# **ACEC IL District 8 Liaison Committee Meeting**

DATE - November 13, 2018

TIME - 8:30 AM

**LOCATION - District 8** 

Breakroom

Meeting called by: Steve Donahue Type of meeting: ACEC Liaison Committee Meeting

**Chairperson:** Steve Donahue **Note taker:** Brad Riechmann

**Attendees:** See attached Sign-in Sheet

**Minutes** 

Agenda item: Welcome and Introduction Presenter: Steve Donahue

## Discussion:

Steve welcomed all attendees to the second District 8 Committee meeting. A brief overview of the planned meeting events was provided. Today's technical session is to be presented by SCI Engineering on "War Games – Evaluating Risk. What are the geologic risks present on a large, active slope failure and how does understanding those hazards aid in risk assessment and mitigation programming?" Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 2019.

Action items Person responsible Deadline

Call to all member firms to submit future technical sessions.

All At-Large Members

Agenda item: ACEC Executive Committee Report Presenter: Dave Bender

# Discussion:

Provided an update on a sustainable funding source for infrastructure. There is a slight possibility something might get done in the veto session, which started today. Most likely movement is expected early in the new term. It was noted 30 new members of the General Assembly were voted in. ACEC is looking to catch the new members up to speed on the need for a sustainable revenue source for transportation infrastructure. The Transportation for Illinois Coalition (TFIC) only lost one member. TFIC was explained as a bi-partisan group of legislators who have completed an 11 month crash course on Transportation. Some details of the TFIC plan for funding was revealed. The funding plan matched the 10 year Transportation Asset Management Program (TAMP) IDOT developed. Reaching IDOT's goals will be \$33 billion tied to the construction price index. Plan currently includes a gas tax of approximately 15 cents, increased vehicle registration fees, and 0.5% transportation tax on goods ordered online (not including groceries or medications). There also could be a workforce development component to the bill. The Speaker of the House has been briefed on the minimum goal of the \$33 billion over 10 years. ACEC is hopeful it will pass in the first 90 days of the new session. Dave also mentioned a capital bill could be following shortly after the infrastructure funding for vertical buildings.

Action items Person responsible Deadline

Agenda item: IDOT District 8 Report Presenter: Jeff Keirn

## Discussion:

Changes in IDOT District 8 and 9 leadership were announced. Tiffany Brase was announced as the IDOT District 8 Studies and Plans Engineer, Jim Mollet, Local Roads Engineer, and John Scheibal, Construction Engineer, plan to retire later this year. Charles Stein was announced as the new Studies and Plans Engineer for District 9. Jeff reported both IDOT Districts 8 and 9 are struggling to retain engineers. IDOT District 8 is looking to hire Highway Maintainers for the first time in a long time. IDOT has approximately 5,200 employees with the hopes to increase their numbers with more hires. With the recent number of retirees, IDOT has been doing its best to maintain the number of employees. Jeff noted 35-year employees are a thing of the past due to pensions. You may see some people leave IDOT then come back. IDOT Land Acquisition prepared plats for over 400 parcels in District 8 this year. This number of plats hasn't been prepared since the New Mississippi River Bridge days. Most of the parcels were generated by ADA projects. Nine Phase I projects were noted as active with more possible in the future. New stakeholders, elected officials, and the possibility of a new Secretary of Transportation may shape future projects. Design Build was discussed. Jeff believes it to be a tool in the tool box but not appropriate for all projects. IDOT would need to be selective. Design Build would allow for more flexibility in design. The P3 office in Springfield looked at utilizing a public private partnership on I-270, but the traffic didn't justify it.

Action items		Person responsible	Deadline
Agenda item:	Questions – Jeff Keirn	Presenter:	Tim Padgett, Mark Harms

## Discussion:

Tim Padgett asked what the advantages of Design Build is for IDOT. Jeff stated IDOT would tap in to Contractor innovations, would provide for a faster overall project, and would force answers, but would also require IDOT to rethink how they do their Phase I clearances. Steve Donahue suggested IDOT limit the number of shortlisted firms to a reasonable number like three. A follow up question was asked whether Jeff knew how the Illinois contractors felt about Design Build. Jeff stated some like it and others don't. Most of the big construction firms like Design Build and the small ones typically do not. Downstate contractors for the most part are resistant to Design Build.

Mark Harms asked if IDOT Central Office is preparing for a large sustainable funding package. An increase of agreements and other documents would be expected with an increased program. Jeff mentioned turnaround times for contracts has been improving greatly over the last few years. He recognized the decrease in turnaround time could be partly due to the lower number of jobs awarded. Jeff also mentioned IDOT has hired additional staff, which has helped improve turnaround time on contracts and put the Agreements group in a position for future success. Dave Bender also commented IDOT Central Office has supported TFIC's sustainable funding plan.

Action items Person responsible Deadline

Agenda	item:	Technical Session		Presenter:	Tom Casey
Discuss	sion:				
		nes – Evaluating Risk. What are the ding those hazards aid in risk asse			e slope failure and how does
	Presenta	tion was postponed to the next r	meeting due to technica	l difficulties.	
Action i	tems		Person resp	onsible	Deadline

Other Information

# IDOT District 8 / ACEC-IL Committee Meeting - Consultant Attendees

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		John	Todd	Brooke	Jennifer	Joshua	Allen	William	Scott	Rod	Brad	Bret	Brian	Eric	Steve	Bradley	David	Luke	Kelly	Jerilyn	Mark	Stacie	r Steve	Jason	John	Jeff	Thomas	Sasha	Geri	Dave	Eric	FIISI NOINE
		Zeman	Welz	Wallace	Trapani	Stein	Smith	Sleeman	Sanford	Sachtleben	Riechmann	Paden	Mueller	Lagemann	Keil	Hummert	Holloway	Heuerman	Hayes	Hassard	Harms	Dovalovsky	Donahue	Dohrmann	Clark	Church	Casey	Cadigan	Boyer	Bender	Barnes	Lost Name
IDOT ATTENDEES PLEASE USE NEXT PAGE		Farnsworth Group	Quigg Engineering, Inc.	ACEC-IL	Prairie Engineers, P.C.	Thouvenot, Wade & Moerchen, Inc.	TranSystems Corporation	Benton & Associates, Inc.	WHKS & Co.	George Butler Associates, Inc.	Horner & Shifrin, Inc.	Woolpert, Inc.	Lochmueller Group	Fuhrmann Engineering, Inc.	Oates Associates, Inc.	HMG Group	Volkert, Inc.	Geotechnology, Inc.	Gonzalez Companies, LLC	Modjeski and Masters, Inc.	SCI Engineering, Inc.	Clark Dietz, Inc.	Horner & Shifrin, Inc.	HR Green, Inc.	Peralte-Clark, LLC	EFK - Moen, LLC	SCI Engineering, Inc.	ACEC-IL	Kaskaskia Engineering Group, LLC	ACEC-IL	Klingner & Associates, P.C.	
		jzeman@F-W.com	twelz@quiggengineering.com	brooke@acecil.org	jtrapani@prairieengineers.com	jstein@twm-inc.com	fasmith@transystems.com	wsleeman@bentonassociates.com	ssanford@whks.com	rasachtleben@gbateam.com	beriechmann@hornershifrin.com	bret.paden@woolpert.com	bmueller@lochgroup.com	elagemann@fuhrmann-eng.com	steve.keil@oatesassociates.com	bhummert@hmgengineers.com	david.holloway@volkert.com	lheuerman@geotechnology.com	khayes@gonzalezcos.com	JMHassard@modjeski.com	mharms@sciengineering.com	stacie.dovalovsky@clarkdietz.com	srdonahue@hornershifrin.com	jdohrmann@hrgreen.com	john.clark@peralte-clark.com	Jchurch@efkmoen.com	tcasey@sciengineering.com	sasha@acecil.org	geb@kaskaskiaeng.com	dave@acecil.org	ebb@klingner.com	E-Mail Address
		(217) 352-7408	(217) 670-0563	(217) 725-4595	(217) 532-9233	(618) 624-4488	(314) 456-2038	(217) 245-4146	(217) 483-9457	(636) 385-5652	(618) 622-6827	(618) 632-7004	(618) 667-1400	(618) 855-8000	(618) 345-2200	(618) 526-9611	(618) 345-8918	(618) 345-4811	(618) 222-2221	(618) 659-9102	(618) 624-6969	(312) 648-9900	(618) 622-6825		(847) 485-8069	(618) 607-0510	(618) 206-3045	(217) 529-7430	(618) 233-5877	(217) 529-7430	(217) 223-3670	Phone Number

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