



**CAROLINAS AGC / SCDOT  
JOINT COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE  
November 12, 2020 – Virtual Meeting**

**11:00 a.m.  
A G E N D A**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**A. Introductions**

See attached list

**II. New Business**

**A. Safety Topic**

Kenny Eargle presented the safety topic for this meeting. The first part was on pinch points. There are a number of pinch point injuries within SCDOT. SCDOT is developing training on pinch points related to tailgate adjustments on dump trucks specifically. Some of the common areas for pinch points are the doors of our vehicles, tool boxes, etc. Please make your employees aware of the possible pinch points on your equipment so keep them from being injured.

The second part was on COVID-19. Lately there has been an increase in the number of positive cases in the state and nation. Please be reminded of the Joint Workforce Safety Plan – COVID-19 from Robbie Isgett dated March 26, 2020. It covers steps required by SCDOT and our partners which employee wellness, hygiene, cleaning/disinfecting, and return to work. Please be diligent and remind your employees of the steps they can take to help stop the spread of the virus.

**B. Financial Update**

Starting in January 2020, we moved into Year 4 of the Phased-in 12 cents Gas Tax Increase. We are currently of the 8 cents level. So far approximately \$1.4 billion in revenues have been deposited into the fund and we have released or put into contract approximately \$1.5 billion. Of the \$1.5 billion there is still approximately \$821 million in payouts remaining. There are four major areas this money is put into. As of September 30, 2020 approximately \$1.08 billion in pavements, \$152 million in rural road safety, \$259 million in interstates, and \$18 million in bridges has been spent or gone to contract. Growth of the construction program in the neighborhood of \$3.2 billion under contract with approximately \$1.8 billion being completed.

In March, there was an approximate 50% reduction in traffic volumes due to COVID. At the end of the summer, the traffic volumes kind of leveled out and we have been maintaining a 5 to 10 percent reduction since. The revenues had a steep decline in April

and May. There was a spike in June due to vendors being allowed to pay their taxes late. SCDOT is still moving forward with austerity measures. We have cut our internal budget by 12% for this fiscal year and next. There have been no projects held from letting due to cash flow issues and none are anticipated at this time.

### **C. Upcoming Major Construction Projects**

Construction projects are up to approximately \$3.2 billion currently. There was a dip in the projects completed on time in June but it has come back up. The breakdown shows about 45% of project were completed by the original completion date, 26% were completed by the revised completion date, 4% are left in the remaining closeout action, and 25% were charged liquidated damages. A push was put on to bring the numbers in the remaining closeout actions down over the summer. The 25% in the liquidated damages category was looked at more closely. It showed that about 90% of the work on these projects has been completed but there are a few items being waited on (thermos, etc.) that are holding up the contract completion. This means that just because the liquidated damages are being charge, projects are still being delivered to the public (roads and bridges open, paving complete, etc.).

Approximately \$1.8 billion planned projects are coming up over the next 12 months. These projects include Carolina Crossroads Phases 1, 2, & 3, I-77/Panthers Interchange, I-26 Widening (Berkeley), I-77/SC 160 Interchange, Alligator Road Widening (Florence). The following bridge projects are also included: I-20 over Wateree (Kershaw), Bridge Bundle #2, US 301 over North Edisto (Orangeburg), US 1 over CSX (Richland) and US 76 over Lynches River (Florence).

### **D. Overview of January 2021 Specs**

- a. Section 204 Structure Excavation  
Minor rewrite
- b. Section 702 Falsework and Forming  
Minor rewrite
- c. Section 105 Bridge Inspection Access  
New spec – Get DOT in better compliance with the MBIS – Details the timing of when a bridge inspection is done.
- d. Load Rating of Temporary Detour Bridges  
New spec – Get DOT in better compliance with the MBIS
- e. Erosion Control Measures  
Deleted reference to an obsolete section
- f. Traffic Signals, SC-M-675  
DOT will put in the special provisions up front which intersection are to have maintenance of detection on resurfacing projects. Details the timing of when detection has to be maintained or returned.
- g. Concrete Mix Design  
Minor rewrite
- h. Seeding, SC-M-810-4  
Clarified the risk allocation. States that DOT will pay for the seeding and associated line items the first time but subsequent times are on the contractor.
- i. Claims Procedure
- j. SC-M-714 Permanent Pipe Culverts  
The allowance for 824 has been made permanent.

**E. Railroad Application Fees**

Some contractors have run into an issue where they have a railroad liability insurance in place but were hit with an access fee that is being called a railroad application fee to do work adjacent to the railroad. Jamie Fowler spoke with Norfolk Southern about the fee in question. He was told that it was a non-environmental application fee and this is a standard fee of \$1,250.00. Environmental impact application fees are a standard \$2,000.00. This will be standard across the board any time there is a need for right of entry (any work within 25' of the track). In a lot of the resurfacing projects, there is a lump sum item listed as railroad coordination for approximately \$5,000.00. This is set up to help offset the fees from the railroad.

If you go to NSCorp.com under the Real Estate division, there is a tab that says "Access of Norfolk Southern property". There will be a listing for Right of Entry that has two types of instructions on what is environmental and non-environmental.

Leland recommended sending this to the road subcommittee for discussion and report back to the joint committee.

**III. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Roadway Subcommittee:** Did not meet.
- B. Bridge Subcommittee:** Met. No new items.
- C. Supplier Subcommittee:** Did not meet.
- D. E-Construction:** Did not meet.
- E. Design Build Subcommittee:** Met.

**IV. Adjourn**

## SCDOT/CAGC Joint Committee Attendees

November 12, 2020

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November 12, 2020

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