

PMPC Executive Committee/Asphalt Task Group Meeting Minutes

Date: May 21, 2020

Time: 8:30 am-10:00am

Location: Phone Bridge Conference Call

Facilitator: Sergio Aceves

Attendees: Sergio Aceves, Ray Hopkins, Brandon Milar, Charley Rea, Roberto Lacalle, Tom Pyle, Ken Solak, Tim Greutert, Pat Imhoff, Charley Rea, Doug Mason, Cortney VanHook, Dolores Valls, Phil Reader, Chu Wei

1. Introductions/Review Agenda

I. Roll Call/Check-in

2. Action Items from 02/20/2020 EC+ATG meeting (All):

- I. Executive Committee to review draft SPF specification at March's EC Only meeting. (ALL) Completed
- II. Revisit Quality Laboratory initiative and include in next EC+ATG meeting agenda. (Doug Mason) Completed
- III. Ken to draft up CPD on HWT and run approval thru FHWA. (Ken Solak) The draft was presented to the division of construction's policy development board and it was determined that the issue would be dealt with on a case by case basis therefore, the CPD was not advanced. No projects on shelf with spec.
- IV. Tim will investigate CT 125 on how the Silo sampling was removed and if they have the data on the quartermaster test and send to Phil, Pat, and Brandon. (Tim Greutert) Completed
- V. Tim, Tom, and Ken to come up with a recommendation to track pilot projects for future tracking to keep on PMPC radar. (Tom Pyle, Tim Greutert, Ken Solak) Completed
- VI. Doug to send Tom a sample request for time extension memo for the smoothness workgroup. (Doug Mason) Completed
- VII. We should have a standing agenda item on DIME implementation and a standing agenda item on pilot projects status for quarterly meetings. (Doug Mason) Completed

3. Introductory Urgent Issues (All):

- I. Tom P.: Not really an urgent issue but wanted to share with EC what the ATG developed ability or process to electronically sign scoping documents or reports.
 - a) Email sent out asking for their approval in an email to use their signature to sign specified form.
 - b) Electronic signatures are then placed on document when everyone sends email approving use of signature for document.
 - c) Working well for ATG and shared it with Doug M.
 - d) Doug modified and used the form for the EC use.

4. ATG Work Products

- I. Statistical Pay factor (SPF) (Ken Solak):
 - a. SPF Pay spreadsheet was posted 5/20/2020 to <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/construction/hot-mix-asphalt-construction>.
 - b. First project went out to bid with specification on 5/19.
 - c. Phil R.: How many projects are going out with specification and can industry get the list?
 - i. Only 1 project has been selected so far
 - ii. Where is link located? Within the Division of Construction
- II. RAP Up to 40% in HMA (Phil R.):
 - a) Project in D7 identified as a potential pilot project. Working on draft change order.

- b) Sergio: Is the construction for milestone 1d. completed? Tom, yes draft form is completed.
 - c) Ray: Do we have a target number of projects we are looking to use the specification on? No
 - d) Ray: Do you need me to push on my side for more REs acceptance to use specification? Industry would like to see more than one project utilizing specification to get good feedback and data.
 - e) General discussion on timing for pilot projects with new specifications, funding and when can we realistically expect to see data.
 - f) **Action Item: Tom P. to talk with Design to see if there are any projects that haven't RTL'ed yet and have funding capacity to utilize the RAP and RAS specification.**
 - g) Chu W.: FHWA has innovative funding for States as an incentive to try new innovative concepts.
- III. Update Section 94 (Tom Pyle):
- a) Work product is now complete.
 - b) Training and guidance memo (milestone 5) sent out to district materials engineers, construction and maintenance engineers informing them of the recent changes to section 94.
- IV. CT 125 Scoping Document (Tim Greutert):
- a) Work product is wrapped up. Final report was sent to ATG on 5/18.
 - b) Brandon: Can you give us an update on version used. Is it Caltrans intent to have two versions of CT125?
 - i. Contractor can submit a change order to use new CT125.
 - ii. Wouldn't it be better for statewide consistency to have all projects using the new Caltrans Test method?
 - c) **Action Item: Tim and Ken to meet to discuss path to use new CT125 test method for all projects.**
- VI. Evaluate the New HMA Smoothness NSSP for Asphalt Pavements Scoping Document (Ken Solak):
- a) Pete put together 7 YouTube videos posted to the Division of Construction's website at the following link: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/construction/pavement-smoothness/smoothness-adjustment-spreadsheet-training-videos>.
 - b) A CPD for Smoothness was posted on the Division of Construction's website on 5/18/20 at the following link: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/construction/construction-procedure-directives-cpds>.
 - c) Brandon: Are you able to track the traffic or users who viewed the videos? Traffic yes, but not individuals. Not even sure we can separate Caltrans traffic versus outside traffic.
- VII. Recycled Asphalt Shingles (RAS) up to 3% (Phil Reader):
- a) Draft RAS specification is complete. Request went out for candidates to participate in a pilot project to districts. No candidates have come forward.
 - b) This work product will have very similar issues as the RAP work product.
 - c) Sergio: Tom, when checking with Design for RAP candidates, include RAS in the same letter.
 - d) RAS will be more challenging, not everyone has stockpiles of RAS at their plants. Stockpiles of RAP, but only a few areas have RAS.
 - e) **Action Item: Ray and Sergio to meet to decide how to best select areas for RAS projects that don't give an unfair bidding advantage to contractors.**
- VIII. Section 37 Update (Pat Imhoff):
- a) Group is working well., meeting every two weeks.
 - b) Trichloroethylene is an issue in section 37 and for labs, but it is also prevalent in sections 39 and 94. Might need to address this issue separately with METS since it affects more than section 37.
5. Review of Bin Lists (Tim Greutert):
- I. Pavement Preservation's bin list to be prepared in Fall after they work on section 37.
 - II. Currently have two separate bin lists, Asphalt and Asphalt Recycling Sub Task Groups
 - III. Removed active scoping documents from bin lists
 - IV. ASTG scoping documents should be delivered to EC approval for approval in about 2-3 weeks
 - a) Post Plant Gradation.
 - b) Small amount of rap in RHMA.
 - V. Discussion on PG+X and why it was so low in priorities when it was a hot issue several years ago.

- VI. Brandon: How is research on going on the thicker lifts of RHMA at UCPRS heavy track simulator? UCPRC is getting ready to run the simulator on the thicker lifts soon but were affected with COVID-19 guidelines which shut their lab down for a bit.
 - VII. ARSTG developing scoping document for their #1 priority off of their bin list, Merge and Update Bituminous CIR Specification.
 - VIII. Chu: Item #8 on the bin list, why is the group choosing ASTM over AASHTO, recommend change it to say, national standards.
6. Closed/Tracking (Tom Pyle)
- I. Presented pilot project form (attachment 5a) to EC that gives the information on the pilot project for tracking
 - II. Presented tracker spreadsheet for following the work products after completion into the pilot stages.
 - III. Currently, 5 items for tracking in the form
 - IV. Tim: Wanted to thank everyone for their effort to track PMPC projects over time and through the future years of personnel changes.
 - V. Ken: Question, if the product is on the pilot tracking sheet, does the work product still need to be in the work product updates? Depends on if the product has met all the milestones for that Phase or not.
7. DIME Implementation (Roberto Lacalle./Tim Greutert):
- I. Implementing DIME on a statewide approach for Caltrans and Industry, spending about 3-6 months in D5 and central region.
 - II. COVID-19 and expertise has brought its challenges to DIME implementation.
 - III. METS was looking to get a A&E contract to help with DIME implementation for the technical aspects of a large database. This contract is not looking like it will be awarded by DPAC this year due to funding issues for the Department.
 - IV. Group is still putting together the framework together to see what DIME will look like.
 - V. Next three months to finish D5 needs.
 - VI. Using DIME for SPF with newly created form.
 - VII. Still moving forward, just slowed down with no support.
 - VIII. Sergio: After D5 implementation, do you have a timeline for the other districts to be incorporated into DIME?
 - a) Tim: Hard to say at this point, every district is a little different. Hoping it will go faster as we go along doing the heavy lifting understanding the district needs. Maybe 3 months per district if I had to provide a guess
8. Quality Lab Initiative:
- I. Four focus areas for the department to improve statewide consistency.
 - a) Joint training program with Long Beach and San Jose, currently halted due to COVID-19, no classes have been held since March.
 - b) QA/IA has been assigned to HQ for clear standards for consistency among all districts.
 - c) Implementation of DIME statewide
 - i. Can show us where we have failing tests and may need to review procedures.
 - d) Transparency and access to labs is on hold until the new State Materials Engineers is in place,
 - e) Phil: Can acting SME sign the transparency and access policy document and the new SME will accept it?
 - i. Tim: Prefer to set the board up properly and get the support from the districts.
 - ii. Chu: Can we get a copy of the draft policy? Yes.
9. Round Table:
- I. Brandon: ATG provided really good updates on projects and completed projects. Does the ATG realize the status of WMA approvals for all technologies are about to expire in June?
 - II. Phil: ATG has addressed the WMA technologies expiring.
 - III. Tim: ATG worked together as a team and the AML has a new set of expiration dates.

IV. Charley: Updates were really good!

V. Roberto: You have support on DIME implementation from Mike Keever and Tom Olstrom, but the support contract may not make it out of DPAC. Second, Tom is working to fill SME position by end of fiscal year. In the interim, Roberto will keep things moving forward. He will review the draft policy to see if appropriate.

8. Action Items

- I. Tom P. to talk with Design to see if there are any projects that haven't RTL'ed yet and have funding capacity to utilize the RAP and RAS specification. (Tom Pyle)
- II. Tim and Ken to meet to discuss path to use new CT125 test method for all projects.
- III. Ray and Sergio to meet to decide how to best select areas for RAS projects that don't give an unfair bidding advantage to contractors.