

DISTRICT THREE DESIGN NEWSLETTER



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**District III Quarterly
Design Newsletter**

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From the Editor's Desk

Larry Kelley, P.E., District Design Engineer



I'm pretty dangerous and unpredictable every January, because each December I go on a "walkabout". A walkabout is an Australian Aborigines term for a journey that is part vacation, part education, part initiation and part religious ceremony. It is a "pattern interrupt".

I did not hike off into the outback, but I did try to free my mind of any routine for a few days. One day, maybe, I'll do a real walkabout. As minor as my walkabouts are, they do produce results. I would suggest that everyone do a walkabout occasionally and feel the breeze, smell the flowers and watch the butterflies. After you've achieved distance from the hustle and bustle of routines, consider your life and lives of others. Ask yourself the questions; What am I here for? What are my goals in life? Are my goals respectable? Am I improving the world? What will I be known for when I'm gone? Do my goals improve others?

Then its time to outline. Write down that purpose in life and most important, respectable goal that improves yourself, others and in turn the world. Then gradually break it down until you get to everyday details that support the goal. Now you have a game plan. This process is good for your personal life as well as your business life. I've used a similar approach at work. It has allowed me to see how the big things are dependant on the little things. It also enables me to apply a proper balance to various functions as I work toward the primary goal in each area of work.

I read an article recently about a study of the greatest inventions of the last 10 years and what the inventors had in common. Two things were common to all the inventors. One was a tolerance for clutter. The other was a sense of humor. The high tolerance for clutter means the creators were able to filter through multitudes of information for core ideas and in a sense connect the dots. A sense of humor allowed them to see a situation two ways, factual and humorous.

I have not invented anything great, lately, so I guess I have a low tolerance for clutter. I don't have one of those great minds, so I have to depend on walkabouts to keep myself focused. A walkabout won't make you a fortune, but it will awaken the senses and help you organize your life and work in the right direction. If you ever feel like your life or work is on an unplanned tangent, try a walkabout.

Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you.

Princess Diana

Design Wishes Farewell to Bessie

Eddie Register, Design Newsletter

Bessie Dickens, with D3 Design's Specifications Section, has accepted a position with the FDOT Central office in Tallahassee in their Specifications Development Section. Please join all of us in wishing Bessie continued success and happiness in her new endeavors.



Design Spotlight-Teresa Barfield

Larry Kelley, P.E., District Design Engineer

The District Design Engineer's Office has a new Administrative Assistant, namely Teresa Barfield.

Teresa grew up in Chipley and graduated from Chipley High School. She attended Chipola College and Gulf Coast Community College and received an Associate of Arts degree.

Teresa started working at age 15 and has held a variety of jobs including waitress, cashier, hostess, insurance specialist, medical assistant and housewife. She has been married for 15 years and has two children Austen (11)

and Nichole (7). Her husband, Tod, is employed with the city of Chipley.

Teresa began her FDOT career in 1995 and has experience in the offices of Maintenance, Drainage, Traffic Operations, Personnel and Administration.

In her spare time Teresa enjoys reading, snow/water skiing and going to the beach. She adds that family and friends are a high priority in her life, and Teresa is very devoted to each.

I have personally known Teresa for the past ten years, and I've found her to be very dedicated to her work. She is what I would call a real "go getter" and has a high energy level that I am very jealous of. On the personal side, it is obvious that Teresa is a very caring person and is always there for her friends in time of need.

As you deal with the Design Engineer's Office, I'm sure you will have some contact with Teresa and you will quickly learn her value, as I have.

In Teresa's words, "I believe in working hard and doing the best I can. I try to live and treat others as God would want me to."

Supplemental Agreement Report– September/October

Larry Kelley, P.E., District Design Engineer

This is the Supplemental Agreement Report for the months of September and October 2005. The two (2) categories of supplemental agreements that are included in this report are codes 103 and 115. This report is also included in the Quarterly Design Newsletter as a tool to inform designers of errors and omissions that can lead to Supplemental Agreements and unnecessary costs to the public.

Below is a description of those areas and our responses:

Description Code 103: Incorrect/insufficient subsoil information in plans (included in plans but not adequate). This differs from 001 in that the information is in the plans but incorrect or inadequate.

Reason: Improvements under this contract consist of cutting down the existing roadway approaches on SR 81 at the intersection of SR 81 and CR 185. The major items of work in the contract consist of roadway excavation, detour construction, new roadway construction, milling, resurfacing, drainage improvements and traffic signal installation.

Subsequent to the commencement of construction, unforeseen subsurface water was encountered during the subsoil excavation. The Department determined that corrective measures were necessary to increase and preserve the structural integrity of the new roadway. The corrective measure consisted of applying a biaxial reinforcement grid material from the toe of ditch to the toe of ditch after the subsoil excavation was completed. This action should alleviate the subsurface water intrusion and should provide adequate drainage from the roadway embankment.

Increase = \$65,575.00

Response: This supplemental agreement was not the result of a design error.

Description Code 115: Drainage modifications required due to grade differentials, structure omissions, problems with pond designs, offsite flow not handled, incorrect elevations of structures, improper hydraulic design, etc.

Reason: Improvements under this contract consist of milling and resurfacing, paved shoulder construction, drainage improvements, guardrail construction and signing and pavement marking.

Subsequent to the commencement of construction the Department made the determination that the ditches on both sides of the roadway needed to be re-graded and the side drains replaced within an 1800' section. The work will enhance the drainage in this area and prevent storm water from overflowing the roadway thus eliminating a hazardous condition for the traveling public.

Increase = \$29,128.00

Response: This supplemental agreement was not the result of a design error. The Department determined the measures taken were necessary as the area almost experienced overtopping conditions because of heavy rains during the course of the project construction.

Update on Electronic Deliver/Final Plans Processing And Signalization General Note

Scott Golden, P.E., Assistant District Design Engineer

Update on Electronic Delivery (ED) and Final Plans Processing

District Three's Plans Processing Section continues to find errors in Project Submittals. The majority of the errors are PPM / Sheet Boarder related. However, they are also "catching" errors related to CADD. Examples include: file naming, special characters, signing and sealing, missing files, CADD QC and reference files within the drawings. Other errors include: plans not assembled in the correct order, the wrong EOR listed on the sheet or does not match the electronic signature. In most cases, Plans Processing is detecting fairly simple QC errors. I encourage you to develop or modify your QC process to include the electronic submittal process. Please do not use the FDOT to perform your final QC on the ED or to do your QC for you.

Updated Signalization General Notes to include an Emergency Generator Wiring Harness

Please pull a Newer (revised) version (V8) of the Standard Signalization General Notes which now addresses the requirement for the Signal Controller Cabinet to include an Emergency Generator Wiring Harness with access door. These notes are located on the District Three Info-net web page under "Items of Interest". If you have questions regarding the revised signalization notes, please contact Mr. Clyde Green.

Best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous new year!



Every man should be born again on the first day of January. Start with a fresh page. Take up one hole more in the buckle if necessary, or let down one, according to circumstances; but on the first of January let every man gird himself once more, with his face to the front, and take no interest in the things that were and are past.

~Henry Ward Beecher



2005 Florida Greenbook Announcement

State Roadway Design Office

The Manual of Uniform Minimum Standards for Design, Construction and Maintenance for Streets and Highways (commonly referred to as the Florida Greenbook) has been updated. The current edition is the May 2005 Florida Greenbook, and it holds an effective date of November 24, 2005. The 2005 update contains several major changes including the addition of Chapter 17 which provides new minimum criteria for Bridges and Other Structures. The 2005 Florida Greenbook is posted on the Department's web page at:

<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/rddesign/Florida%20Greenbook/FGB.htm>

Hardcopies will not be available for purchase for this edition of the Florida Greenbook or any future editions. If you experience any problems with the file, or if you have any questions or comments regarding the manual, please contact Rob Quigley at robert.quigley@dot.state.fl.us or (850)-414-4356.