



State Construction Office
Engineering and Regional Operations

Partnering

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Date: June 14, 2017

Purpose

In support of the joint Partnering Training held earlier this year, this bulletin communicates expectations with regards to Project Specific Partnering and the availability of additional Partnering Training for WSDOT, Local Agency and Contractor staff.

Implementation Plan

WSDOT and the AGC of Washington will be establishing a Partnering Steering Committee to develop policy for the future of Partnering for WSDOT and the AGC. The steering committee will consist of four WSDOT members and four AGC members. It is expected that the Steering Committee will begin meeting in Fall 2017.

Interim Guidance

Until such time that the Steering Committee develops new direction for Project Specific Partnering, approval to conduct Project Specific Partnering on current projects is supported by the State Construction Office and your Region Construction Engineers. At the May 2017 State Construction Engineers meeting it was proposed and discussed that all Project Engineers work with their Region Engineering Manager or Construction Engineer to identify a minimum of one project a year to include a Project Specific Partnering session. Consider this as direction to do so at the discretion of your Construction Engineer. The attached contract language may be added by change order to an existing Contract if mutually acceptable to your Contractor. The State Construction Office is working on developing this into standard GSP language for use on new projects.

Background

Early in 2017, WSDOT Construction Staff participated with our Contractors and Local Agency partners in a statewide series of one-day Partnering Training sessions. The training focused on the benefits of Project partnering and the development of communication skills that support improved Partnering on projects. Since there was limited availability in each of the training sessions, not all WSDOT staff or Contractor staff were able to attend. Additional 1-day Partnering Training sessions will be scheduled for WSDOT, Contractor and Local Agency staff that were unable to take the training earlier this year. The timing and location of this training will be determined by the Steering Committee after they convene later this year.



Washington State
Department of Transportation

CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

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Resources

The Partnering Field Guide is located on the Construction Office web site and is available as a resource to the Project Engineer in planning and conducting Project Specific Partnering. The field guide is available at:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/DAF7E8D2-1427-49C3-B5BE-227F9F60AF77/0/PartneringFieldGuide.pdf>

Additional Information

This Construction Bulletin will remain in effect until the Partnering Steering Committee completes its work and provides updated recommendations for partnering on WSDOT projects.

Contact Information

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1 Section 1-04.5 is supplemented with the following:
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3 (*********)

4 ***Project Specific Partnering***

5 The Engineer and the Contractor's Project Manager (PM) shall plan and execute a
6 Project Specific Partnering session as soon as practical after Contract execution. The
7 objective of this Partnering session is to promote open lines of communication and
8 teamwork between the Contracting Agency and Contractor staff for the effective
9 completion of the work, and to the standard of quality that will be a source of pride to
10 both the Contracting Agency and the Contractor. Commitments made by both parties
11 shall be memorialized in a Project Specific Partnering Agreement at the conclusion of
12 the Partnering session. The Partnering agreement will not affect the terms of the
13 contract. It is intended only to establish an environment of cooperation and mutual
14 understanding between the parties.
15

16 The Planning and execution of the Partnering process is intended to be a collaborative
17 effort between the Engineer and the PM. Selection of the Partnering Facilitator, dates
18 and location of the sessions, materials needed for the meetings, frequency and location
19 for follow up meetings and estimated cost associated with this effort should be
20 discussed and agreed too prior to moving forward with the Partnering process.
21

22 An initial 1 day (or half day) facilitated Project Specific Partnering session is
23 recommended to initiate the partnering agreement. After the initial Partnering session,
24 quarterly follow up meetings shall be scheduled to evaluate how the Partnering process
25 is working, acknowledge successes and opportunities for improvement. The cost to
26 retain the services of a certified Partnering Trainer, locate and rent a neutral location to
27 hold the meeting, and any additional materials needed to host the meeting, will be paid
28 by the Contractor. The Contracting Agency will reimburse invoice cost for the
29 Contractor provided Partnering Trainer, facilities and materials at a rate of 50 % under
30 the Bid item, "Project Specific Partnering".
31

32 ***Payment***

33 "Project Specific Partnering", by calculation.

34 "Project Specific Partnering" will be calculated and paid for as described above.