is Adam’s last meeting.
2. Meeting Minutes Acceptance
   1. Adam to follow up with Dale to get minutes posted.
3. Information Dissemination by MaineDOT
   1. Contracting /workload
      * 2020 work plan update- JSF
        + Have bridge candidates list. Determining funding availability. ~$105M/yr.(estimated from previous years) Supplemental needs ~6.5M (down from 10M last year). Then start allocating PE only projects, finally new projects on candidate list perhaps $60M, also pursue grants.
      * BUILD grants
        + Got both BUILD grants $20M. Ticonic Bridge full amount. $83M total grants. Will be reviewing construction schedules. Mostly assigned. Will lead to new work that is unassigned. Based on grants schedule may be adjusted to balance construction workload.
      * Team South fully assigned. Team North has unassigned projects.
      * New work possible for lower priority roads. CP4 bridges may have some attention this time around.
   2. MaineDOT Staffing Update:
      * New Positions - none
      * Retirements - vacant Appraiser 2. Unlikely to fill soon.
      * Other
      * Return to work plan - Minimal in-office work. Tele-working is going well, likely to continue into 2021. Mentoring: A lot of video calls/Teams. Some in person time. Bi-weekly check-ins. A little more effort required from PM’s to keep staff on track.
4. Summary of Designer Meetings (Rich, Garrett)

4 mtgs, 3 of which were outside presentation

* FIGG - Cracking on West Seattle High Level Bridge. Discussed Maine’s segmental bridges. Shouldn’t see similar issues due to different design methodology
* Mike Cuomo, Director UConn School of Eng Bridge Cert program. 12 credit certificate. Online courses.
* Ron Watson, RJ Watson Experience using HLMR bearings and Isolation Bearings. Project overview
* Internal –
  + Conc cover on integral conc wearing surface. Will keep top cover at 3” for 1” integral wearing surface, design for 2” cover for crack control. GFRP crack control leading to large rebar.
  + Standard detail bridge rail details not working well in some cases, such as skewed ends. Check post locations for conflicts. Also an issue for NH. Change std 3’ space to up to 5.5’. See new standard detail.
  + ADA sidewalk width may need to be 5.5’ instead of 5’. Engineering Instruction requires 5’ excluding curb, implies 5.5’.

1. Discussion Topics
   1. Geotechnical (Laura K.)
      * Continuation of previous discussion
      * EDC5 due end of this month. FHWA encouraging states to use unutilized but effective techniques: CPT, elect resist, seismic refract, optical tel – acoustic televiewing.
      * NE state geotech conf. Virtual conf over 6 days. All regions will present. Roughly one per state. Mid-late October.
   2. ACEC NH- Knowledge Share- Adam Stockin
      * NH mtg last week. Bridge Manual update slowly progressing. Sending out early drafts of section to consultants for review.
      * Steel armoring for finger joint. Large bridge, ending up doing full detailing. In future, contract plans will provide much more detail.
      * Discussed cost estimating sharing.
      * Overhead sign structures. Signs getting bigger. Designing for 130% sign area. Generally centroid shifts up. Maine specifications limit location of centroid. Geotechnical Program has worksheets for foundations.
   3. Construction Cost Estimating
      1. Bid Environment Update
         1. JSF - estimation module from AASHTOWare hitting snags. Once released, expect to be able to make available to consultants.
         2. Not many bid openings. Recently had a Next beam bid opening well below estimate.
      2. Estimator Software
   4. Update on Publishing Standard notes (Microstation & word version) & MaineDOT CADD standards and deliverables
      * No update
   5. Computer simulation for MASH crash testing - NETC style rail, 3-bar, 4-bar, NH style (steel) transitions and Maine style (concrete) transitions. No concrete barrier will be included in the study. Railings passed simulations.
      1. Update - FHWA delegated responsibility to states. Have established protocol for testing process. Need to assign crash-worthiness, present to Engineering Council. Some minor modifications recommended. NETC website. Report complete. Follow-up RFP out. In-service performance evaluation.
   6. Bare Concrete Decks: Class A vs Class LP
      1. Update Have been discussing. Have observed a lot of shrinkage cracks. May need to develop low shrinkage mix as other states have. Paris, Turner. Using more integral decks. Contractors have indicated it has also been a problem with asphalt.
   7. Integral abutments
      * Josh mentioned that he is designing a 560’ long integral bridge in Vermont. Looking to put instrumentation in this structure – update
      * Final design starting in a month or so. Instrumental, pressure plate on abutment, strain gages or inclinometers. 3-span, 4% grade, flared one end, return walls, at-grade app slab w/ sleeper. Shallow bedrock at one end.
   8. Bluebeam Update
      * 50 licenses ordered. No update.
   9. BDG & PIC/PDR Updates
      * BDG rewrite on back burner
   10. Micropiles for integral abutments
       * Stonington –
         + Laura and Garrett meeting with Aaron Gallant with integral micropile work. Using Plaxus 3D model set up. Taken the field data received from the short pile integral abutment at the Nash Stream bridge to calibrate the FEM model.
         + Follow up looking at threaded coupling and the risk of staying at plastic as opposed to elastic and variations of rock seating in bedrock
         + Update
         + Aaron’s research. Progress meeting Sep 28. Set up FEM model in Plaxus. Modelled after Copeland plantation instrumented, Bill Davids, Tom Sanford. Did parametric study on H-pile sizes and depths.
2. New discussion items
   1. Potential future discussion topics
      * PIMA update/expectations for consultant scopes
        + No guidance prepared yet. Follow up with Scott Rollins.
      * Where can the Consultants better help discussions
        + Experience from other states, e.g. bare decks.
      * Common Questions/Comments for Consultants DOT frequently surfacing that this committee might be able to address.
        + More commonly, things done inconsistently. Partially due to lack of BDG update.
        + Discussed possibility of “repair spec” type guidance.
        + FAQ on web? Need to polish. Need review by Eng Council.
        + Survey indicated inconsistencies associated guidance scattered across several sources.
        + VT recently did consultant orientation for new consultants. ME has considered, but hasn’t implemented yet.

AIT has been submitting RFI’s to replace Next beam with FRP tubs. Need to consider earlier in the process if considered a good system. Hampden twin bridge will be FRP sole source. JSF: suggest need to consider as a bid alternate or detail-build. Want to complete the Hampden bridges before incorporating.

Future topic: Complex projects without clear direction, contractor engagement meetings. What are other states using for contractor input? How to fairly bring in contractor input? For mid-sized, not alt delivery. Have used contractor pre-qual. Bidding rules/laws in each state. Difficulty working with pre-qual contractors and getting informative information without them “tipping their hand”.

* 1. Training Areas
     + Bridge Inspector Refresher Training JSF: web based option
     + Structural Stability - In-person only
     + Looking into training in a web environment
       - NHI courses may be offered in an interactive web conference
       - Jeff to reach out to NHI – Update Several new online offerings, some free

1. Subcommittee Rotation for Consultants
   1. Owen Krauss, HTA Q3 2020 thru Q2 2022
   2. Chris Taylor, TYLin Q3 2020 thru Q2 2022
   3. Bob Blunt, VHB Q4 2020 thru Q3 2022
2. The Next Meeting is set for Dec 15.