



Meeting Title:	ACEC SA Transportation Committee TxDOT Quarterly Meeting
Date and Time:	November 14, 2022 4:00 PM-5:00 PM
Attendees:	TxDOT – Lea Jacobson, Lizette Colbert, Diana Rogerio, Charles Benavidez, Gina Gallegos ACEC SA – Naomi Miller, Art Reinhardt, Erin Gonzales
Location:	Virtual (MS Teams)

Agenda Items

1. Introductions

Lea Jacobson, Lizette Colbert, Diana Rogerio, Charles Benavidez, and Gina Gallegos attended from TxDOT and Naomi Miller, Art Reinhardt, and Erin Gonzales from ACEC SA.

2. Ongoing Items

▪ Bluebeam White Paper Update

TxDOT SAT currently uses Bluebeam for all reviews. Diana mentioned that TxDOT is developing statewide guidelines so SAT will not be issuing the previously discussed “whitepaper”. [Diana will check the status of the statewide guidelines.](#) Current plan review standards are available on the TxDOT SAT Standards and Forms website.

▪ Upcoming Procurements/PCL Additions

Lizette suggested working through PEPS to discuss potential future PCL additions.

3. New Items

▪ Workshop – partnering session to discuss common issues

We discussed the idea of a half-day workshop to present common issues and challenges. TxDOT SAT is open to the idea but would like to discuss further once ACEC identifies potential topics. Utilities and common change orders were floated as ideas. [ACEC to provide additional topics.](#)

▪ Invoicing – challenges with adding interim submittals to the Table of Deliverables

PS&E contracts generally have a deliverable due each month so this shouldn’t be a challenge. If there is a change to schedule, coordinate with Lizette to prepare a supplemental agreement to update the schedule/contract. For CEI projects, Lea stated that Primes should always bill monthly and to not skip a month if the Sub invoice is lacking – TxDOT SAT needs a monthly invoice to help get an idea of consultant burn rates and justify future budgets.

▪ Utility Coordination – challenges with having utilities be responsive to consultants vs TxDOT, also projects not funding don’t have same priority

TxDOT SAT will be re-starting their quarterly utility company meetings in January 2023. Also, Diana and Lizette suggested a few strategies to help: use TxDOT branding (not consultant logo) on utility correspondence to get more focus from the utility companies, stress that TxDOT SAT always looks to accelerate projects so funded/unfunded projects should be treated the same, use in-person meetings to get more response from utility companies, identify if there is a specific challenge/barrier delaying coordination or relocation and work in partnership with TxDOT to remove the barrier, understand TxDOT SAT’s utility coordination standards on identification and



relocation early in the design process and don't be caught off-guard. Also noted was that some consultants serve both TxDOT and utility companies which can create a potential conflict if utility companies need to be pushed to accelerate.

- Innovations – Anything TxDOT is looking into or would like us to research/train?
No potential innovations were noted.
- ACEC SA Young Members Event – early 2023
Naomi will coordinate with Lea on a potential event with the TxDOT SAT Engineering Assistant Group (0-6 years of experience).
- Org Chart – updates
TxDOT SAT will provide and updated org chart. Noted changes were Dale Picha is now Director of Transportation Operations (there are now four Directors: Transportation Operations, Maintenance, TP&D, Construction) and Andres Gonzales is new Kerrville Area Engineer.

4. Miscellaneous

- Lizette discussed the focus on safety, especially with the new TxDOT administration. The goal is zero fatalities by 2050 and the numbers are currently trending upwards. Developing safety-focused PS&Es is TxDOT's first line of defense (i.e. considerations for barrier, work zones, taper lengths etc.). The TxDOT SAT Plan Review Checklist lists several items to check, also the Traffic section is working on a "systemic safety items" list. TxDOT SAT preference is for 2-ft offset to CTB in work zones and deflection for CTB.
- TxDOT SAT accelerated \$600M of a \$1B budget – half the budget of the other 24 Districts.

5. Action Items

- Next Meeting – February or March 2023 for the next meeting.
- Diana will check the status of the statewide guidelines
- ACEC to provide additional topics for potential workshop.
- Naomi will coordinate with Lea on a potential event with the TxDOT SAT Engineering Assistant Group (0-6 years of experience).
- TxDOT SAT will provide and updated org chart.