

## **PAG STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS & DETAILS UPDATE**

### **SUMMARY OF CoT DOT INFORMATION GATHERING MEETING**

Wednesday, 2/25/09 @ 1:30

**ATTENDEES:** Don Freeman (PAG); John Lynch (PAG Consultant); Ralph Dominguez (Field Inspections Supervisor); Jesse Gutierrez (Materials Supervisor), Andy Dinauer (Engineering Manager); Gary Wittwer (Landscape); Craig Saltzman (Traffic Engineering).

Don Freeman and John Lynch provided an overview of PAG's role in updating the City of Tucson/Pima County Standard Specifications and Standard Details for Public Improvements, 2003 Edition and the process that would be followed to accomplish this.

It was explained that the funding for this effort was limited and may require the prioritization of the items to be updated and/or included in the PAG specifications and details. In this regard, there may be consideration given to removing those standard specifications and standard details dealing with wastewater conveyance facilities and potable/reclaim water distribution facilities. It was also amplified by Mr. Lynch that all comments regarding the current specifications and details, regardless of how seemingly unimportant or minor need to be brought out, regardless of the issue of funding.

It was further stated that the first phase of the process involves meetings, such as this one, with Public Works/Transportation staff, and Traffic Engineering, Parks and Procurement staff, as applicable, of the eight PAG member entities (i.e. Pima County, Cities of Tucson & South Tucson, Towns of Marana, Oro Valley and Sahuarita, Pascua Yaqui Tribe and Tohono O'odham Nation), to solicit input regarding areas of amendment, revision, rewriting, additions and/or deletions to the existing Standard Specifications and Standard Details. Additionally, PAG will be seeking input from the construction sector through Tucson Utility Contractors Association (TUCA) and their allied organizations.

The results of this information gathering process will be the preparation of a recommendation document, by the Consultant, for review and action by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) formed by PAG to oversee the update to these documents. TAC membership is comprised of one individual from each of the PAG member entities (as noted above). The TAC, after review of the recommendations, will coordinate with the Consultant to prepare a scope of services for the update of the documents.

It was explained that the data gathering/recommendation process is to be completed within 90 calendar days (i.e. May 20<sup>th</sup>). Thus, input from the CoT DOT is needed within the next 30 days to ensure that it is addressed in the recommendation document that will be presented to the TAC.

Once a scope of services has been determined and agreed upon, the actual process of updating and amending the standard specification and details will be completed within approximately 12 months after issuance of the notice to proceed.

The goal of this process is to obtain, to the greatest extent possible, uniformity across all PAG entities with regard to construction specifications and design details in order to achieve an optimal environment with regard to value-added, cost efficient construction projects that also result in minimized future maintenance costs.

In the simplest of terms, the basic definition of the scope of this undertaking is: Phase 1 - identify issues/revisions/additions to the existing Standard Specification and Standard Detail documents and Phase 2 - address and/or resolve these items. To that end, it is important that items, regardless of how minor, be brought to the attention of PAG and its Consultant for inclusion in the identification/assessment phase.

At this meeting, the following specification/detail related items were brought up by CoT DoT staff for consideration regarding this update process:

- Discussed the dual system of measurement units (i.e. English units and metric units) contained in the current 2003 edition of the Standard Specifications & Details. There was a general concurrence by City attendees that, since the effort was put forth in providing dual units of measurement in the 2003 edition, there would be no harm in keeping the dual measurement unit system for this edition.
- Discussion of the use of recycled asphalt pavement (RAP) in both aggregate base material “blends” as well as asphaltic concrete mixes. City has concerns with high percentages of RAP in aggregate base “blends” due to difficulties in compaction and moisture control.
- Standard detail for irrigation crossings (sleeves) under existing streets. However, it was stated that this may be unique to the City of Tucson.
- Statement that City has standardized the majority of details regarding irrigation and landscape improvements within the public rights-of-way have been developed by the City in-house, including a water harvesting detail(s).
- It was stated that items for consideration in this spec/detail update process can be e-mailed directly to PAG’s Consultant (John Lynch).
- Discussed standardization of bus pull-out detail for inclusion in Standards.
- Statement that City desires to have a standard specification for Rubberized Asphalt.
- Statement that City does NOT require a standard specification for Asphaltic Concrete Friction Course (ACFC).
- Discussion regarding the upcoming City/County/TUCA discussions regarding Warm Mix Asphalt and its applicability for inclusion into the Standard Specifications.
- City stated that they did not feel that there would be significant changes to the traffic signal and street lighting details. This ensued into a discussion to ensure that pull box spacing achieved City requirements. Also discussed concept of lump sum traffic signal installations. CoT staff indicated potential issues as locations of controllers, poles and pull boxes are often impacted by site conflicts with other utilities or other culture/topography items.
- City also brought up issue of curb access ramps, stating the existing details do not work for a significant number of their installations. Also discussed the issue of complying with the truncated dome criteria for the ramp areas.
- Discussion of curb details and the fact that the City does not use (allow) concrete curb & gutter sections. Desire to clarify this on the current Standard Detail.

Meeting ended at 2:34.