

structures/geotechnical Subcommittee

2019 Annual Meeting Report

# Objective

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| Subcommitee Members**WSDOT Members****Mark Gaines, Bridge Office****Tony Allen, Geotechnical Division****Nick Rodda, Bridge Office****Mike Rosa, Bridge Office****Jeri Bernstein, Washington State Ferries****ACEC Members****Matt Lengyel, Figg Bridge Engineers****Lee Andrews, HDR****Paul Guenther, COWI North America** **Erick Herzstein, Parsons****Daniel Campbell, Geoengineers** |
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## The Structures/Geotechnical Subcommittee provides a forum for:

## Addressing the issues of common interest in or related to project design and delivery within the disciplines of bridge structural and geotechnical engineering for transportation projects.

## Strengthening the coordination and collaboration between WSF, WSDOT Bridge and Structures, WSDOT Geotechnical and the consulting community.

## Providing suggested revisions and peer review to the WSDOT Bridge Design Manual, WSDOT Geotechnical Design Manual, WSF Terminal Design Standards Manual, and other WSDOT design and construction standards.

## Proposing revisions to WSDOT related bridge, structural and geotechnical aspects for all delivery methods.

## Providing design review and design feedback for submitted projects during all phases of design.

## Progress Report

**Design-Build**

A major item of work over the past year has been a review of WSDOT’s design-build guidance and documentation related to geotechnical and bridge/structures design and construction. Specifically, the Team reviewed the Risk Management and Construction sections of the WSDOT Design-Build Manual and Sections 2.6 Geotechnical and 2.13 Bridge and Structures sections of the Request for Proposal. The review focused on revisions to these documents such that WSDOT achieves the necessary geotechnical and structural durability. Comments developed during this review were forwarded to the AGC/ACEC/WSDOT Design-Build Team.

**Bridge Design Reviews**

Over the course of the year, the Team provided a design review on a couple projects. This included a review of the SR241 Mabton bridge replacement project where the Bridge and Structures Office provided an overview of the project and asked the Team for feedback. The Team provided some valuable suggestions, including the recommendation to use a gantry crane for construction to minimize environmental impacts. The Structures/Geotechnical Team provides a design review service for any bridge projects constructed in Washington State. More information is available at the following link: <https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/publications/fulltext/Bridge/ACEC/ACEC-DesignReviewServices.pdf>

**WSDOT Consultant Pre-Qualification**

The Team discussed changes to the consultant pre-qualification program and the impacts they will have on how the Bridge Office solicits consultant work in the future. Over the past few months, WSDOT has substantively revised its prequalification Master Pricing Agreement and looks forward to working with ACEC members to monitor, assess and improve elements of the prequalification process. The Bridge and Structures Office is still in the transition process at this time. It is anticipated that this will be an ongoing discussion item over the next year as this transition moves forward.

# what’s next for the structures/geotech team?

This spring, Jeri Bernstein asked to step down as co-chair of the ACEC WSDOT Structures/Geotechnical Subcommittee. We really appreciate Jeri’s years of service in this role and her contribution to the success of this Team. Mark Gaines, WSDOT’s State Bridge Engineer will be taking over as co-chair of this Team. The Team will be taking a break over the summer, but will resume regular meetings starting in the fall. Areas of focus for future meetings will include:

## Review and comments on changes to WSDOT’s Bridge Design Manual and Geotechnical Design Manual.

## Review and provide feedback on changes to WSDOT’s Standard Specifications, Special Provisions and Construction Manual.

## Evaluation of incorporation of new materials and technologies into bridge design and construction projects.

## Determine how to address the need for increased consultant support on WSDOT’s structures and geotechnical design (including a discussion of staff augmentation and General Engineering Consultant models).

## Continue to promote the availability of the Team to perform design reviews of any Washington State bridge project.

# have a say

**WSDOT/ACEC subcomittees are a resource for you**. If you have questions, issues, or recommendations that this forum can address, let us know! We are always on the lookout for new perspectives, and welcome nominations for new members or issue-specific voices. Please contact us to let us know how we can help to strenghthen our partnerships. Information on the ACEC WSDOT Structures/Geotech Subcommittee is available on our web page:

<https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/bridge/structures/acec-structures-geotechnical-sub-committee>

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