DESIGN: Project Development Network for the 30/60/90 design process

The IPD team introduced the concept of the 30/60/90 design process at the March 2019 Pre-Construction Conference. This relates to the establishment of three major milestones (30%, 60%, 90%) to reduce the number of review submittals and streamline the project development process. The team is now developing a streamlined workflow called the Project Development Network. This detailed network will define the expectations of each discipline, what is to be delivered and when, and who is expected to provide these deliverables.

The Project Development Network will help NCDOT Project Managers:

- Develop a schedule that all can be held accountable for
- Clarify what disciplines need to participate to achieve the project scope
- Develop a project budget based on the approved project scope
- Oversee a consistent project development workflow across NCDOT
- Improve QC/QA pre-construction procedures

The IPD Design team will meet with the NCDOT Design Discipline Team leads the week of August 12 to review the draft NCDOT Project Development Network and make any needed changes to the streamlined workflow before posting it on the IPD Connect page.

CONSTRUCTION: Post-design consultant support services

Under existing terms in NCDOT design contracts with professional engineering firms, the design consultant's services typically end when the design is completed.

Project Managers can now add post-design consultant support scope of services to task orders for the consulting firm that completed the original Integrated Project Delivery website on Connect NCDOT.
design. This way, the design consultant is available, if needed, to help the Project Manager address any changing field conditions or design challenges that come to light during the letting or construction phase of the project.

Possible services may include:

- Field engineering condition assessment
- Plan updates
- Special provision updates
- Shop drawing reviews
- Redevelopment of design alternatives
- Necessary permit modifications
- Construction claim support

The new scope-of-services language for post-design consultant support services is posted on the Project Management Connect page.

**PROJECT MANAGEMENT: MS Project template coming soon**

Now that Microsoft (MS) Project training for Project Managers is complete, a template is being developed to help PMs stay on track and make sure all aspects required for project delivery are accounted for. The detailed schedule template reflects the current environmental and design process for Categorical Exclusion (CE) non-merger projects. It will help Project Managers communicate to all team members which milestones are complete, in progress and upcoming.

The professional engineering firms will use the template and will determine which tasks and activities in the template pertain to the project – it is designed to be customized and right-sized to fit the needs and complexity of each project. The development and management of these detailed schedules will help Project Managers by supporting effective decision-making and timely issue resolution to meet stakeholder expectations and deliver projects on time.

The MS Project template:

- Is designed for CE, non-merger projects
- Reflects the current delivery process (to be updated once the 30/60/90 design process has been established)
- Includes tasks that are not relevant to some projects – it should be customized to reflect the appropriate deliverables and tasks for each project

**PLANNING: Multimodal integration**

The IPD Planning Team is working to make sure all transportation modes are fully integrated into the project delivery process. In July and early August, team members hosted interviews with stakeholders in all transportation modes – pedestrian, bicycle, transit, ferry, aviation, rail, and freight. Next, in workshops with key stakeholders, they will develop enhancements for incorporating multimodal considerations into the IPD process and identify current IPD elements that can be improved with the addition of multimodal considerations.

If you are interested in participating or have thoughts on how to improve this effort, please contact the IPD Team.

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ENVIRONMENTAL: Project initiation training

A draft Project Initiation procedure has been developed to help Project Managers clarify the initial stages of NCDOT project development. After the STIP is finalized, we will have a number of new projects getting underway. The purpose of the new procedure is to ensure that all new projects coming into the program begin the process with consistent project information. In support of this procedure, IPD and NCDOT’s Environmental Policy Unit (EPU) are developing a video training module that will be available in late August. The new Project Initiation training will give Project Managers updated tools and guidance to help kick-start project development and design. It will include updates regarding merger screening, based on our ongoing Merger Process review.

EPU will post a link on the IPD Connect page so staff, consultants and resource agency partners can sign up for training.

ENVIRONMENTAL: NEPA/SEPA and CE update training

- EPU has finished an update to the NCDOT/FHWA Categorical Exclusion (CE) Agreement. NCDOT will host a brief training opportunity to advise our staff, consultants and resource agency partners on these updates.
- NCDOT has live two-day NEPA/SEPA training sessions underway over the summer, and these classes are already filled. Therefore, we are planning to provide this same training online, divided into video modules.
- Please keep an eye out for announcements about these training opportunities!

PLANNING: SPOT 6.0 identified project need

The IPD Planning Team recently collaborated with the NCDOT SPOT and STIP units to develop P6.0 Identified Need & Proposed Solution for Prioritization forms for each mode of transportation. Division Planning Engineers and Corridor Development Engineers, sometimes in consultation with rural and metropolitan planning organizations, will use the forms to preserve original information about project need and any issues the project is intended to resolve.

The Identified Need forms will be incorporated into Prioritization 6.0 to prevent the loss of background information that will be needed later when the NEPA process begins. The forms will be available for reference in both project scoping and project development to preserve original information about project needs.

PLANNING: Deliverables under development

Other key deliverables being developed include:
- Refinements to Project Scoping Report
- Problem Statement development during systems-level planning
- Tiering project checklists for appropriate level of detailed study

All planning level efforts are conducted with the goal of “Planning with NEPA in mind” to enhance our project delivery process.

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