

FDOT District 4/ACEC FL Liaison Committee Meeting Agenda

Friday, April 04, 2025, 3:00 PM

1) Update topics from most recent statewide ACEC/CO Relations Committee Meeting and regular coordination with CO leadership (November 2024 as next meeting is February 10, 2025)

- 2025 ACEC FLORIDA Transportation Conference – June 5 – 6, 2025 at Hilton Orlando; Lake Buena Vista

Panel member for quality, technology, and safety - Scott Perfater will moderate a panel on quality, technology, and safety at the upcoming conference. The panel will consist of 4 to 5 consultants and 4 to 5 FDOT representatives. Scott is reaching out to districts for volunteers who can speak on one or more of these topics. He has already secured Will Potter and Ed Kestory for the panel. District 4 has expressed interest in participating and has nominated Anson Sonnett to join the discussion

- Mutual Gains Training – The Alpha pilot 2nd Session conducted in February in D5. The Beta scheduled in early March in D2.

Samuel Lloyd took over for mutual gains training – still no dates for D4, but D4 is open to it. There is nothing scheduled until vacant positions are filled.

- LS CEI – The implementation of lump sum CEI contracts started on January 1st for all project specific contracts. Currently those contracts utilize the pilot project language, which excludes weather days. Central Office is working through approvals with FHWA for updated language. There will also be a training at the PM Conference addressing LS CEI and best management practices for those contracts. Brent Wilkins, Chair of CEI Subcommittee is also reviewing with Tim invoicing for LS CEI and whether that should be by curve, or straight line, or some other method.

A contract has been recently finalized in D4 as Lump Sum, incorporating weather days with a scope adjustment of -5% to +10%. Matt Carlock mentioned D4 had challenges with some of the newly advertised LS projects since consultants are changing the proposed staff during negotiations. Matt stated he will be attending the PM conference as a panelist and will discuss LS CEI contracts.

- Voluntary Acceleration – Central Office is still reviewing the proposed specification language with FHWA. The savings calculation will no longer be based on estimated CCEI savings and liquidated damages. It will however look like a liquidated damages table where it will be a set amount based on when the Contractor applies and the contract amount. CCEI participation in the savings is still to be determined.
- The PD&E subcommittee last met on January 16th. Key topics discussed included cos control recommendations. Recommendations relevant to PD&E included streamlined public involvement, expanded use of right-of-way and geotechnical studies during PD&E, and grouping PD&E procurements.

D4 is already consolidating PD&E Study advertisements and has been conducting preliminary work, such as surveys and traffic counts, irrespective of whether it is a SWAT project. Generally, Geotechnical and right-of-way tasks are not performed during the PD&E phase.

2) New FDOT D4 Topics (including follow up on items from prior meetings):

Scott Peterson attended the meeting on behalf of John Olson, who is currently serving as the acting director of transportation development at District Six.

- a. PM's proposed in LOR's are to expected to be the PM throughout the life of the project. If a PM is unable to serve, the company should provide a list of names of potential replacement PM's with an equivalent level of experience and it is up to the FDOT PM's discretion who the new PM will be.

This topic has been previously discussed, so this serves as a reminder for consultants to inform their FDOT Project Managers about any changes to the project manager. Consultants must promptly submit the resumes of their new project managers for departmental review and approval to ensure continuity in the project schedule and management.

- b. NWZAW 2025 – Respect the Zone so We all Get Home – 4/21 – 4/25

Recognizing FDOT District 4's pressing concern for work zone safety, the consultant will promote industry-wide safety initiatives across all ACEC regions during National Work Zone Awareness Week, from April 21-25. FDOT D4 aims to raise awareness about the importance of work zone safety. ACEC will utilize social media platforms such as LinkedIn and Instagram to spread the message.

3) Local ACEC FL Topics (including follow up on items from prior meetings):

- a. New member introduction – Lisa Dykstra, RSH
- b. ACEC-FL Task Teams Update –
 - i. Quality Task Force – Scott Perfater has collected most information from districts. Four districts express concern with “quality” while four (1,2,3, 6) do not. A common concern are pay items and quantities discrepancies. One place the team is looking on this is ORD and modeling. He will reach out to district representatives (Brad Salisbury and Jawara Jarred (Jacobs) soon. Quality audits, bid questions, and quality related expenditures are also being reviewed for better understanding of this issue.
 - ii. Workforce Development - Len Becker of HNTB is leading this team. Every district has provided a representative from district and consultant. He has been working with Will Watts as part of a small group and will reach to all districts representatives soon to discuss the platform.
 - iii. Legislative Engagement - ACEC is holding weekly debrief meeting with consultants. We are halfway through the legislation. Here is the link to ACEC Advocacy site for updates to bills impacting transportation and environmental: [Legislative Updates – ACEC Florida https://acecfl.org/advocacy/legislative-updates/](https://acecfl.org/advocacy/legislative-updates/)
 - 1. PCB TED 25-01 from the Transportation and Economic Development Committee was released Wednesday morning. The bill would redirect documentary tax revenue from several trust funds to General Revenue.

The Transportation Trust Fund would see a negative impact of \$466.8 million should the bill pass as is. Secretary Perdue has indicated this would have an impact of \$3 to \$5B over 5 years. ACEC leadership has met with Secretary Perdue to work on a strategy to address this issue with legislature. This is extremely important to our industry and ACEC is committed to assist to the extent possible.

2. SB 1662 and HB 1397 would create the Florida Transportation Academy to prioritize the continued need for transportation industry workforce development programs. The bill would require FDOT to coordinate with ACEC FL and FTBA to optimize workforce recruitment and retention and assess future needs across Florida's transportation industry.
3. SB 1532 and HB 1185 are two of several bills that would prohibit the use of race and gender-based procurement programs in state agencies by removing statutory language referencing affirmative action, minority business enterprise, disadvantaged business enterprise, or diversity, equity, and inclusion. Some of the bills do reference economically disadvantaged businesses going to the future, but not all.
4. Student Loan Repayment Legislation: CLGR has reviewed and approved a proposal to provide for engineering student loan repayments, funded by licensing fees and renewal fees, for engineers who work for State Agencies and Water Management Districts. There is currently similar legislation for nurses, with repayment amounts of \$4,000/year for up to four years. It will not be a standalone bill, but ACEC will be looking to see if this can be provided as an amendment to an existing bill.

d. FDOT April 1 return to office – Any new messages and expectations

Whenever feasible, meetings should be conducted in person. In June, consultant marketing presentations will be held in person, with the option for out-of-state consultant staff to participate virtually.

4) General Discussion:

- a) Next Meeting date/time: Meetings to be 3-4 weeks prior to the statewide ACEC Transportation Committee meetings whenever possible, to allow for summary note distribution and discussion at the statewide meeting.

2025 D4 ACEC Liaison Committee Meetings (as scheduled)

- January 24, 2025
- April 04, 2025
- August 8, 2025
- September 26, 2025

2024 ACEC Transportation Committee Meetings (statewide):

- February 10, 2025 (Orlando)

- April 22, 2025 (Jacksonville)
- August 26 2025 (Tampa)
- November 2025 (date/location tbd)

Participants (Invitees shown, attendees in Bold):

- FDOT –Steve Braun, Matt Carlock, Deborah Ihsan, John Krane, Paul Lampley, John Olson, Kereisha Ottey, Anson Sonnett, Scott Peterson.
- ACEC – Morteza Alian (Chair), Karina Enrico, Coriann Salas, Mel Pollock, Lisa Dykstra.