



Operations Center Engineer's Meeting

January 25, 2010

1:00 – 3:00 PM

Minutes

Introductions & Announcements:

No new Introductions or Announcements since last Operations Center Engineer's (OCE) Meeting.

Public Records Requests:

Allison Eldridge, Public Records Coordinator, Monica Owen, Assistant Public Records Coordinator and Donald Conway, Public Records Attorney reviewed procedures concerning processing a public records request. There are over 1,000 public requests a year. A public record is anything we create as we go about our business here at the Department of Transportation. This includes all emails and may even include notes to other employees. Most request come from engineering firms, law firms and contractors looking for road plans. Anyone has the right to review and copy any of our records with certain legal exemptions. Each request is logged in and Don Conway reviews it for any exemptions. If there is an exemption on the request, it will be denied; Legal will inform the requestor by mail. If the request is approved it will be forwarded via email to the specific personnel in your department which are; Mary Jane Brantley, Terry Muse, Jon Sands, Scott Sikorski and whichever Operations center involved. These designees will ensure the request is taken care of in a timely manner and will advise Legal once the request has been fulfilled. If you receive a call, letter or email you can forward to Legal or you can take down all the information then forward the request to Legal. Legal's email address is: d1.publicrecordsrequest@dot.state.fl.us. You can not directly ask the person who they are, what their name is or why they are making the request. Most people will volunteer their information but they can remain anonymous. You no longer need to fill out the exemption sheet. Unless the person is requesting bridge plans Legal will get the necessary information from them. If there are ever any questions, please contact the Legal office.

District Materials Update:

No new updates since last OCE meeting.

District Utilities Update:

Reminder was given to contact Deborah Barnhill if problems or issues arise with utilities on a project.

District Construction Engineer (DCE) Memos: (Handout #1)

DCE Memo No. 19-09 Implementation of a Mandatory "Critical Structures Construction Issues – Self Study Course":

This course is for Resident Engineers, Construction Project Managers, Senior Project Engineers, Project Administrators, Senior or Lead Inspectors and Inspectors. Contractor employees are encouraged to take this course. For the department and consultant personnel listed above, completion of the self study course is required on or before June 30, 2010.

DCE Memos (Continued):

DCE Memo No. 20-09 Testing of Elastomeric Bearing Pads for Bridge Structures:

The AASHTO M 251-06 was revised for FDOT and the version of 932-2.2.3 shall be used in lieu of the 2010 Standard Specification version.

DCE Memo No. 01-10 Testing of Elastomeric Bearing Pads for Bridge Structures:
(Addendum to DCE Memo 20-09). DCE Memo 20-09 is still applicable.

Pads that have not been shipped from the supplier by February 15, 2010, shall comply fully with the applicable provisions of Specification 932-2.2 of the project. The required Mill Analysis Reports and Certification shall be submitted with the bearings along with proof that an approved independent laboratory has performed the tests or has observed the tests and certifies that they were done properly. For pads that are in transit from the supplier to the project prior to February 15, 2010, are in storage on the project, or that are in their final position on a pile or pier cap, options available to the contractor are: The contractor can test a coupon from the same lot of pads that are in storage and/or in their final position, shall provide the Department with a warranty bond having a duration of five years, and shall remove and replace all non compliant pads with compliant pads. Encourage your Project Administrator (PA) to tell the contractor, ahead of time, so they don't have to remove a pad that is already in place or have to go back and test a coupon off one of the batches. There is an additional 10 page Specification on the District Construction website. If you have any questions, please contact Terry Muse, Assistant District Construction Engineer or Shailesh Patel, Final Estimates Auditor.

Processing Shop Drawings:

Review shop drawings with your PA's and your consultant PA's. Monitor what comes in and what goes out; send the Engineer of Record (EOR) only what is needed. You can refer to CPAM 8.4 and Spec 5-1.4.3 & 5-1.4.5 to explain the requirements of the contractor and the path shop drawings need to take. Shop drawings are now part of the as-built plans.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) % Goal Discussion:

Secretary Kopelousos set a goal of 10% DBE participation on all American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) (stimulus) projects. Emphasis should be placed on DBE participation at preconstruction meetings. If this goal is not being met, Operations Centers need to get involved.

Signalization Issues:

Shailesh Patel, Final Estimates Auditor and Marshall Douberley, Construction Services Specialist discovered some jobs with multiple intersections where the contractor is not properly installing temporary vehicle detection. Please have your inspectors carefully inspect the temporary detection to ensure it is working properly.

Fraud Awareness Video:

Continue to show the video at preconstruction meetings. Please keep record of how many times you are showing the video in the future.

D1's First Office Inspector General (OIG) Audit of Stimulus (ARRA) Projects:

On Lump Sum and Design Build jobs ensure the invoices match exactly what we are paying month to month. Our first audit went very well with only minor items noted for correction.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Discussion:

Please continue to submit your suggestions to Sarita Taylor on ADA issues for the upcoming training. We continue to have problems placing Pedestrian Poles so this can be one of the items included in your email to Sarita with any other issues you are having.

Contract Time Overruns on Small/Short Duration Projects:

On the smaller/short duration projects, pay close attention to the contract time.

Consultant Engineering Inspection (CEI) Performance Measures: (Handout #2)

District 1 had the highest Consultant CEI Cost for 3 of the 8 quarters and the second highest Consultant CEI Cost for 4 of the 8 quarters. The combined (Consultant & In-House) CEI Performance Measure Goal on the Tier 2 Construction Business Plan is 12% or less. We met the CEI Performance Measure in 7 out of the last 8 quarters.

Jobs Bill (Stimulus II) Discussion: (Handout #3)

The Jobs Bill has not been debated by the US Senate yet and this list is subject to change. Please do not share the project list with contractors and consultants. At the current time, the funding level for highway and bridge construction in this new Jobs Bill is approximately equal to the funding level in the original Stimulus Bill (approx. \$28 billion). If Florida (approx. \$1.4 billion) and District One receive the same allocation of funds, then District One would be receiving somewhere between \$150 million to \$180 million for construction.

Questions, Comments, Feedback:

There were no questions, comments or feedback.

Success Stories:

Due to time limitations, success stories were deferred until the next OCE Meeting scheduled for March 15, 2010.