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Board of Public Service - St. Louis

The Board of Public Service - St. Louis Liaison Committee met on March 2, 2015. The committee discussed the below items.

There have been a number of personnel changes at BPS and the Mayor's office primarily due to retirements. Rich Bradley reviewed those changes and provided correct contact names. The City continues to have more needs than they have funding but the previous plan for a capital program bond has stalled. There is some funding for Parks projects and BPS selected consultants for open-end parks projects throughout the city. Forest Park projects are being separately funded and put out as the funding is available. Two projects were put out recently and more are expected. A few other relatively small projects are upcoming and listed in the meeting minutes. The next meeting has not been scheduled but will occur this fall.

To see the minutes from the most recent meetings, go to our [website](#). For more information on the committee or if you would like to provide input, please contact Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org) or the Committee Chair, Ed Alizadeh (e_alizadeh@geotechnology.com).

Corps of Engineers - Kansas City

The Corps of Engineers - Kansas City / ACECMO / ACECKS Liaison Committee met on January 29, 2015. Highlights of KC District's USACE mission and program include:

- Military Construction program has trended down since 2010. However, District support to the SRM (Sustainability / Readiness / Maintenance) projects has been strong. Additionally, the District continues to support the KC-46A Beddown at McConnell AFB, the planned National Geospatial Facility in the St Louis area, and source selection support to the Japan District.
- Civil Works Program, without an approved budget, is under continuing resolution that allows the District to continue under funding that was established from past years. Out years are anticipate to pickup with more funding for the Missouri River Recovery, Turkey Creek, and possibly for new starts.
- HTRW Program continues consistent with past years at \$140-160M.

ACEC provided the following overview and summary:

- Overview of ACEC (Kansas) Emerging Leaders Program. The program highlights include focus on leadership, business development, and public policy. The program typically has 20 participants and is in its 8th year.
- An overview of federal and state legislation includes optimism at the federal level for a transportation bill reauthorizing of the highway fund, Funding for infrastructure in Kansas is being cut / diverted to make up for budget shortfalls. In Missouri funding for infrastructure remains a challenge after failure at the pools for a sales tax increase and limited support for tolling in the legislature.
- ACEC plans their annual visit to the Hill in April. Areas that would benefit the area Civil Works priorities include additional funding to completed projects and for new starts. Additionally, support to streamlining processes, such as simplifying acquisition thresholds.

USACE's A/E and Contractor new performance evaluation system is CPARS, which in lieu of a single overall A/E rating (with the old system) now rates on the basis of Quality, Schedule, Cost Control, Management, Small Business, and Regulatory Compliance.

The District reviewed status / methodology in balancing work performed in-house vs through A/E's. A/E's are doing approximately 75% of MILCON, 50% of Civil Works (typically 30-40%), and 75-80% HTRW. The District continues a focus on assuring they have strong technical capabilities in-house along with an emphasis to partner with the A/E community to deliver their program.

The next meeting for the committee has not been scheduled yet.

To see the minutes from the most recent meetings, go to our [website](#). For more information on the committee or if you would like to provide input, please contact Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org) or the Committee Chair, Terry Flanagan (tflanagan@hntb.com).

Corps of Engineers - St. Louis

The Corps of Engineers - St. Louis / ACECMO / ACECIL Liaison Committee met on January 21, 2015 at AECOM's office with five representatives from the STL District in attendance, and twelve representatives from ACEC/MO and Illinois. Discussions at the meeting included: Unionization of professional services in Illinois is an important discussion topic. It is of concern to both the St. Louis District of the Corps, and of concern to ACEC members in both Missouri and Illinois. This will be a continuing discussion topic as information becomes available.

Funding status of projects is likely to be clarified as the Corps' budget is about to be finalized. It was reported that expiring Hydrology and Hydraulics IDIQ and Levee and Dam Inspection IDIQ will not be renewed. There were solicitations issued recently for IDIQ contracts for A-E Photogrammetric Mapping and Aerial Photography services, for multiple issuances of these contracts for both small businesses and free and open competition.

The meetings of this committee have been very well attended by ACEC members and Corps representatives.

The next meeting for the committee has been scheduled for **April 23, 2015** to be hosted by the St. Louis District Corps of Engineers at Mel Price Locks and Dam.

To see the minutes from the most recent meetings, go to our [website](#). For more information on the committee or if you would like to provide input, please contact Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org) or the Committee Chair, Rick Lodewyck (RLodewyck@cdgengineers.com).

Division of Facilities Management, Design & Construction / ACECMO / AIA

The FMDC / ACECMO / AIA Liaison Committee did not meet last quarter. The next meeting for the committee has been scheduled for **March 26, 2015** at ACEC/MO's office in Jefferson City.

To see the minutes from the most recent meetings, go to our [website](#). For more information on the committee or if you would like to provide input, please contact Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org) or the Committee Chair, Bob Polk (bpolk@f-w.com).

Kansas City, Missouri

The KCMO / ACECMO Liaison Committee met on February 12, 2015 at Larkin Lamp Rynearson. They discussed the following items.

Old Business: *Street Car Utility Relocation* - Near \$24M in W&S relocations will be complete by the end of April. *Sewers/Pump Stations for growth opportunities* - \$40M invested for the future in sewers and pump stations in the 1st and 2nd Creek basins. *Street Car* - Some parking spots will be lost during construction and after construction. Proposed rental housing projects will eliminate some existing parking lots. *Airport* - Airport working group is being

done in collaboration with the airlines. A 1/22/15 presentation about needed improvements at KCI to the Council T&I committee will be broadcast on Channel 2. A recommendation to the City Council will be made by the end of August 2015. *Storm Water* - The Town Fork Creek Integrated Basin Plan has been reviewed by OCP's Program Management. Additional modeling is warranted to evaluate possible solutions raised in the Plan. A more integrated approach may revise some of the planned improvements in the OCP.

Current Legislative Issues: As a result of the state-wide transportation sales tax failing, the Highway Commission has released the 325 Plan. With future years having only \$325M available annually, the Commission has designated only ¼ (8,000) of their highway miles as areas that can be maintained. Due to lack of matching funds in FY 17, MoDOT may lose \$150-\$400M of federal funds. MoDOT has no plans to allow local entities to step in and provide the necessary match. If they do, it will require a 50% City/50 State match to come up with the State's 20% share. If MoDOT allows, St. Louis and Kansas City may need to provide the State's entire 20% match in order to get the federal funds. An initial meeting was held by ACEC and some representative stakeholders to discuss forming a standing coalition for the advancement of transportation infrastructure funding. Will meet with the Highway Commission, however many of the influential elected officials that understand the problem will soon be termed out of office. *State Revolving Fund for W/WW* - Same situation at the federal level with states having inadequate matching funds to take advantage of federal funds. Potential legislation has been introduced to grant additional powers to telecommunication companies that have facilities located on public right-of-way. If passed as proposed, communication companies would have to be reimbursed by the City if relocations were necessary to accommodate a City infrastructure project. *Design-Build* - Competing bills under consideration. One bill would make the minimum design-build project \$25M. Another lowers the threshold down to \$1M. KCMO has had good experience with D-B projects in the \$1M to \$5M range. A white paper is needed to guide communities through a reasonable D-B process. In summary, ACEC/MO needs to lobby for transportation funding, reasonable D-B rules, and no reimbursement by public entities when communication facilities on public right-of-way need to be relocated.

Department Updates:

- *Aviation* - Bond for airport improvements will have to be in a general election. Money could not be spent on anything but retiring bonds. Some increase in traffic due to the new overhaul contractor's operations. Contract from SW to install Boeing 787 interiors has brought in some jobs, but that does not produce revenue for the aviation department. RFQ/P for consultant selection on Taxiway B Rehab is underway. RFQ/P soon for Storm water Evaluations for both KCI and the Downtown airport. Will not likely include the combined sewers that are already in the OCP. New facility in the works, a De-icing Pad. Environmental control over de-icing chemical runoff is critical. When the VOR is decommissioned at the Downtown airport it will create space for more general aviation hangars.
- *Parks and Recreation* - A fact sheet was distributed describing proposed changes in Chapter 88 of the Zoning and Development Code. Working to get Parkway Ordinances part of Development Ordinances and not just a P&R coordination effort. Changes would establish design standards and give the P&R Board authority over the planning of improvements. April 14th intro at Planning Commission. Councilman Ford hopes to get Council approval by May. WSD prefers that any prohibition on utility location apply only to private utilities. RFQ/P in April for Streetscape on Briar Cliff Parkway. RFQ/P in April for Restroom upgrades and parking lot improvements at Penn Valley Park. City of Fountains is a 501(c)3 organization that is promoting the "Wish upon a Fountain" program to get private partners to adopt one or more of the 9 individual fountains and provide the resources necessary to make needed improvements. Fountain day is April 14. Other fountains with pressing restoration needs include Westside, Delbert Haff, Spirit of Freedom, Children's and Seahorse.
- *Public Works* - 20th Street D-B Improvements are being re-bid after modifications. PIAC list of projects has three new ones. Budget will be established March 26 and available May 1. PIAC renewal will be in 2017. A request has been made to the City Manager's office for advanced funding for projects in the 5-year CIP. Earning tax renewal vote will be April 2016. Possibly have vote for a major bond improvement in November 2016. Street Car construction is on schedule with expected completion in early 2016.
- *Water Services* - Internal reorganization of the staff at 18th Street after recent retirements. Will have repairs and construction; and inventory and preventative maintenance. Possible storm water ballot issue will be in Finance Committee. Public vote could be called for June 2015. Will eliminate the fee cap (\$0.50/sf) and let the Council set the fee annually. The current set fee does not generate enough to pay all maintenance at this time. Will change to allow funds to be spent on capital improvement projects, not just maintenance. Private I&I Program - Less costly for the City to remove I&I from private lateral lines than to deal with the accumulated flows in the public collection system. \$270M is dedicated to I&I reduction and some it will be redirected to Private I&I reduction if approved. CIP for FY16 is \$250M, which is comprised of \$65M in water bonds and \$185M in wastewater bonds. The five year CIP is \$1.2B. Proposed legislation focuses on water and wastewater utility bills each being no more than 2% of median household income (MHI) is deemed affordable.

Another area of concern is legislation related to the definition of Waters of the United States. The Association of Missouri Clean Water Agencies (AMCWA) is active in monitoring and participating in the legislative process.

The next meeting for the committee has been scheduled for **August 19, 2015**, to be hosted by HDR.

To see the minutes from the most recent meetings, go to our [website](#). For more information on the committee or if you would like to provide input, please contact Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org) or the Committee Chair, Clarence Munsch (cmunsch@gbateam.com).

Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District

The MSD / ACECMO Liaison Committee met on February 19, 2015 at CDI's office. The meeting was attended by 12 individuals including key MSD staff. The meeting agenda consisted of several primary topics, briefly summarized below.

- Update on Watershed Program/Consent Decree: The program is going well -- many bid packages are going out with the fiscal year rush to cover the bidding as construction is ramping up. A change is underway in Private I/I removal with changing the contributing area criteria for removal of defects from 100 sq. ft. to 300 sq. ft.; this will not have a significant effect on the removal of inflow, but will greatly reduce the number of properties involved. Seven tunneling projects continue to advance, with some changes. The Deer Creek trunk sewer will be constructed by tunneling rather than using storage tanks, which reduces the schedule by three years - the decision ensures the project will be completed in time to meet Consent Decree requirements. Time is also the driver in changing the Gravois Creek Trunk project from an upsized trunk sewer to the use of storage tanks. Communities outreach is a critical aspect of this work because of the traffic interruption, bore pits and shafts, materials storage, equipment parking, rock hammering, and blasting.
- Regional Permitting Collaborative (RPC): The Regional Permitting Collaborative (RPC) has not had a meeting of its representatives for several months but is working with individual communities to encourage them to sign on with the collaborative. Clayton and Maryland Heights both use the Accela system, which is central to the RPC's concept of one site for processing permits, but not clear whether these two cities will affiliate with the RPC.
- MSD's Permitting Program (Electronic Plan Review): MSD's Plan Review manager was unable to make a presentation at the liaison meeting because his time is committed to getting the program and organization ready for launching the new Program. MSD is aligned with the RPC and will use Accela in concert with St. Louis County, but will operate its own website, which will be linked with the County's site. Both the County and MSD will share shopping carts for fees, resulting in one payment. MSD is planning to go on-line in the spring (April 15, 2015), and will coordinate with ACEC/MO for training of the engineering community. MSD will go with electronic submittals immediately, which will include notifications of status, comments (pdf), and resubmittal requirements. Everything will be open and accessible by anyone, and inquiries will be by property; however, provisions will be made in processing to safeguard classified documents/plans.
- MSD/Consultant Training Opportunities: Three joint training events will be held in 2015. 1) First Event - April/May: Two topics, including presentation on the CMOM Dashboard, and an Update on new I/I Procedures. 2) Second Event - June/July: Training on the new Permitting Program (Accela) and Process, and may also include the new Prism Diversity software. 3) Third Event - October: Topic to be decided at a later date.
- Diversity: The Diversity Program is currently doing well in the construction arena. The minority contractor community is almost maxed out in terms of capacity. Participation by contractors has been good; only one contractor submitted a "Good Faith" report. The Board of Trustees is watching the program closely. The District's new diversity reporting software (Prism) and ASA are being used together to monitor and manage the diversity efforts. At the end of the process, MSD will be asking for all subcontracting participation (percentages).
- Rate Commission Process: The Rate Commission process began in the Fall of 2014. Three new commissioners have been appointed representing Mound City Bar Association, Lutheran Senior Services, and Education Plus, so the Commission has its required 15 members. The Commission is engaged in the process; it can now do its own cost analysis (engaged Black & Veatch), and has its own attorney (Lashly & Baer). MSD has been working internally on its rates proposal for wastewater and stormwater, and will submit to the Rate Commission on 2/26/15. A discovery request from the Commission is anticipated because this is the first time for requesting a storm water rate.
- General Discussion: MSD is paying attention to Design-Build legislation for infrastructure. Perhaps the Liaison Committee could have Design-Build as an agenda item in the future. At this time, ACEC/MO is not pursuing particular legislation but has some interests in several items that might affect the industry. MSD is looking at

BIM and its potential value to the District in Design, Construction, and Asset Management. (Potential future committee agenda item.)

The next meeting of the committee has been set for May 20, 2015 at HR Green's Office.

To see the minutes from the most recent meetings, go to our [website](#). For more information on the committee or if you would like to provide input, please contact Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org) or the Committee Chair, Dan Wilson (dan.wilson@kdjinc.com).

Missouri Department of Natural Resources

The MDNR / ACECMO Liaison Committee met on February 11, 2015 at ACEC/MO's office with 6 staff members of MDNR. The committee discussed a variety of topics, some of which are listed below. The new Drinking Water and Clean Water grant funding program has been underway for about 2 years and has received a large response from communities. Thirty three grants have been awarded totaling \$1.3 Million, with another \$1.0 Million to be awarded later this year.

Bonds were sold for SRF program funding, as EPA's funding levels are similar to last year. Tri-County Water Authority has applied for \$33 Million in SRF loans. City of Liberty received variance for a WWTP design/build project (\$70M) which has some SRF funding. New bill introduced to allow design/build for water/wastewater projects. Governor Nixon has proposed Water Pollution Control bonds in the amount of \$50 Million for rural water and sewer projects and to secure available matching Federal funds.

New Water Quality criteria for ammonia based on the presence of mussels will not be used in this triennial period, but will be included in next review period. Communities need to look at current plans to meet WQ criteria and consider making adjustments to meet future standards. EPA is still considering edits to the Waters of The US (WOTUS) language. MO Representative Miller has proposed a Waters of the State rule and is also looking into the impact ammonia limits (0.6 mg/L) will have on future WWTP upgrades. MDNR is responding to EPA letter on state not meeting proper regulations on chlorides and sulfate. Lake nutrients criteria still being worked on; monitoring only required now.

None of the recommended changes submitted by Environmental Committee to new proposed rule by the PISTIF were accepted. Their proposed language remained the same in the newly passed rules, effective March 30.

Other topics discussed were on future MDNR workshops, recent staffing changes, and proposed House and Senate bills that impact MDNR.

The next meeting for the committee has been set for June 9, 2015 at the ACEC/MO office in Jefferson City.

To see the minutes from the most recent meetings, go to our [website](#). For more information on the committee or if you would like to provide input, please contact Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org) or the Committee Chair, Chris Burns (cburns@drngineers.com).

Missouri Department of Transportation (Central District & Northeast- CD&NE)

The MoDOT (CD&NE) / ACECMO Liaison Committee did not meet this quarter. The next meeting for the committee has been set for March 25, 2015 at MoDOT's office in Jefferson City.

To see the minutes from the most recent meetings, go to our [website](#). For more information on the committee or if you would like to provide input, please contact Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org) or the Committee Chair, Tim Ross (tross@gbateam.com).

Missouri Department of Transportation (Headquarters - HQ)

The MoDOT (HQ) / ACECMO Liaison Committee met on December 5, 2014 at ACEC/MO's office.

Although everyone in attendance was disappointed with the outcome of the August election and defeat of Amendment 7 and that the near term outlook for MoDOT requiring consulting services is minimal, it is important to continue meeting regularly and maintaining a strong partnership.

Lester Woods provided several updates on workforce goals, DBE goals, and the ongoing activities in the Mentor/Protégé Program. MoDOT has submitted a revised DBE goal of 15.38% to FHWA for 2015 which is under review. The Department's direction for workforce goals is to continue creating an awareness of diversity issues and making gains. The ongoing Columbia I-70 D/B project is the first in the state to include workforce goals with the contracting community.

MoDOT is advertising and recruiting for open staff positions throughout the state in all disciplines. Overall the Department is below their hiring maximum of 5106 full time positions and is experiencing a high rate of employee turnover. Specifically to program delivery, MoDOT is below levels authorized in the Bolder 5 Year Direction.

MoDOT realizes that after the failure of Amendment 7 in August additional communication and planning needs are required and is crafting a new message and direction. The efforts are ongoing and with the potential that four of the six Commission members could change in the next two to the three months, additional changes may be needed.

The next meeting for the committee has been scheduled for **March 31, 2015** at the ACEC/MO office in Jefferson City.

To see the minutes from the most recent meetings, go to our [website](#). For more information on the committee or if you would like to provide input, please contact Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org) or the Committee Chair, Mike Herleth (mherleth@burnsmcd.com).

Missouri Department of Transportation (St. Louis - SL)

The MoDOT (SL) / ACECMO Liaison Committee did not meet this quarter but they did have a round table meeting with MoDOT Project Managers on January 22, 2015 at MoDOT's District office and discussed use of consultants, MoDOT expectations, and other issues of concern.

The next meeting for the committee has been not been scheduled but the committee will have a round table meeting with MoDOT and AGC to discuss the 2+2+2 Senate Bill on **April 3, 2015** at the MoDOT District office in Chesterfield.

To see the minutes from the most recent meetings, go to our [website](#). For more information on the committee or if you would like to provide input, please contact Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org) or the Committee Chair, Vicki LaRose (VLaRose@civildesigninc.com).

Missouri Department of Transportation (Northwest & Kansas City - NW&KC)

The MoDOT (NW&KC) / ACECMO Liaison Committee met on February 20, 2015 at MoDOT's office. The committee discussed the following items:

MoDOT Discussion Items

- Susan Barry was introduced as the KC Districts new Planning Lead.
- Commission adopted the 325 System - about 8,000 miles of road carry 75% of traffic in state.
- No new project added to STIP by KC District - some existing projects were moved back.
- District will not need for consultant services for at least 3 years.
- MoDOT can match federal funds until 2016. After that they will be about \$160M short in 2017 and \$400M in 2018.
- The hunt for additional Transportation funding has lost momentum.
- Not much will be done regarding new funding that requires a vote of the people for at least two years.
- A 2 cent per gallon increase in gas tax can be done under Hancock. If they legislators could pass a 2 cent per year increase for three years (6 cents total) that would give MoDOT enough money to match Feds. ACEC/MO members need to call legislators and support this approach.

LPA Committee Report

- LPAs seem to be able to find matching funds and continue their programs.

- 15 additional firms were added to the LPA On-call list.
- On-line recertification for the LPA certification will go live soon. Current certifications extended through April 2015.

ACEC/MO Discussion Items

- Transportation Advocacy - working with the Transportation Commission to create a full-time grass roots organization to support transportation in Missouri.
- Some interest building at the national level for an increase in the federal gas tax.

NW District Update

- Program size is \$29M - the lowest in 10 years
- Miles were added to their systems with the 325 program.
- NW has 3 bridge projects, resurfacing and a redecking project in STIP.

Other Projects

- Broadway EIS - MoDOT is not pursuing this project but would not object if local agencies wanted to take the lead.

The next meeting for the committee has been tentatively scheduled for May 22, 2015 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the MoDOT KC District office.

To see the minutes from the most recent meetings, go to our [website](#). For more information on the committee or if you would like to provide input, please contact Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org) or the Committee Chair, Steve Hileman (shileman@hwlochner.com).

Missouri Department of Transportation (Southeast - SE)

The MoDOT (SE) / ACECMO Liaison Committee met on November 21, 2014 at MoDOT's SE District office. After an introduction of MoDOT and ACEC members in attendance, Mark Shelton proceeded to give an update on MoDOT's Plan Moving Forward following the defeat of the transportation sales tax increase. The SE District has several major projects that are currently nearing design completion or are under construction. Once these are completed, they will shift to a maintenance program.

The SE district is focusing on in-house diversity as well as that with their engineering partners. They are considering expanding work force diversity to the SE district.

The district has had good results from their consultant design partners, but think that construction management services still show need for additional training.

The next meeting for the committee has not been scheduled yet.

To see the minutes from previous meetings, go to our [website](#). For more information on the committee or if you would like to provide input, please contact Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org) or the Committee Chair, Jon Luer (JLuer@abnacorp.com).

Missouri Department of Transportation (Southwest - SW)

The MoDOT (SW) / ACECMO Liaison Committee did not meet last quarter. The next meeting for the committee has been set for March 27, 2015 at TMC's office.

To see the minutes from the most recent meetings, go to our [website](#). For more information on the committee or if you would like to provide input, please contact Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org) or the Committee Chair, Steve Prange (sprange@cmtengr.com).

St. Louis County

The St. Louis County Department of Highways and Traffic & Public Works / ACECMO Liaison Committee did not meet last quarter. The next meeting for the committee has not been scheduled yet.

To see the minutes from the most recent meetings, go to our [website](#). For more information on the committee or if you would like to provide input, please contact Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org) or the Committee Chair, Dave Yates (dave.yates@ch2m.com).