



ACEC-NH/NHDOT

Partnering Meeting

October 7, 2022

Agenda

Introductions - Bill Oldenburg, NHDOT

Presentation – Changing NHDOT’s Consultant Plan Review
Bill Oldenburg, Asst. Director of Project Development, NHDOT

General Meeting

- CQI Committee – What are we focused on – Marty Kennedy, VHB
- General Announcements & NHDOT Updates - Bill Oldenburg
 - NHDOT Organization – Who’s Where !?!?
 - Consultant Selection:
 - Salary Cap Elimination
 - Fixed Fee Negotiation
 - IIJA (BIL) Funding
- Updates on the LPA Program – CR Willeke, Municipal Highways Engineer
- Highway Sub-Committee Updates – Jim Marshall, Highway Design Admin.
- Bridge Sub-Committee Updates – Loretta Girard Doughty, Bridge Design Admin.
- Contracts Sub-Committee Updates – Darren Blood, GM2
- FHWA Update – Michelle Marshall, FHWA
- Question and Answer – Open Discussion

Presentation/Discussion

- Changing NHDOT's Consultant Plan Review
 - Bill Oldenburg, Assistant Director of Project Development

CQI Committee

ACEC-NH:

- Alex Koutroubas
- Chris Mulleavey
- Darren Blood
- Marty Kennedy
- Mike Long
- Rob Faulkner
- JoAnn Fryer

NHDOT:

- Ted Kitsis
- Jim Marshall
- Loretta Girard Doughty
- CR Willeke
- Tobey Reynolds
- Kevin Nyhan
- Bill Oldenburg

Roles and responsibilities on Consultant lead projects.

Preamble

The increased level of funding available through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act provides a rare opportunity to advance much needed infrastructure projects that can address current and future needs, spur economic growth, and enhance the lives of New Hampshire residents. The expectations for delivery are high at a time when both NHDOT and the consultant community are challenged for resources.

Purpose

To maximize the use of available resources and align responsibilities for engineering decisions in the most appropriate manner the New Hampshire Department of Transportation in partnership with ACEC firms will streamline the project design process by defining roles and responsibilities and working collaboratively.

Roles and Responsibilities

When the NHDOT retains a consultant to design a project, the professional engineer for the consultant who will be placing their Professional Engineering (PE) stamp on the plans is responsible for the design and for design decisions. Similarly, when the prime consultant retains the services of a subconsultant, the subconsultant who will be placing their PE stamp on the plans is responsible for the specific elements of their design and for related design decisions.

Major decisions such as the selection of an alternative or a design decision that could substantially increase the cost or delay the delivery of the project shall be made by the NHDOT. Otherwise, all day-to-day design decisions would be made by the professional engineer who is responsible for the design (in Responsible Charge).

Project progress meetings attended by NHDOT staff, and the consultant team will be held in advance of project submissions. All attendees are encouraged to share their thoughts and opinions openly and honestly on the various design elements. This collaborative meeting will contribute to a more efficient design and reduce the time and effort needed to review the submission.

Given that the consultant is responsible for timely delivery of the design and for making the day-to-day design decisions, technical reviews conducted by the NHDOT will focus on whether the design submitted by the consultant meets NHDOT requirements (scope, constructability, traffic control, items/pay limits). The consultant (the responsible engineer) is expected to make presentations at all project related NHDOT meetings (Front Office, Traffic Control, Estimate Review, etc.).

NHDOT staff and the consultant will make decisions/recommendations within the context of the project scope, schedule, and budget. This is not to say that scope, schedule, and budget will drive all decisions, but to efficiently advance projects, the scope, schedule, and budget need to be primary considerations.

We = NHDOT and Consultants

- We are in this together.
- We need to approach this as a partnership.
- We need to solve this together.

Preamble

The increased level of funding available through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act provides a rare opportunity to advance much needed infrastructure projects that can address current and future needs, spur economic growth, and enhance the lives of New Hampshire residents. The expectations for delivery are high at a time when both NHDOT and the consultant community are challenged for resources.

- IIJA (BIL) has increased NH's Federal allocation of funds.
- We need to deliver projects.
- We are challenged with the lack of resources.

Purpose

To maximize the use of available resources and align responsibilities for engineering decisions in the most appropriate manner the New Hampshire Department of Transportation in partnership with ACEC firms will streamline the project design process by defining roles and responsibilities and working collaboratively.

- We need to be more efficient.
- We need to define roles and responsibilities.
- We need to work on these changes together.

Roles and Responsibilities

When the NHDOT retains a consultant to design a project, the professional engineer for the consultant who will be placing their Professional Engineering (PE) stamp on the plans is responsible for the design and for design decisions. Similarly, when the prime consultant retains the services of a subconsultant, the subconsultant who will be placing their PE stamp on the plans is responsible for the specific elements of their design and for related design decisions.

- The Consultant firm is responsible for their designs.
- The Engineer stamping the plans is responsible for the work.

Major decisions such as the selection of an alternative or a design decision that could substantially increase the cost or delay the delivery of the project shall be made by the NHDOT. Otherwise, all day-to-day design decisions would be made by the professional engineer who is responsible for the design (in Responsible Charge).

- NHDOT will make major decisions:
 - Alternative Selection,
 - Major scope changes,
 - Substantial cost increases,
 - Changes that will delay the delivery.
- Consultant will be responsible for day-to-day decision making.

Project progress meetings attended by NHDOT staff, and the consultant team will be held in advance of project submissions. All attendees are encouraged to share their thoughts and opinions openly and honestly on the various design elements. This collaborative meeting will contribute to a more efficient design and reduce the time and effort needed to review the submission.

- Progress meetings, over-the-shoulder meetings, etc. will be a more collaborative decision making reviews.
- NHDOT staff will be empowered to give direction.
- Shortened decision making turnaround time.

Given that the consultant is responsible for timely delivery of the design and for making the day-to-day design decisions, technical reviews conducted by the NHDOT will focus on whether the design submitted by the consultant meets NHDOT requirements (scope, constructability, traffic control, items/pay limits). The consultant (the responsible engineer) is expected to make presentations at all project related NHDOT meetings (Front Office, Traffic Control, Estimate Review, etc.).

Where the NHDOT review will be focused:

- Does the solution(s) offered align with our expectations as defined in the scope of work.
- Was the design work completed and was it checked, by the firm – NHDOT should not be doing QC on design work
- Can the project be constructed.
- Does the solution meet traffic control expectations.
- Are the items, quantities and specs accounted for, is there a clear path to payment.

Given that the consultant is responsible for timely delivery of the design and for making the day-to-day design decisions, technical reviews conducted by the NHDOT will focus on whether the design submitted by the consultant meets NHDOT requirements (scope, constructability, traffic control, items/pay limits). The consultant (the responsible engineer) is expected to make presentations at all project related NHDOT meetings (Front Office, Traffic Control, Estimate Review, etc.).

- It's the Consultant's design, the Consultant will be responsible to attend, present and facilitate NHDOT meetings:
 - Front Office meetings
 - Traffic Control Committee presentations,
 - Estimate Review Committee presentations,
 - Design Progress Meetings
- NHDOT staff will assist with setting expectations and content.

NHDOT staff and the consultant will make decisions/recommendations within the context of the project scope, schedule, and budget. This is not to say that scope, schedule, and budget will drive all decisions, but to efficiently advance projects, the scope, schedule, and budget need to be primary considerations.

- Decision making needs to circle back to:
 - Scope
 - Schedule
 - Budget

When will this change occur?

- On future standalone agreements
 - Due to change in scope and fee approach.
- On-Call task assignments
 - Could start with any new assignment.
- Existing projects could institute this with the PM and consultant agreeing.

How will this be implemented?

- We will empower NHDOT staff to provide appropriate direction.
- Consultants need to bring options to the table. Not rely on us to tell you what to do.

CQI Committee Involvement

ACEC-NH:

- Alex Koutroubas
- Chris Mulleavey
- Darren Blood
- Marty Kennedy
- Mike Long
- Rob Faulkner
- JoAnn Fryer

NHDOT:

- Ted Kitsis
- Jim Marshall
- Loretta Girard Doughty
- CR Willeke
- Tobey Reynolds
- Kevin Nyhan
- Bill Oldenburg

General Announcements & Updates

- Project Management:
 - Tobey Reynolds (Chief)
 - Wendy Johnson
 - Jason Ayotte
 - Matt Lampron
 - Tim Dunn
 - PM Position (Vacant)
 - IIJA PM Position (Vacant)

General Announcements & Updates

- Bridge Design:
 - Loretta Girard Doughty
 - Jennifer Reczek
 - Dave Scott
 - Nick Goulas
 - Jason Tremblay – New IIJA PM
 - John Stockton
 - Ron Kleiner

General Announcements & Updates

- Highway Design:
 - Jim Marshall
 - Mike Mozer – **NEVI & Broadband SME**
 - Maggie Baldwin
 - Ron Grandmaison
 - Kirk Mudgett
 - Lysa Bennet-Crouch
 - Kendra Anthony, Terry Place
 - **Highway Safety Engineer (vacant)**

General Announcements & Updates

- Construction:
 - Ted Kitsis
 - Dean Wilson
 - Nickie Hunter
 - Paul Metcalf
 - Jim Bowles
 - Tim Chapman
 - Chuck Flanders

General Announcements & Updates

- Environment:
 - Kevin Nyhan
 - **Jon Evans**
- Right-of-Way
 - Steve LaBonte
 - Adam Smith
 - Jason Pohopek
- Traffic
 - Bill Lambert
 - Lee Baronas
 - **Julie Matthews**
- Turnpikes
 - John Corcoran
 - **Sam Newsom**
 - **Tony Weatherbee**

NHDOT Updates - Bill

- Planning
 - Bill Watson
 - CR Willeke
 - Tom Jameson
 - Kevin Russell
 - Bob Hudson
 - Tony Puntin
 - IIJA PM (vacant)
- Aeronautics
 - Tricia Lambert
 - Carol Niewola
 - Jason Leavitt

NHDOT Updates - Bill

- Director Patrick Herlihy retired
 - Shelley Winters new Director Aeronautics, Rail and Transit
- PIO Eileen Meaney left
 - Richard Arcand new Public Information Officer

Consultant Selection

- Salary Cap Eliminated
- Fixed Fee Negotiated
- IIJA (BIL) Funds

CQI Sub-Committees

- LPA Updates
- Bridge Sub-Committee – Loretta
[NHDOT/ACEC-NH Bridge Subcommittee](#)
- Highway Sub-Committee – Jim
[NHDOT/ACEC-NH Highway Design Subcommittee](#)
- Contracts Sub-Committee - Darren
- Tech. Conference Planning - Bill

Questions and Open Discussion

Upcoming Events (Tentative)

- Winter Technical Exchange - Jan 13, 2023
- Partnering Meeting - March 17, 2023
- Tech Exchange Conference - April 20, 2023