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Board of Public Service - St. Louis

The Board of Public Service - St. Louis Liaison Committee met on October 5, 2015. Participants discussed organizational and personnel changes within respective organizations. Then we discussed current legislative issues and funding. The \$180 bond issue that was on the St. Louis City ballot did not pass. The City will look to break it up into pieces and put on 2016 Fall ballot. As a result, City is in preservation mode with several aging assets. BPS still has TIP project through East West Gateway, with several projects' matching funds coming from third parties. The Columbia/Southwest bridge RFQ should be coming out by the end of the calendar year. 10 of 72 bridges need replaced, however the City needs a bond issue in order to meet the local match. Lambert Airport has several upcoming projects including environmental, airside and landside on call contracts, CM for a taxiway and design of three taxiways and a runway. Participants discussed the upcoming renovations to Soldier's Memorial. The Disparity Study is anticipated to be complete in May 2016. The group decided to continue to hold meetings with Rich Bradley twice a year and in the off-quarters, meet with a Director.

The next meeting for the committee has been scheduled for **January 21, 2016** with Jerry Beckman, Airport Deputy Director.

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, Renee Ross (renee.ross@jacobs.com).

Corps of Engineers - Kansas City

The Corps of Engineers - Kansas City / ACECMO / ACECKS Liaison Committee met on September 30, 2015 at the the Richard Bolling Federal Building from 10:00AM until 1:00PM. Attending the meeting were seven Corps of Engineers personnel and 10 ACEC representatives. Tim Kurgan briefed the Civil Works, MILCON, and HTRW programs and distributed a document summarizing the status of these programs. Overall, program budgets are down following the ARRA and BRAC funding stimuli, and returning to pre-ARRA levels. The projected load for the next two or three years is steady or trending downward, although there is an expected upturn in funding for MILCON related to the NGA facility design and construction. In addition, it is expected that the HTRW program will have an increase in USEPA Region VII work, keeping funding at a relatively steady level.

The Corps is assessing its year-end Small Business Enterprise goal achievement. Not all of the goals were achieved. There may be an increased emphasis on achieving the small business goals in this FY. It is also anticipated that A/E work will remain steady, with more feasibility design projects as well as large construction projects. The Corps presented special reports on the Levee Safety Program, WRDA Implementation, and the Missouri River Recovery Program. Eric Reed, Poole Fire Protection, gave a report on the rewritten Universal Fire Code (UFC) 3-600-01 which is at the 95% draft stage and hasn't yet been approved. The next meeting will be held in January 2016 at Olsson Associates in North Kansas City.

The next meeting for the committee has been scheduled for **February 17, 2016** to be hosted by Olsson Associates.

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, Rich McCollum (richard.mccollum@hdrinc.com).

Corps of Engineers - St. Louis

The Corps of Engineers - St. Louis / ACECMO / ACECIL Liaison Committee met on August 27, 2015 at Horner & Shifrin, Inc. The committee discussed the following items:

- Water of US Changes: The new Clean Water Rule: Definition of Waters of the United States goes into effect on 8/28. Some of the changes were briefly discussed including: more effects in the southwest/arid climates; extends the USACE jurisdiction; better definition of "adjacency". There was a court decision after this meeting that has affected this process.
- Are there Design Contracts Coming Soon from the Rock Island District: No. Selections will be made soon for mapping and surveying contracts.
- Update on the NGA Facility: The project will be run out of the KC District, although some personnel will be based in St. Louis. The selection of the PM is expected in October. This will be an 8 to 10 year \$895M project. Site selection is expected next spring. HDR was selected for the IDIQ.
- Update to the Status of Unionization for Professional Services in Illinois: There has been no change from the previous meeting. There is still some controversy about this topic, but as yet it is not resolved.
- Staffing Changes: The new Deputy for Programs & Project Management is John Peukert. Mr. Peukert has an archeology background. Major Morgan Reese recently assumed the Deputy District Engineer position.
- Miscellaneous: If a Section 408 permit is needed, and if Life Safety may be affected, the permit must go to USACE-HQ for approval.

The next meeting for the committee has been scheduled for January 14, 2016 to be hosted by Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc.

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 met on October 27, 2015 at the ACEC/MO office. Items of discussion included:

- Disparity Study & Diversity Results: The recommendation of the OA (FMDC) disparity study was noted incorrectly in the previews minutes at 10%/10%/3% (M/W/SDV). The correct recommendation is 10%/5%/3%. The results for the last two (2) fiscal years are as follows: FY 2015 (8.6/12.9/6.5 - Construction) and (8.3/4.2/0.4 - Design); FY 2014 (10.4/14.9/5.5 - Construction) and (8.5/4.8/0.9 - Design). Currently there are only two (2) SDV design firms in the FMDC database.
- Contract Employee RFQ: The \$250 million capital improvement bond issue work is in full swing at an anticipated pace of approximately \$50 - 100 million per year. There are currently 267 active projects in various stages of design and construction. Despite this increase in workload, the OA/FMDC is not approved to add FTEs. Therefore they recently released an RFQ for contract employee services including 6 project managers and 3 construction administrators. These contract employees will be placed in FMDC offices.
- Use of Tobacco Settlement Money: The governor recently indicated he would be withholding \$46 million of settlement funds from the general revenue. The settlement money must be used for tobacco educational programs and not for balancing the budget.
- FMDC Agreement and Terms & Conditions for Design Services: The topic of contract provisions was discussed based on some specific concerns expressed by an ACECMO committee member. Specifically Agreement paragraph "0.5.3 Payments, Sums Withheld" and Terms & Conditions paragraph "Article 12 Ownership of Documents". To be more comprehensive in our approach, the Agreement and Terms & Conditions will be emailed to ACECMO and AIA committee members for review and identification of my other concerns. A full summary will then be prepared to forward to FMDC for their review and discussion.

- Use of Capital Improvements Bonds: The previous legislative session authorized \$250 million in additional bonds for statewide capital improvement projects. Bonds are being sold into the market and as a result to date 64 new projects have recently been awarded to design firms.
- Design-Build and CM at Risk: OA/FMDC will continue to take the position that (based on our experience with a limited number of state projects) those methods do not save money, and may only save time in the delivery schedule. FMDC continues to support QBS, Design-build has been used sparingly for only a few selected projects by FMDC. CM at risk is not permitted by the State Statutes or Regulations and has not been considered or authorized for any projects to date. For FMDC to consider CM at risk for a project the State Regulations would need to be changed.

The next meeting for the committee has been scheduled for **March 29, 2016** 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 August 19, 2016 at the offices of HDR. The committee discussed MoDOT's funding crisis and the potential for the large Missouri cities to meet the matching funds, if MoDOT is unable to meet them. This discussion was in the context of the potential for a new Highway Bill from the feds.

The new streetcar was discussed, along with the delayed delivery of the cars themselves and the impact on extending the system to the UMKC/Plaza area. As part of the construction process for the new system and the replacement of the older utilities along the route, the City lamented that the telecom utilities are not using the City-provided conduits that were added to the project at a several million dollar cost. Members from the Public Works staff said that Missouri state laws allow the telecoms to ignore the conduits so that they can "maintain their integrity" and not share space with their competitors. ACEC members were asked to review the state laws and what might be done to change them.

The new makeup of the recently elected City Council members was discussed and what impact the new members will have on infrastructure projects such as the streetcar and a new airport terminal. The city members suggested we "reach out" to the new council members and educate them on the importance of infrastructure spending.

The Broadway Bridge EIS was discussed along with the roles of the various interested parties. The study will likely be much larger than that originally envisioned by MoDOT and will include City funds.

The next meeting for the committee has been scheduled for **November 5, 2015**, to be hosted by Burns & McDonnell.

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 Goodwillie (rgoodwillie@HgCons.com).

Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District

The MSD / ACECMO Liaison Committee met on August 19, 2015 at Black & Veatch's office. Items of discussion included:

1. Accela - MSD Permitting Program
 - a. The current plan is for the program to go live in September. MSD will notify everyone when this is going to happen.
 - b. On MSD capital projects, MSD is going to require electronically generated PDF's with a secured electronic seal over the plans. Seals will be required on each individual sheet and individual PDF files will be required for each sheet.
 - c. The method of sealing plans on permit projects will not be as strict as on capital projects, since there is a more varied range of project types and engineers involved in permit projects.
2. MSD Diversity Update - Conflicting Goals, Reporting

- a. New consultant projects require 25% subconsultants. This was added to help smaller companies get added to consultant teams.
 - b. PRISM update -The MWBE percentages will now be based on the tracking of actual payments and not just the invoicing of payments.
3. MSD Rate Commission Update
- a. Wastewater - MSD submitted in February. Deliberations occurred in July. The Rate Commission made minor tweaks since then and it was presented to the Board in August. \$1.5 Billion over the next four years. A bond election will occur in 2016 for \$900 Million in bonds. MSD worked to maximize bonding while keeping a AA bond rating.
 - b. Stormwater - \$0.02 for regulatory needs District wide. \$0.10 for maintenance District wide (approximately \$0.08 for current maintenance needs and \$0.02 for some capital improvements). If the new stormwater rate is enacted, then MSD plans to use up the remaining OMCI funds within the next 4-6 years.
4. Project Manager software for construction contracts
- a. The program Prolog by Trimble was selected after evaluating several options with MSD and the construction community. Black and Veatch will provide training for MSD, contractors and consultants on using this software.
5. MSD/Consultant Training Breakfast Sessions.
- b. The next seminar will be November 5, 2015 at the Engineer's Club. The topic will be an overview of the CMOM Dashboard, presented by Jonathon Sprague.
6. MSD has been contacted by several landscape architects who would like to be able to sign and seal BMP plans for submittals to MSD. Currently MSD requires that BMP designs be signed and sealed by a professional engineer. MSD is reviewing their requirements and state law to help determine the next course of action.
7. Jim Dunajcik from GBA has been hired by MSD to fill Pam Huntoon's position.

The next meeting for the committee has been set for November 17, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. at the offices of the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District.

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 Linneman (cdlinneman@efkmoen.com).

Missouri Department of Natural Resources

The MDNR / ACECMO Liaison Committee met on October 7, 2015 at ACEC/MO's office with 6 committee members and 3 staff members from MDNR. The committee discussed a variety of topics, some of which are listed below. Some discussion dealt with the loss of staff from the technical and financial sections as well as the challenge of retaining staff, as raises have not kept up with the market. MDNR had 2,058 employees in 2001, but are currently at 1,701. New rules recently passed allow for MDNR to collect higher fees and succession planning is underway for young staff members to help keep them employed there.

SRF Loan Program affordability policy is on the website and a new sustainability policy is underway. Finance section is willing to receive SRF Loan applications anytime. The DW and CW IUPs will soon be adopted soon by the respective commissions.

MDNR is planning to undertake a new customer service approach and is using the LEAN/Sigma process to help identify ways to streamline internal processes, improve customer services and be more efficient in performing their duties. Two workshops are scheduled - November 2 for Drinking Water and November 12 for Clean Water - ACECMO has been invited to participate as one of the stakeholders (Chris Burns plans to attend as ACECMO representative).

How MDNR can handle multiple dischargers to the same waterbody was discussed. Staff is working on improving this situation based on a watershed approach to issue all permits at the same time. CW Commission is to consider new framework at October 7 meeting.

Other topics discussed were on the upcoming November MDNR workshops, nutrient trading framework and community interest, updates to certain sections of Chapter 8 design standards, and possible House and Senate bills in 2016 that impact MDNR (design-build).

The next meeting for the committee has been set for **February 11, 2016** 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 (burnscl@cdmsmith.com).

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

The MoDOT (CD&NE) / ACECMO Liaison Committee met on September 9, 2015 at ACEC/MO's office. Dave Silvester gave an update on the September 2nd MHTC meeting in St. Louis. Significant to that update was a recap of the Road to Tomorrow initiative and that there were several groups who pleaded with the Commission to reinstate the I-270 Planning Study. Next the MissouriBUYs Procurement Process was discussed but at the current time MoDOT was still determining how this would affect consultants doing business with them. Bruce Green and Tim Broyles gave an update on the I-70 Bridges project. The Central District Website for the project has the winning strategy and a project update. Dave then gave an update on the funding challenges and ideas on how the additional revenue will be spent. There are no new bridges closures for the Central District. SS4 Update is a mixed bag at the moment and MoDOT is still working with Bentley to iron out remaining issues. Visit Mo2030.com to read the Missouri Chambers Missouri 2030 outlook and challenges to economic growth in Missouri. Next meeting will be held in March in Hannibal. More information will come when details are finalized.

The next meeting for the committee has been set for **March 23, 2016** at the MoDOT (CD) 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, Chip Touzinsky (CETouzinsky@GarverUSA.com).

Missouri Department of Transportation (Headquarters - HQ)

The MoDOT (HQ) / ACECMO Liaison Committee met on August 3, 2015 at ACEC/MO's office. The following topics were discussed:

Funding: Due to an unexpected spike in revenue they will now be able to make their federal funding match in 2017. It is believed this is a one-time spike and that the funding gap will now occur in 2018. The additional money will primarily go to system preservation.

Transportation Federation: MoDOT can be supportive with data and stressed that it needed to be more than the engineers and contractors leading the federation. MoDOT recommended getting the chambers of commerce involved and making the federation sustainable long term.

Road to Tomorrow initiative: There have been good ideas, but not much in new revenue proposals. This process has also identified key legislative roadblocks that may be addressed in the next legislative session.

Diversity and DBE: MoDOT is still struggling on how to gather data on design consultants workforce diversity. The methodology they use to gather data for construction does not apply well for the consulting industry since consultants are concentrated to a couple specific areas in the state and the time it takes for an engineer to enter the workforce makes it difficult to track the impact of consultant diversity initiatives. MoDOT is still trying to work through workforce diversity requirements for consultants and whether they should be looking at project specific or firm-wide data. Lack of consultant work is also hampering data collection. The ACEC/Diversity Committee will look into gathering non-company specific data.

MoDOT's new DBE goal of 15.38% has been approved by FHWA. Currently MoDOT is only seeing 3.3% participation in the LPA program vs. a goal of 13%. There was some discussion on whether it was better to have a specific DBE goal on LPA or demonstration of a good faith effort. ACEC/MO will discuss this and make a recommendation to MoDOT.

Design Build, Multi-modal and MoDOT's System: For design build, Hwy 141 and I-44 was in procurement, the I-70 bridges in Columbia had been awarded, and the Champ Clark Bridge was going through design build risk assessment but no decision had been made. For multi-modal, a new \$1 million budget is being added for transit/port projects. Regarding the system update, MoDOT continues to see system degradation without proper funding and bridges across the system are getting weight limit restrictions as their condition deteriorates.

The next meeting for the committee has been scheduled for December 1, 2015 at MoDOT's headquarters 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, Kevin Wallace (kwallace@hntb.com).

Missouri Department of Transportation (St. Louis - SL)

The MoDOT (SL) / ACECMO Liaison Committee met on October 9, 2015 at MoDOT's office. In that meeting, we had MoDOT St. Louis leadership and major projects updates and we also discussed the STIP, workforce diversity and CADD.

STIP Updates

- MoDOT recognized an additional \$47 Million in revenue due to an increase in car sales and more gas consumption
 - \$47M will be match by the Feds turning it into about \$200M plus. Of this, the St. Louis District will receive about \$60M
 - MoDOT revenue trends continuing to rise slightly
 - Most of this money will be spent on preservation projects
- MoDOT 2016 Consultant budget is \$10 Million VS. IDOT's \$320 Million plus
- MoDOT will still in-source design projects to other district should workload demand
- Most of upcoming work for consultants will be bridge opportunities
- If other projects become available will most likely be On-Call type of assignments.
- LPA program dollar amounts are about \$100 Million
- MoDOT is looking for way to capture more Federal dollar funds in other areas of the daily operation - Maintenance mostly, Grass cutting, stripping, etc.

Projects Updates

- 141/44 Design/Build - Should be awarded at the January Commission Meeting
- Boone Bridge - This fall the new bridge opened to traffic
- Old bridge comes down sometime early 2016
- MoDOT will not generally go smaller than \$15-20 Million D/B projects. Unlike other states that go much smaller
- No new STL Dist. D/B project on radar at this time
- St. Charles County has several cost share projects upcoming

Workforce Diversity

- MoDOT is considering going back to setting goals for LPA On-Call projects
- DBE participation was 3-4%; a little better last quarter, but not meeting the 15% programmatic goal
- MoDOT is working on outlining the process for setting goals with the LPA procurement process

CADD Updates

- MoDOT has been trained internally, no dates set to train consultants

Additional Topics

- Stand Up for Safety - Yesterday was Stand Up for Safety - all day spent talking about safety
- Commission Meeting - Pushing the 2+2+2 gas tax.
- Speaker of the House - push Transportation funding. Did not commit to funding.

The next meeting for the committee has not been scheduled yet but should be in January, 2016.

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 September 18, 2015 at MoDOT's office. The committee discussed the following items:

- The Commission plans to announce the new director at the November meeting in Jefferson City.
- MoDOT has received over 200 submissions as a result of the Road to Tomorrow initiative, about 50 warranted a request for more information by MoDOT and about 15 of those were deemed worthy of a more detailed analysis. They hope to present some ideas to go further with at the December Commission meeting in Springfield.
- FY2017 Project List - Additional Funding Projects - Both districts plan to use the additional funding they have received for bridge and roadway preservation projects.
- STIP Update expected by end of the calendar year. Program should be better than was expected, maybe \$550 to \$600M program over 5-6 years.
- Cost share program could start back up in FY 18 with a few changes.
- Broadway Bridge Study - MARC lead project - RFQ is expected to come out around the end of October. The study will involve most of the downtown loop now.

The next meeting for the committee has been tentatively scheduled for January 15, 2016 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 did not meet last quarter. The next meeting for the committee has not been scheduled yet but will meet in early 2016.

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 met on August 14, 2015 at MoDOT. The commission will be able to meet the 2017 federal match of \$201 M with unexpected increase in fuel tax, new vehicle sales, and registration. Unexpected surge is bucking the 5 year projection trend, but still doesn't scratch the surface on the overall need for sustainable funding. The group is worried that this fuels additional public funding opposition and distrust perception in MoDOT's ability to manage funding. This increase does not re-instate the cost share program or address needs on the supplemental system that 2+2+2+i would've addressed.

There seems to be additional public perception issues with the many different surveys on transportation project priorities in the area. The City of Springfield, OTO, and MoDOT that all seem to identify different needs based on participation and target audience. A more collaborative approach to obtaining public input may be something to consider when facilitating these discussions. The district continues to see a lack in on-call engineering assignments and continues to hire new engineers to replace recent turn-over needs.

The next meeting for the committee has been set for **February 19, 2016** at the Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc.'s Springfield 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 met on October 14, 2015 for the first time since last fall. The committee met with ten representatives from the County to discuss various issues from the Department's new name change (to better encompass all of the infrastructure needs of the County versus just the "Highway Department") to how the County determines which projects come to consultants and which are determined to be better suited for in-house design. Additionally, it was good to hear from the new Director - Nichalos Gardner, who discussed his vision for the Department. He especially challenged the consultant community to use "out of the box" thinking to solve engineering problems plaguing the County, and to be creative in solutions in light of the funding challenges facing our State and region. When asked about the performance of consultants, it was good to hear that overall performance is good and generally saves the County time and effort versus keeping the project in house, but it was stated that as with most situations, the experience varies from consultant to consultant, and across various project managers.

When polled, the attendees from both the County and the consulting community seemed to find value in the meeting, and all appeared to be interested in a follow-up Spring meeting.

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, Jason Dohrmann (jdohrmann@hrgreen.com).