

**Joint Engineering Division Board of Directors
Spring Conference
Final Minutes**

**Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa
Monterey, CA**

May 11, 2011

The Joint Engineering Division Meeting was held on May 11, 2011. Division Chair Jim Troup, Monterey Mechanical, called the meeting to order, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and asked for self introductions.

Every Day Counts: Matt Schmitz, Special Assistant to the Division Administrator at the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) provided an overview of the Every Day Counts (EDC) initiative, which is to do things more quickly with the resources on hand. Mr. Schmitz discussed how long it takes to deploy innovation in the transportation industry and how long it takes to plan, design, and construct a major project. He stated that it was FHWA Administrator Victor Mendez's goal to reach and engage FHWA employees as well as external stakeholders to deliver innovation that will enable everyone to become faster, better and smarter.

The EDC initiative depends on vision, partnership, and leadership. Two focus areas include 1) accelerating technology and innovation deployment and 2) shortening project delivery. Mr. Schmitz noted that the EDC Toolkit includes 15 initiatives:

Accelerating Technology and Innovation Deployment (5):

- Warm Mix Asphalt
- Prefabricated Bridge Elements and Systems
- Safety Edge
 - Adaptive Signal Control/ACS Lite
 - Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil

Shortening Project Delivery (10):

- Planning and Environmental Linkages
- Legal Sufficiency Enhancements
- Expanding the use of Programmatic Agreements
- Use of In-Lieu Fees and Mitigation Banking
- Clarifying the Scope of Preliminary Design
- Flexibilities in Right-of-Way
- Flexibilities in Utility Accommodation and Relocation
- Enhanced Technical Assistance on Stalled EISs
- Design-Build
- Construction Manager/General Contractor

There are national goals set for all initiatives, and states are asked to adopt those national goals; FHWA will monitor their success.

It was noted that by December 2012, 40 state departments of transportation will have adopted the Safety Edge as a standard for paving projects.

For more information on this initiative, please visit www.fhwa.dot.gov/everydaycounts.

Legislative Update: Dave Ackerman commented on Mr. Schmitz' presentation stating that there is a bill going through the Legislature that AGC is supporting and will allow Caltrans to continue to do the pilot project it has with FHWA. It will allow Caltrans to do both the federal environmental review and the state CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) review simultaneously. The bill has passed the Transportation Committee and is ready to be voted on by the Assembly.

Mr. Ackerman provided a legislative update on transportation funding and California budget. The State Treasurer sold enough Prop 1B bonds last fall to carry existing Caltrans projects through the end of this year fully funded.

Unfunded Liability and FASB Update: Tom Holsman; Sean O'Donoghue; and Rocky Miller, Cox Castle, provided an update of the plan funding liability and discussed what is happening with the unions around the state.

Project Showcase: An overview of the Oakland Touchdown – SFOBB was provided by Chris Smith, MCM Construction; Amar Bata, Caltrans; and Hazzaa El-Mahmoud, Caltrans. Mr. Smith discussed the benefits of partnering.

Jim Troup adjourned the meeting and invited AGC members to attend the Fall Conference Board Meeting on October 27, 2011, in Indian Wells.

PS: PowerPoint presentations used by speakers can be viewed by visiting the AGC of California Web site and click on the Joint Engineering Division Highlights link.

<http://www.agc-ca.org/about.aspx?id=82>

Respectfully submitted by:
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