Meeting Minutes

1) MoDOT Staff Updates:
   • SE District Engineer position still vacant;
   • SW District has new PM’s Jason Evenden and Bud Sherman;
   • Mike Harms is retiring from the Bridge Division and Chris Shanks will take his place

2) COVID affect on work environment:
   • We discussed the change to work-from-home for MoDOT and our engineering firms;
   • MoDOT’s return-to-work will be gradual with continuing travel and meeting restrictions;
     those at MoDOT who can provide services remotely will continue to work from home.
     MoDOT staff will have extremely limited travel in state or out of state and will not be
     attending conferences through end of 2020;
   • MoDOT’s website has been a good source for current updates;
   • ACEC appreciates being a part of weekly Industry calls with MoDOT staff;
   • MoDOT held its first ever virtual groundbreaking for the new I-270 project.

3) MoDOT Budget Projections:
   • Early data indicates up to 30% reduction in gas tax and car sales tax revenues for next 18
     months; MoDOT and all states need Congressional help to fill this sharp decline of income
     due to the pandemic. AASHTO pushing for at least $50 billion in the next stimulus bill
     using the term Backstop Stimulus;
   • MoDOT will focus on preserving existing contract commitments but will not add new
     liability to their balance sheet;
   • Will find out more on how the Highway Commission will act on budget issues at the May 6
     Commission call. ACEC will get link information from Pam Harlan and get out to members.
     The next two months will tell the trend about the next 18 months;
   • Currently MoDOT has over $1 billion in construction contracts and $50 million in design
     contracts; Next fiscal year could be drastically reduced without Backstop funding from
     Congress.

4) ACEC Member firms noted that we have been very active in contacting our elected officials to
   advocate for the AASHTO position on stimulus for the state DOT’s

5) MoDOT’s Centralized Consultant Contract Negotiations Pilot Program –
   • MoDOT is looking for ways to help newer project managers with consultant negotiations.
     PMs have large workloads with a lot of paperwork;
• SW District will be the pilot for centralized contractor negotiations. Jim Smith, MoDOT, will be the central negotiator;
• MoDOT will track results to confirm negotiated hours were reasonable;
• ACEC noted that there is a big benefit for the consultant and the project PM to discuss scope and level-of-effort details during the negotiation. MoDOT acknowledged that they are trying to give PM’s guidance on scope and level-of-effort also with this pilot program;
• MoDOT has reviewed how other states negotiate consultant contracts. Florida DOT has a negotiation manual/process that MoDOT and consultants like. MoDOT is creating guidance on average task hours for various services. Currently MoDOT Bridge Division has good historic hours-per-task data for contract negotiations;
• ACEC members offered to help with input on a suggested guidance manual.

6) MoDOT On-Call Process –
• Master MOU Agreements will be out in May – hoping to execute all by the end of June;
• Laura Ellen received feedback on the high number of points for “past experience” which may have limited firms newer to MoDOT from winning an MOU – she will consider changing that for the next round of MOU’s;
• Laura guided each District on the number of consultants selected in each category based on past use of MOU contracts and upcoming STIP projects;
• Some consultants that submitted were disqualified because they did not address workforce diversity in their proposal.

7) Various Software Updates:
• OA is negotiating with Bentley to get MoDOT a manageable/affordable ProjectWise software license structure;
• Some PMs will pilot ProjectWise with consultants. Steve Atkinson with MoDOT IT could discuss this at a future liaison meeting. Many ACEC members have experience with Project-Wise internally or with consultant and client teams;
• MicroStation upgrade training will be available on MoDOT’s YouTube channel.

8) Many major transportation conferences have been cancelled/rescheduled from 2020.

9) Multi-modal – MoDOT received $61 million for transit and $152 million for airports in CARES Act. Agencies can use these funds for capital or operating programs.

10) Major design/build projects still on schedule.

11) ACEC asked to meet again right after the June Commission Meeting to get an update on ever changing economic landscape.