

# AGENDA

## WSDOT/ACEC PD Team Meeting

August 15, 2024

9:00am – 10:30am

### Attendees:

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rafael Reyes/WSDOT      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dan Lewis/WSDOT NCR     | <input type="checkbox"/> Manuel Feliberti/DEA                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mike Fleming/WSDOT                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Mason/WSDOT SWR    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Olling/Parametrix                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kenneth Loen/WSDOT HQ              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Larson/WSDOT ER   | <input type="checkbox"/> Suryata Halim/RHC Engineering                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Damitio/WSDOT NWR | <input type="checkbox"/> Ben Hoppe/JUB Engineers            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather Weeks/Jacobs                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joseph Perez/WSDOT OR   | <input type="checkbox"/> Daniel Babuca/WSP                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Saugen/Perteet                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Randy Giles/WSDOT SCR   | <input type="checkbox"/> Don Sims/HNTB                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stacy Davis/Cobb, Fendley & Associates |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cesar Mayor/WSDOT WSF              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Adams/Skillings |  |

### 1 *Welcome and Team Member Replacement Discussion*

Ken and Stacy are new to the committee, but Ken is on vacation. Introductions were made all around and WELCOME Stacy.

Jennifer Saugen will take over as ACEC co-chair of this committee starting at the next meeting. Steve will work with her on the transition over the next month.

There is a potential replacement for Ben, but he also works at WSP. However, he does represent Eastern Washington interest as he works out of Wenatchee. Steve asked, if we are not able to find another Eastern Washington representative to replace Ben, can we allow two WSP members on the team? The consensus was yes. **Jennifer is also going to see if she can find another ACEC representative from the east side of the state.**

Steve still plans on leaving the committee this year and has found a replacement from Parametrix.

### 2 *Design Parameters Tool Update*

Jim Mahugh and Daniele Dunjic were not available to attend this meeting. Rafael provided an update on this new tool. Daniele is working with a few other disciplines at WSDOT (mainly ITS and Signals) to get their input. This effort is nearly complete. This will go live after the design manual update is complete in September, so the tool is in sync with the most recent changes.

### 3 *Staff Updates*

- HQ Development Division
  - Chad Hancock's old position will be published soon.
  - Nothing else of significance to report. Mostly stable.
- WSDOT Regions & Consultants

- OR – Aberdeen PEO office change will be led by Bonnie Kramer from the Olympia PEO, then that position will be backfilled soon. Otherwise, the Region remains stable.
- NWR – The Region remains stable.
- NCR – New PEO office is being set up to manage consultant projects, led by Sterling Knipfer. Otherwise, the Region remains stable.
- SCR – The Region remains stable.
- SWR – Mike Briggs is now the Construction Manager for the Region, looking to fill his old position. Otherwise, the Region remains stable.
- ACEC group – Most are still looking for key positions to fill, but nothing substantial.

#### 4 *Active Focus Areas*

- Plan For Approval process improvement update – Rafael provided an update. There is a lot of interest, statewide, to make improvements to this process. A WSDOT team is still being set up to work on this. Rafael and Joseph are two that are on that team and are still looking for a few other Region representatives. There was some discussion on whether to include an ACEC member on this team up front. Heather reminded us that at our last meeting it was discussed that the team would start off with only WSDOT people and that ACEC members could review the outcomes. However, Rafael mentioned that this was discussed at the recent Project Development Engineers Conference, and it was decided to have one or two ACEC members on the team now, especially with someone that has Developer project experience. **Heather mentioned that she could provide some potential candidates from Jacobs. Other ACEC members should do the same and send those names to Rafael.** Rafael mentioned that the WSDOT Talant Development office will help facilitate this improvement opportunity. The goal is to have this process complete by Spring 2025, in time for the next Design Manual update.

#### 5 *Other Focus Area ideas to discuss*

- Brainstorm new improvements – Below are some potential items and potentially further discussion at the next meeting.
  - Noise modeling – noise analysis-DB perspective and risk in noise walls / roadway alignment changes. The initial analysis can sometimes be years old and only based on conceptual design. If alignments change (roadway or noise walls) is a new analysis necessary? The RFP for a DB project usually specifies that the analysis needs to be revised if a noise wall moves more than 10 feet horizontally and/or 2 feet vertically. If so, this means new field data may be necessary. There was further discussion on this, and it is most likely a project specific thing. However, there could be better definition of post NEPA project changes that may affect these types of issues. There will be no further action on this by this committee other than keeping an eye on this.
  - Clear Zone Inventory – What is the purpose of it? Where does it go? Who needs this? Is it truly necessary? The plans show the locations of every object, so why is that not sufficient instead of a tabulated inventory. This inventory is part of the PDA and is meant to address existing issues and if existing objects remain, how are they being mitigated as part of the project. There was continued discussion on this, and the reasons may not be clear enough in the design manual. It was decided that a closer look at the design manual on “why” this is necessary is in order. **Steve, along with a few others, will take a read of the design manual**

**and provide insight at the next meeting on whether the design manual needs some more qualifying language.** This discussion also broadened into the overall DDP update at the end of a project. In most DBB projects, there is little change, but for DB projects, changes can be substantial. This may also not be as well defined in the design manual as it could be, but it is also a project-by-project case. Post construction activities may need to be made clearer in DB project specifications. **Heather will bring some other examples of potential solutions at the next meeting for all types of DDP documentation changes that occur on a DB project. These solutions need to be based on language improvements already in place in either the DB manual or in DB RFP Chapters.** This may help the committee dive into any potential design manual or DB manual changes necessary to address project design changes. For DBB, it is clear on what is necessary, and changes are mostly minimal and are handled through the record drawing process.

- Rafael mentioned that Design Documentation training is available and is open to consultants. Ask your WSDOT PE when these training courses are available, and they will help you get engaged. This may take care of a lot that was discussed today.

## 6 *Next meeting*

The next meeting will be September 26, 9am-11am. Potential agenda items are:

- Welcome new committee members
- PFA improvement update
- Potential new focus areas follow up
  - Revisit the clear zone inventory item to discuss potential changes to the design manual language.
  - Further discussion on overall DDP changes and process on DB projects. Do we need to revisit what this committee did a few years ago?

# Action Items

In **bold** text within the notes