What's happening in IPD

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is facing cash-flow challenges that affect project delivery timelines. It is critical during such challenging times that we continue to streamline our business practices with creativity and innovation that will make NCDOT increasingly more productive and efficient.

Secretary Trogdon and the NCDOT executive leadership team have reaffirmed the need for continued innovation and the importance of our Integrated Project Delivery (IPD) effort in providing leadership to increase efficient program delivery. “Having a streamlined project-delivery process that provides accountability to scope, schedule and budget will continue to be critical to our success,” Secretary Trogdon said.

The IPD effort is helping to provide this leadership by incorporating national best practices in how NCDOT delivers our capital work program. But we cannot do this alone. The IPD team is working with NCDOT team members from across the state to create the Project Development Network (PDN), which will help us become more consistent, efficient and cost-effective. (Read more about PDN in this newsletter.) The PDN process begins with conceptual planning that keeps NEPA in mind as we develop project designs that focus on safety, constructability, operations and maintenance.

The IPD team is grateful for the candid and thoughtful feedback we have received. As with other resources that the IPD team has developed, we will be rolling out the Project Development Network Level 1 and Level 2 documents for use later this year. Additional documentation will follow in the spring. On behalf of the entire IPD team, I appreciate the time, energy and support that everyone in NCDOT and our Industry partners have put into this effort.

Sincerely,

Chris Werner
Director of Technical Services
IPD Team Leader

New Post-Design Construction Services video
A brief informational video explains the Post Design Construction Services option for Project Managers – new scope-of-services language to make design consultants available if needed for support during construction.

This video is less than two minutes and is available at the Integrated Project Delivery Connect site, under Guidance and Templates.

**How do Project ATLAS and IPD correlate?**

Project ATLAS is working closely with IPD to incorporate changes and updates in conjunction with new policy initiatives. The overarching vision of Project ATLAS (Advancing Transportation through Linkages Automation and Screening) is to provide a “One Stop Shop” for all project-related final deliverables, workflow and GIS-based data needed to assist Project Managers and technical experts in project delivery.

Project ATLAS tools and ATLAS Policy became active June 2019. Since going live, ATLAS has hosted 30 training classes, including two executive-level classes, with over 500 total attendees. Trainings have been comprised of individuals from a wide range of NCDOT disciplines, divisions, industry partners and subject matter experts. Using feedback from trainings, ATLAS has evolved to include more data layers, more subject disciplines, and more functionality. Since the initial roll out in June, ATLAS has had four releases to support continuous improvement and implementation items.

For ATLAS Policy and documents, please visit the NCDOT EAU Connect site. If you have questions, contact ATLAS at ATLAS@ncdot.gov.

**Microsoft Project schedule template - available now**

A standard Microsoft (MS) Project schedule template is now available to help Project Managers monitor and track their projects. This standard-format template is scalable to fit each project; thus, professional engineering firms are expected to:

- customize the standard template to match the needs and complexity of each specific project,
- update and maintain the project schedule on a regular basis, and
- communicate any risks associated with schedule modifications to the NCDOT Project Manager.

The NCDOT Project Managers, in coordination with technical experts, are responsible for accepting the base project schedule, monitoring the project schedule, and ensuring
that any major issues that may cause the project to be delayed are addressed in a timely manner. It is strongly recommended that all projects in the pre-construction phase have MS Project schedules to ensure delivery.

This standard template is designed for CE, non-merger projects and reflects the current delivery process. When the Project Delivery Network (PDN) process is implemented, a new, corresponding template will be available to reflect this process. The MS Project template with supporting guidance is available now on the Project Management Connect site, under Resources.

**Project Delivery Network program management process**

Development of the Project Delivery Network (PDN) is beginning to take shape. The PDN helps organize activities at each stage of planning and design, in order to document a consistent and efficient process to deliver projects from conceptual planning to letting. Project Managers, technical units and industry partners will use it as a tool to understand what activities, processes and deliverables occur in what stage, and how those activities and disciplines interrelate.

A key component to the successful development of this network is involving technical experts from many different technical groups within the Department. In August, a small group of technical leaders gathered with the mission to begin developing and documenting a consistent and efficient process to deliver projects. Discipline leads identified tasks and associated sub-tasks that provide value to completing the design phase. These are referred to as Level 1 (summary) tasks and Level 2 (support) tasks.

In September, several focus group meetings were held with the technical groups and the Divisions to gather more input and insight. The focus sessions involved larger groups and allowed the groups to discuss further refinements to the scoping and design processes. The goals of IPD to streamline, add consistency and develop processes are going great, thanks to all who are participating.

A draft PDN diagram will be presented at the American Council of Engineering Companies of North Carolina (ACEC/NC) NCDOT Joint Transportation Conference on Oct. 29 in Raleigh.

**Coming up**

October 29

- American Council of Engineering Companies of North Carolina (ACEC/NC) NCDOT Joint Transportation Conference, Raleigh

**New tools coming soon**

Check the Project Management Connect page for these tools.

- Construction Contract Type Decision Tool
- Project Initiation Guidance
New tools available now
Tools available on the Project Management Connect page.
• MS Project Schedule Template
• Post Design Construction Services

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Integrated Project Delivery
bit.ly/NCDOT-IPD
Resources for streamlining the process – from concept through construction