

ENGINEETZING A BIZIGHT FUTURE FOR VERZMONT

Meeting Minutes

ACEC-VT / VTrans Quarterly Meeting

Location: VTrans – Davis Building, 5th Floor Main Conference

Room Date: June 12, 2019

Program discussion and General Meeting 10:00 am - 11:30 am

1. VTrans Research Program – Dr. Emily Parkany

Research Overview

- Supporting research across the Agency
- All research should have VTrans "champions"
- Limited funding, so looking to maximize opportunities

Research Activities

- Emily manages Research Program
- Program includes 25% of State Planning and Research funds
- Contributes to participation in TRB, NCHRP, AASHTO, etc.
- Participation in STIC

Champions and TACs

- Desired projects with enthusiastic staff support
- Every project needs a VTrans Champion
- Need supporting section/bureau
- Research team meets 4 times per year

Process

- \$325,000 (2-4 up to two-year projects)
- Must be completed by qualified researcher (4 VHE Vermont Institutes of Higher Education)
- Online research idea submission if consultants have an idea, talk to someone at VTrans
- About 30 ideas this year 12 projects were selected
- Projects were matched with enthusiastic VTrans Champions
- 2-page letter of interest
- Presentation in front of Bureau Directors for final selection

2019 External Research Problem Statements

- Quantifying Nutrient Pollution Reductions Achieved by Erosion Remediation Projects
- Reclaimed Stabilized Based stabilizing agent selection and design
- HIVE Culvert Upgrade

Other Current External Projects

Vulnerability of Vermont Bridges to Seismic Loading



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- Snow and Ice Control Performance Measurement
- Bridge-Stream Network Assessment
- Etc.
- Final Reports can be found online:
 - Vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/research
 - Vtrans.vermont.gov/docs/completed

Internal Research

- Experimental Features
- Pavement Life Study
- Pavement Marking Study

17-3 Bridge-Stream Network

- UVM CEE
- Otter Creek Model 2D model
- Sensitivity analysis for bridges vs certain bridges removed what happens when removing a bridge?

18-2 LVRT Floodplain Reconnection

- Looking at floodplain connectivity along the LVRT
- Next step is to expand this study to the whole state

Seismic Loading Vulnerability

• Review of all the bridges in VT

Recycled Asphalt Shingles (RAS) in gravel roads

- Ground shingles
- Mixed into roadway
- Creates stabilized gravel roadway
 - Helps to survive winter
 - o Help to reduce summer maintenance

Bike Lanes

- US 302 Berlin
- There is a report on the results

Porous Asphalt – Randolph P & R

- Reconstructed last year
- Reviewed the project serval weeks ago
- Porosity has survived the first winter
- Could be a model for porous asphalt in other parts of the State

Quarterly Research and Innovation e-Newsletter

Sent to ACECVT Transportation Mailing List

Research and Innovation Symposiums

- September 28, 2017 and September 13, 2018
- VTrans.vermont.gov/planning/research/2018 symposium
- Posters, fact sheets, etc.
- This year it will be a <u>Research and Innovation Showcase</u> on September 11, 2019 at the VTrans Dill Building in Berlin, VT
 - o Same symposium, but also showcase of the research as well HIVE



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- Looking for presenters
- Student friendly posters
- o Optional 90 second oral highlight to be taped and put on YouTube

2. Municipal Assistance Bureau (MAB) Updates – Susan Scibner

Update and Statistics for at the ready (ATR) consultant services

- It's been about 2 years since VTrans MAB has started using this procurement program
- Intending to release a new RFQ for the next period in 2020
- Potential for more outreach to RPCs and to the towns on how to use ATR
- For Project Management
 - o Towns 27 of 46
 - o ATR 4 of 46
 - o Non-ATR 4 of 46
 - o RPCs 11 of 12
- Design
 - o ATR 10 of 50
 - o Non-ATR 40 of 50
- Construction
 - o ATR statistic not documented

General MAB Updates

- VTrans.vermont.gov/highways/locals-projects Main Website Page
 - o Grant Timelines
 - Annual Reports
 - Guidebook
 - o Programs
 - Bike & Ped
 - TA
 - P & Rs
 - Municipal Mitigation
 - Better Roads
 - Municipal Highway and Stormwater Mitigation
 Program extended for another year
 - Town Highway Grant Program some through the districts
 - Town Highway Structures
 - Town Highway Class 2 Roads

Emphasis Areas

- Updates to Bid Docs
 - o Title VI Additions
 - This was already added to consultant agreements
 - Now part of the bid documents
 - Sub-contractor approval forms
 - o Bike and Ped Unit Cost Updates

Shared Documents - SharePoint Site for MAB

• MAB File Transfer Folder – has the Bike and Ped Unit Costs



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- Final PS & E contains the bid documents
- Construction
 - Construction Inspection Forms
 - Sub-Contractor
- Looking to improve the organization of this page, so feel free to send suggestions

Involvement in Other Programs

- Emergency Relief Program Damage on Local Roads
 - o Primarily ER funds
 - After damage assessments are completed by district, projects will transition to MAB
- Town Highway Grant Program
 - Fiscal oversight role by MAB
 - o Districts will be working with towns on the grants themselves

3. General Meeting

Rob White – VTrans Offices Move Update

- Move has started Contract Admin is now in Barre
- Structures and EV will be temporarily moving to the 3rd floor soon
- All of PDB will be on the 3rd and 4th floor shortly

Contract Administration

- Upcoming RFPs
 - Legal services for claims analysis
 - Nothing for design services right now
- 2nd Tier Selection Level 1, 2, 3 Statistics April through June 2019 (handout)
 - Keeping track of the different level of selection
 - Best Value is intended to go out to everyone
 - ➤ Best Value Level 1 Count is 12 there were rollovers
 - ➤ Best Value Level 3 25
 - QBS- 96
 - ➤ Level 1 1 consultant is best qualified 48 awarded probably 50% rollovers and 50% actual selection
 - ➤ Level 2 1 WOR has used level 2
 - ➤ Level 3 10 solicitations
- WOR Process ACECVT & VTrans PM coordination for improvements
 - o There are some revisions to the WOR form
 - Option to limit page size
 - o Section for when questions are due and how they will be answered
 - o Section for when Award Notification will be given
 - o Revisions to Capacity, Experience and Past Performance
 - o Form with additional guidance for PMs has been developed
 - o Discussions on additional training for CM/PM to address utilizing Level $1-2\,\mathrm{more}$ often
 - From FHWA perspective language that CA has used is right out of the DFR
 - FHWA division offices don't give much guidance beyond the CFR and would only get involved if there is a push nationally
 - o How are debriefs being handled?



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- Meeting with the Contract Manager and Project Manager
- If we want to see the proposals there were submitted, this would be through a FOIA request
- Reference from Inception through June 10th
 - Project Information Services first into the program April 1, 2018
- May start to incorporate the number of programs and contract in information that is traced
 - Perhaps we can add information reporting as an update at our quarterly meetings

<u>Updated Committee Members – As of July 1</u>

ACECVT Transportation Committee

- Jon Olin Chair
- Greg Edwards
- Aaron Guyette
- Anant Panwalker
- Patricia Shedd
- Rich Tetrault

VTrans Committees - ACECVT Appointees

- David Hoyne VTrans Specifications Committee
- Meets first Tuesday of every month
- Agenda comes out about 2 weeks before the meeting so quick moving and limited time to offer input
- Evan Detrick VTrans Standard Details Committee
- Attended the first meeting
- Surprised to learn that there is confusion in construction about which standard drawings are current
- Looking to add about 20 different standards this year
- Idea of using annual standard drawings should start next year
- Dave Youlen VTrans Work Zone Committee

ACECVT Comments/Recommendations to Committees:

- Email Contacts (cc Aaron on correspondence)
- o VTrans Specifications: dhoyne@gpinet.com; aguyette@vhb.com
- o VTrans Standard Details: edetrick@vhb.com; aguyette@vhb.com;
- o VTrans Work Zone: dave.youlen@stantec.com; aguyette@vhb.com

ACECVT - http://www.acecvt.org/

- a. ACECVT BOD Meetings:
 - o Last held May 22, 2019 at CHA office
 - Next meeting June 26, 2019 at Stantec office / held in conjunction with the ACEC/VT Annual Meeting
- b. 2019 ACECVT Engineering Excellence Awards June 13, 2019 at Lake Champlain Sailing Center
- c. Natural Resources Workshop
 - o September/October timeframe



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FHWA – Update from Matt DiGiovanni

- FHWA new administrator Nicole Mason started about 6 weeks ago
 - o Haven't seen official priorities
 - o Interested in rural states
 - Appropriation Bill for FY 2020 looking to see similar grant opportunities for states
 - o Buy America no changes and none expected
 - o New Rules for patented proprietary materials coming in September or so
 - o AID Grants for innovative construction projects. Innovative to VT r the municipalities. Up to \$1M at 80/20 split. Grant applications will need to be submitted on October 1st.

<u>Future Meetings – Potential Topics</u>

- a. Next meeting: September 11, 2019
- b. VTrans Research and Innovation Showcase and Career Fair VTrans Dill Building, Berlin, VT
- c. Future Meeting Topics (September Quarterly)
 - Contractor Feedback December
 - ROW Department Update September
 - VTrans CMS and AMS Updates
 - VTrans Website Updates September
 - Other future agenda items? Please forward

Minutes Posted at: https://www.acecvt.org/about-us/meeting-minutes/acecvtrans-meeting-minutes/

Prepared by: Aaron Guyette - ACECVT/VTransCommittee

ACECVT/VTrans Quarterly Meeting Attendance Meeting Date: June 12, 2019

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Please add And Morse to the ACEC meeting invitation.