



## Meeting Minutes June 8, 2022

---

### **ACEC-VT / VTrans Quarterly Meeting**

Location: Microsoft Teams – Virtual Meeting

Date: June 8, 2022

Program Discussion and General Meeting 10:00 am – 11:30 am

---

Roll Call ACECVT Transportation Committee members: Jon Olin (chair), Patricia Shedd, ~~Greg Goyette (not present)~~, Ken Robie, Anant Panwalker, and ~~Dale Gozalkowski – ACECVT President (not present)~~

### **Featured Presentation (10:05 to 10:40)**

- MicroStation CONNECT OpenRoads Update – *Mike Longstreet*
  - VTrans working Group / CAD Committee
  - Workspace updates / refinement
  - CONNECT software updates & implementation – VTrans is adopting updates on a rolling basis as MicroStation provides. Goal to keep workspace as simple as possible and not customizing when there is no need.
  - Agency Plans going forward
    - i. Goal to have Digital Data delivery for projects to selected Contractor within next 2-3 years. More information on what this will look like and how it impacts consultants by this winter.
    - ii. Goal to deliver a full Digital Model for bidding in 3-4 years.
    - iii. Future discussion around As-Builts and who is responsible for updating Models (it is likely the Designer will be retained for this)

### **General Meeting**

- VTrans Operations – *Rob White*
  - Delivered more than half projects out to construction: 60 out for construction, 112 projects in the queue – resulting in 86% out for construction on time.
  - VTrans has seen a few projects, mostly complicated and/or multi-year an night-work, with significantly higher bid costs (likely tied with inflation and risks that the Contractor may incur). Generally, VTrans has not seen a wide-scale impact of inflation on the project bids. Have seen some longer lead time. VTrans is watching the market supplies but haven't seen significant impacts of inflation on project bids.
  - Some critical positions are still open but overall most of the staffing is under control.
  - Some issues with trucking availability. Some projects will be impacted with rising fuel costs.
  - Allowed substitution products for stainless steel rebars based on availability and costs.
  - *Question (Wayne Symonds)* – How is the availability of FRP reinforcement? Could we consider it during design as a substitute moving forward for decks?  
*Answer (James Lacroix)* – Yes that this may be considered on VTrans projects – coordinate with the VPM. Already seeing it on a few projects.



- Contract Administration – *Jeremy Stephens/Doreen Carminati*
  - Upcoming RFP's
    - i. **Historic Preservation Services 2022** - anticipate in next couple of months
    - ii. **Environmental Consulting & Resource Services 2022** – May only do Project Specific Agreements and utilize BGS agreements for smaller projects
    - iii. **VTTC Employee Development Services 2022**
    - iv. **AOT Crash Data Project 2022**
    - v. **Audit Consultant Services 2022 – POSTED 6/8/2022**
    - vi. **Structures on-call RFP** – tentatively mid-October

New WOR will be rolled out at the beginning of August.

- Committee Updates
  - VTrans Committees – ACECVT Appointees
    - David Hoyne – VTrans Specifications Committee
      - Preparing for 2023 Specifications Update
      - Meeting twice a month now to stay on pace for 2023 update. Nothing radical changes. VTrans is looking at which projects will use old specification, and which will use new specification.
      - Most special provisions will be moved to new book, so they are reviewing if they want to print book or only make it available electronically.
      - Jim Lacroix – we are developing a way for unique items or new pay items. There will be a process defined to include those.
      - Recommendation made to invite Wendy Ducey to the December Qtrly Meeting
    - Evan Detrick – VTrans Standard Details Committee
      - Standards committee is working on updating the standards to include in the 2023 spec book. Need to make sure there is no contradiction between Standard details and specifications.
    - Dave Youlen – VTrans Work Zone Committee
      - Skipped work zone committee mtg report

## FHWA

- Updates from Matt DiGiovanni
  - USDOT Discretionary Grants
    - Safe Streets and Soads for all (SS4A) – funds planning and projects. For towns and cities and MPOs to put together action plans. Once plans are complete they can apply for projects. Applications Due in September.
  - Build America, Buy America Act – May 14, 2022 Implementation
    - Iron and Steel
    - Manufactured products
    - Construction Materials
    - Non ferrous metals, fibre optic, glass etc. there is a waiver available.
    - Guidance is under development anticipated to be done by Nov. 22.
  - *Question (Ron Gray)* – Is there any possibility of mid season revision to federal mileage rates?  
*Answer (Matt)* – Haven't heard anything but will check out and send update to Jon for disbursement.



- *Question* - Can the towns apply for planning and project? Do they have to plan to fund a the project if their project application is not approved.  
*Answer (Matt)* – towns will get more information from the following website. They can also reach out to Roger Thompson for questions re this funding.  
<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A>  
[Roger.Thompson@dot.gov](mailto:Roger.Thompson@dot.gov)

### **Events - Recent and Scheduled**

- ACECVT BOD Meetings
  - June 22, 2022 – Virtual Meeting
- EEA Awards Gala – June 16, 2022 - 5:30-8:30pm – ECHO, Leahy Center for Lake Champlain

### **Future Meetings - Potential Topics**

- Next meeting: September 2022 – Date to be determined to avoid AOT Managers Meeting – To be joint in-person/virtual format. Recurring Calendar Invite to be sent in July.
- Upcoming Event – AASHTO ROW Committee Meeting to be held in Vermont – 2023
- Upcoming Event – September VTrans Research & Innovation Symposium

#### Future Meeting Topics (June Qtly)

- E-delivery: General Overview - Molly
- E-delivery: Open Bridge Modeler – Pilot projects, Status/Plans for long term implementation
- CMS Estimator Updates – Project Implementation – Case Study (challenges & resolve) – Design Phase Transition
- VTrans Operations Stormwater – Training/Guidance/Updated April 2022 Protocol
- VTrans Bicycle & Pedestrian Design Guidance (recent updates and retiring of 2002 manual)
- *Other future agenda items? Please forward*

Minutes Posted at: <https://www.acec.org/vermont/about-us/meeting-minutes/>

Submitted by: Anant Panwalker

Chair - ACECVT/VTrans Committee