

MINUTES  
ACEC/KDOT PARTNERING COMMITTEE  
AUGUST 2, 2017  
OVERLAND PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Present were Ron Seitz, Joe Drimmel, David Jacobson, Steve Bass, Mark Hoppe, David Nagy, Catherine Patrick, Mike Stringer, Mike Moriarty, Sue Eiseman, John Riggins, Brent Terstriep, Rusty Simerl, Rick Backlund, Adam Stodola, Cameron McGown, Scott King, and Scott Heidner.

**It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2017 partnering committee meeting. Motion carried.**

Patrick gave an update on KDOT funding. Since the last meeting of this group, the Legislature officially approved up to \$400 million in bonding for the next two fiscal years. The focus of those funds will be preservation. KDOT will do local consult meetings this fall.

Stringer gave a report on the Bureau of Local Projects. They are making some changes to the federal fund exchange program. There is a new push to adhere to project schedules more effectively. Counties are in the process of hiring consultants for the high risk rural road program. The city connecting link improvement program has prioritizations completed, a tentative program has been outlined, and they are just waiting for funding certainty before putting the program forward. Emergency relief projects are underway for various different events. The call for projects for off system bridges closed on July 28, with 81 projects submitted. Announcement of approved projects is planned for the end of September.

Backlund gave an FHWA update. He offered congratulations to KDOT, which received two awards at the MAASHTO conference. Brandy Hendrickson has been the Deputy Administrator, and is now serving as Acting Administrator. The administration is focusing on streamlining regulation. There are large changes in agencies such as EPA and the Department of Interior. The old Fast Lane Grants have been renamed Infra Grants. The criteria has changed to include safety and other items. The Trump Administration continues to pursue a sizable infrastructure plan. They are developing an asset management plan as part of the FAST ACT. They are hoping for a November/December time frame for completion. They are participating in a freight advisory committee.

Nagy gave a contracts update. They will short list to twelve for on-call surveying contracts, with plans to select eight. The aviation pavement condition survey contract was just finalized. They are trying to get the prequalification form more automated, including a look at what AASHTO has. The PE budget is due next week. A plan for overhead rates and audits was put together for the fiscal folks, and will later be taken to the contracts committee.

King gave an update from the Bureau of Road Design. They are reviewing 1R projects. The scanning project was awarded to Drexel and is underway. Best guess on completion date is about one year. There may be a select group of bridge projects coming out. They are working

with several consultants on 3D training. An efficiency team has been in place for a while reviewing plans to see where the CAD system can be used to simplify work. Kelly Keele has left for FHWA in Colorado. One Lawrence squad has been moved to Topeka. Four new engineers have been hired since the last partnering meeting.

Hoppe gave an update from Bureau of Structures & Geotechnical Services. They have hired three engineers and two geologists, leaving them 25% down since the start of T-Works. Several staffers have left for other jobs. The SHV RFP for low grade concrete structures is proceeding. The inspection of ancillary structures is on hold for now and the sign truss inspection project has been shortlisted.

Heidner gave a legislative update. He discussed the possible impact on funding of the pending school finance lawsuit, the upcoming change in Governor, and prospective procurement changes.

Jacobson gave a KTA update. The 2018 fiscal year project cost estimates have been approved at approximately \$75 million. They anticipate about 15 construction projects. Bridge raising projects have successfully completed their first round, and the second round starts next week. They are at phase four of seven at the South Topeka Plaza. They are working on video enforcement for tolling. 68% of violations are from out of state, which means revenue is harder to collect. In May they became interoperable with the Central States Hub. This took the number of tags that can be read from over two million to over thirteen million.

Drimmel gave an update on ACEC/KDOT Partnering Conference planning. Most of the sessions have already been determined and they are in good shape.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.