

The minutes reflect the writer's impressions of the discussion and are not intended to imply or announce policy or directives. Refer to the contract to determine MDT requirements.

October 22, 2014

MCA-MDT Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

MDT NEW BUSINESS

1. RAP

The Department sees two options how to handle bids with regard to RAP usage. Either include the cost of the oil in the mix or use a credit to show what saving will be given to the department. Including the oil in the mix increases the risk to the Contractor. If the idea of bidding a credit is used, the amount of oil the Department would pay for would be capped based on the credit bid. The Department stated that, at this time, they may be leaning towards the idea including the oil in the price of the max. If so, there would likely be a fixed price for Incentive/Deduct calculations. A Contractor asked if "changing the entire spec book" was the correct path when RAP usage is not a standard. Using RAP is not always viable. The Department is not specifying RAP usage, just need a better way to handle the bidding. This will be discussed at the November 19 Plant Mix Industry Meeting.

MCA NEW BUSINESS

1. Seeding, Contract Time

MCA discussed how the Department currently charges time when seeding is the only remaining item heading into fall. At the beginning of the fall seeding period, time is assessed until the seeding is complete. This presents a scheduling issue for the limited number of seeding contractors in the state. MCA wondered if there could be a window when time would be charged time the seeding occurred but wouldn't until a certain date. This would give the contractors more flexibility. The Department will likely pursue a spec change addressing this.

2. Detailed Drawing 618-13

A Contractor asked about the temporary stripe requirement on Drawing 618-13. Along with when this was required, a question was brought up whether or not millings used as traffic gravel were considered pavement. The Department will look into this.

3. Utility Relocations

Contractors asked if there was a way to coordinate this process better. At times, it seems the utility relocations operate on without regard to the project schedule. This has come up in the past as well. Contractors commented the on private work, some have managed utility relocations and that doesn't work well either. Does the Department have any "teeth" in the utility relocation contracts? Some type of liquidated damage system may be helpful. Maybe some kind of monthly coordination meetings with the utilities would be helpful.

OLD BUSINESS

1. DBE Update

The DBE usage is well above the goal. The disparity study is in the works and will take at least a year to complete. During the next MCA-MDT Highway Technical Committee meeting, a new subcontracting reporting spec will be introduced.

AD-HOC ITEMS

1. Recycled Plant Mix used in Fills

A Contractor inquired about using RAP in the fill for a new roadway. They asked if the policy had recently changed. The department stated that the after the DEQ guidelines were issued last year and the spec was updated, nothing is believed to have changed.

The next MCA-MDT Highway Technical Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 19, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. at the MCA Office in Helena.