



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
and
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
Policy Meeting Minutes
September 20,2021 – 1:30 to 3:00

- Introductions, Review minutes – February 1, 2021, Review Agenda, Review agenda
- **MaineDOT Updates** (Including personnel changes).
 - **Bridge** – Jeff Folsom
 - Deb Stanhope, Clerk retired, and Jamie Dunn has filled that position
 - Mike Redmond retired, Taylor Clark assumed the QA Concrete role
 - Julie Brask, PM 1 is working with Andy Lathe
 - Liam Casey, new Assistant Transportation Engineer Team North
 - Theresa McMaster ROW Appraiser I
 - Team South – No personnel changes
 - Overview – The Bridge Program is busy with grant programs – 39 projects with a value of \$39 Million. A large part of this encompasses Blue Hill Falls, two projects in Falmouth and the Frank J. Wood Bridge between the Towns of Brunswick and Topsham
 - Outlook – 2022-23 will be busy: 59 projects totaling \$157 M and 62 projects totaling \$142 M.
 - Bridge Design Manual – MaineDOT is negotiating a contract for the re-write of the Bridge Design Manual. The focus of the re-write is to add guidance on the process, QC procedures and estimating.
 - **Highway** – Steve Bodge
 - 2021 Norma Gilman filled the Utility Coordinator vacancy from Mike Barden's retirement on Ernie Martin's team
 - Rhobe's Moulton's Team – Hired Assistant Transportation Engineer Matt Mihaiu. Dave Ouelette filled the Utility Coordinator vacancy on Rhobe's team
 - Ernie Martin's Team – Brooke Glidden has moved on to Traffic
 - Mike Moreau – Retiring in Oct./Nov. timeframe
 - Region 1 and 2 in the process of hiring Technicians. Region 5 hired two Assistant Technicians.
 - Delivery – The Highway program has delivered 90% PS&E and Advertise
 - **Multi-Modal** – Jeff Tweedie
 - Wyatt Page, Assistant Transportation Engineer will serve mostly in construction for ITS Systems
 - Delivery – There are six in-house rail projects (state funding) remaining to deliver. There are three LPA projects remaining to deliver. The on-time delivery percentage is looking good.
 - Future – There will be another Ferry Boat this year or next and more rail bridges.
 - **Contract Procurement Office** – Chad Lewis has filled the position vacated by Debbi Farrell's retirement. Welcome Chad!
 - **Property Office** – Heath Cowan
 - Guy Ladd has filled Diana Grady's position due to retirement.
 - Bettina Martin filled position with review of ROW Plans.
 - Julie Pickard is retiring.
 - Based on all the above changes there will be less flexibility to move schedules and priorities around. The Department is limiting changes after PIC.
 - **Planning** – Dale Doughty assumed new position as Asst Planning Director
 - Jennifer Grant, Transportation Systems Analyst is working on the Freight Rail Plan update. The Bureau is hiring a new Transportation Systems Analyst
 - Daryl Belz is assisting the MPO's with scoping/design
 - Community Services Division has moved back to the Bureau of Planning
 - Long Range Transportation Plans will be updated by 2022-22. All will be fed by the modal plans.

- The MPI Program is being updated/revamped. Please refer to the following link to see changes/additions since the time of this meeting:
 - [MaineDOT | Community-Based Initiatives \(CPI\)](#)
- **CADD Subcommittee** – Jonathan French
 - Dale Mitchell is no longer a member of the Subcommittee. Thank you, Dale, for your participation on the subcommittee.
 - An RFP for the Cadd Software was advertised in August.
 - To prepare the RFP the Department met with several firms to help develop the RFP.
 - Proposal submission deadline was Sept 14, and the Department is reviewing and scoring the proposals.
 - The goal is to have a contract in place by the end of the year and migrations to OpenRoads by the first of 2022.
 - STIC Innovation funds for the demonstration phase for Electronic Documentation as Build Plans. Test Projects are part of this markup model and given to the Survey Crew to verify in the field.
 - Activities include Migration, Cadd Support Website, Cadd Standards Folder Structure File. Standards are posted on the website.
- **Funding** – Andy Bickmore
 - Workplan – The Work Plan is in full swing, and the Department is deciding on the financial resources available. On the State side, the Work Plan has made it through the budget cycle, and we are looking at solid bipartisan support.
 - The Work Plan has been mapped out as if the Infrastructure Bill has passed.
 - There has been coordination with Regional Offices
 - Construction Cost have been projected forward to adjust estimates.
 - Infrastructure Bill – Infrastructure Bill has passed the Senate. House has set a goal of September 27 to consider the Bill. Language for continuing resolution has been drafted. AASHTO has prepared an 81-page summary.
 - Core Funding – on average to increase by about 20% (existing programs). New Programs are not counted in the 20%. This solidifies \$45 M per year for formula bridge funding (last year was \$21 M)
 - Bonds – The bond vote will be held in November. \$100 M for Multimodal (\$15 M) and Highways and Bridges (\$85 M)
 - New Grant Programs –
 - Culverts
 - Resiliency
 - Fish Passage
 - Urban Focus - Some grants have \$25 M minimum project size. The rules are not complete.
 - Construction – Continue to recognize an increase in construction costs
 - Supply Chain issues
 - Workforce – Contractors having issues with steady workforce.
 - Additional funding could be offset by the increase in construction costs
 - Have added escalators to some contracts (steel), allowing for plenty of time based on concerns with contractor capacity.
- **Report from Subcommittee Co – Chairs**
 - **Highway** – Lessons Learned - Meeting scheduled for next week to provide detailed schedule. MaineDOT has updated the Drainage Section of the Engineering Instructions on the website. There will be in-house training in the fall and they anticipate having consultant training in the winter. (Update Consultant training was held on 12/9/21 with approximately 100 attendees)
 - **Bridge** – The Committee has met twice, and the third meeting is scheduled for 9/22/2021. There is a goal to investigate cost estimating updates. There are some training needs but there is not much available currently.
 - **Multimodal** – The Committee has a goal of completing the draft Marine Structural Specification by the end of the year. They anticipate the Railroad Special Provisions will be complete by the end of the year. On time delivery of LPA Projects is up. There was

discussion on the timeliness of the Paving Special Provisions. Reminder to use proper Cadd Standards for ROW Mapping.

- **Report on the next Technical Meeting** – Foley/Grande/Hanf – A meeting is scheduled for next week and there will be more information after the meeting.
- **2021 Year to Date Delivery Performance Summary** – Todd Pelletier
 - Last year – 94% In-house and LPA 64% on time delivery
 - 2021 – 93% DOT led trending towards 152 projects at 92% on time delivery with 12 projects are delayed. 72% LPA trending at 62%. 12 were delivered on time and 6 are delayed.
 - Grant Projects have obligation deadlines and MaineDOT has a great track record history of on-time delivery.
 - Added Projects – 21 projects were scheduled for delivery after CIP was set.
 - Overall, a great amount of work has gone out.
- **Every-Day Counts – State Transportation Innovation Council** – Maria Drozd, FHWA and MaryAnn Hayes, MaineDOT
 - Cheryl Martin has retired. Maria Drozd has filled in
 - MaineDOT STIC – Re-establishing the Council.
 - Eva Burke is now the FHWA Lead for new innovations due Nov./Dec. timeframe
 - MaryAnn Hayes, MaineDOT report out – Mary Ann Hayes, Innovation Coordinator will have a key role in “Reinvigorating the Council”. She notes that Todd Jorgenson, FHWA and Bruce VanNote, MaineDOT are the Co-Chairs of the STIC. Rich Crawford will lead as the Commissioner’s Designee. Other Members at this time include: Joyce Taylor – MaineDOT, Eva Burke - FHWA, Dale Peabody and Pete Coughlan – MaineDOT, Steve Tartre – MTA, Jim Bryce and Ali Shirazi – Umaine, Ryan Barnes – Town of Brunswick (Update now representing MTA), Dean Lessard – Town of York, Dan Goyette – City of Auburn, Glen Adams – AGC, Peggy Duval – ACEC, Sharri Venno – Houlton Band of Maliseets, Pat Brady – MBTA, Tim Doyle – MMTA, Chris Chop – PACTS, Sandy Buchanan – Maine Transit Assoc., Brett Plossay – MAPA, Jarrod Guillette, Hancock County Planning.
 - The STIC is focusing on identifying Innovations/Ideas/Barriers. There will be more structure to the program. We are looking at how we measure success for better long-term results.
- **Complete Streets and the Complications of Bike Lanes** – Patrick Adams
 - MaineDOT is updating plans and policies. They are working with partners to raise awareness to make sure projects are meeting the needs of all users.
 - Rural Areas Issues: Seeing installation of bike lanes using existing shoulders. Complete streets accommodate all users, and we need to look at the roadway and look at whether the value of a bike lane when it does not provide for pedestrian facilities. “Is there enough value for the bike lane to eliminate pedestrian usage?”
- **Virtual Public Involvement (VPI)** – PIMA – Scott Rollins
 - STIC funding has been helpful in implementing VPI. The following is a link to MaineDOT’s VPI webpage: [VPI | MaineDOT](#). All are encouraged to look at the video.
 - MaineDOT’s Public Involvement Plan was updated on March 21, 2021.
 - MaineDOT is seeing increased engagement.
 - Utilize this site to see examples of presentations
- **Maine Turnpike Authority Updates** - Kristi Van Ooyen
 - York Toll Plaza – The new plaza is open, and the old plaza is under demolition
 - The MTA is recognizing the impacts of inflation with their construction contracts. Discussing adding 10% to estimates moving forward.
 - Workforce – The contractors are having workforce issues and the MTA is giving the contractors more time.
- **Next meetings:**
 - Technical – 12/9/21 Consultant Drainage Training
 - Policy – March 21, 2022