

# PMPC Executive Committee/Concrete Task Group Meeting Minutes

**Date: September 17, 2020**

**Time: 8:30 am-10:00am**

**Location: Webex Meeting**

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**Facilitator:** Sergio Aceves

**Attendees:** Sergio Aceves, Doug Mason, Ray Hopkins, Kevin Keady, Brandon Milar, Charley Rea, Tim Greutert, Kuo-Wei Lee, Keith Hoffman, Ken Solak, Cortney VanHook, Chu Wei, Kirk McDonald, Mark Hill, Kelly Lorah, Patrick Lo, George Butorovich

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## 1. Introductions/Review Agenda

- I. Roll call was performed and we have a full agenda.

## 2. Action Items from 6/18/2020 PMPC EC + CTG meeting (All):

- I. Send comment matrix on contactless weighmaster certificates to Brandon Milar and Charley Rea. (Ken Solak) Completed
- II. Send RCA NSSP to Chu Wei for courtesy FHWA review. (Kuo-Wei Lee) Completed
- III. CTG to submit new scoping document to EC to replace the Phase III scoping document for Precast STG. (CTG) Agenda discussion item. Closure.
- IV. Route the three scoping documents to EC for approval for electronic signature. (Doug Mason) Completed

## 3. Introductory Urgent Issues (All):

- I. Ken S: Construction spoke with cement suppliers, there is a higher demand for concrete than they can produce. Looking at a concrete shortage till the end on the construction season.
  - a. Charley: Appreciated the Construction Procedure Directive coming out on this issue.

## 4. CTG Work Products

- I. Evaluate the Revised Concrete Pavement Smoothness Specifications (Kuo-Wei Lee):
  - a. Working Group (WG) is requesting information from Resident Engineers (RE) to get data on smoothness.
  - b. Bomasur Banzon (METS representative) has taken another position and is no longer in the WG. WG will need a replacement named.
    - i. **Action Item: Tim to find replacement for Bomasur Banzon for working group.**
  - c. Brandon M: May want to request delay for milestones 3, 4, and 5 to have a larger data set behind the interim report.
  - d. Ken S: Construction issued a CPD in May on smoothness which should aid us in obtaining smoothness data for projects.
  - e. All the smoothness data received is based on the old smoothness specification and currently don't have data utilizing the new specification.
  - f. Sergio: We want to see the analysis based on the new specification, not the old specification. Do we need to push this date out?
  - g. Brandon: Is the issue for smoothness data submission from the contractor to the RE or RE to HQ?
    - i. Ken: It is the latter, RE to HQ. Working group and construction trying to get REs to submit the smoothness data needed for analysis.

## II. Precast Concrete-Phase II Enhance Jobsite Quality (Kuo-Wei Lee):

- a. Not sure about the comment on waiting on final report, milestones are complete. Final report was to be delivered in Phase 3 with the installation guide.
  - i. **EC Decision: Move work product to closed section.**

- III. Concrete Mix Design Naming Protocol (Keith Hoffman):
    - a. Skipped work product for now, the topic is on the agenda later on.
  - IV. Recycled Crushed Aggregate of use in Cast In-Place Concrete Pavement (Kuo-Wei Lee):
    - a. Working Group finalizing research summary final report, on schedule for delivery on 10/30/2020.
  - V. Concrete Pavement Acceptance Based on Compressive Strength (Kuo-Wei Lee):
    - a. On schedule. WG is reviewing other state's specifications and also reached out to FHWA for information.
  - VI. Evaluating Maturity to Estimate Open to Traffic Strength of Concrete Pavement (Kuo-Wei Lee):
    - a. On schedule. WG is reviewing other state's specifications and also reached out to FHWA for information.
  - VII. Portland Limestone Cement (PLC) on Concrete Performance (Keith Hoffman):
    - a. Oregon State University have had some delays with the report due to COVID. Report is expected to be out mid-September. Once report comes in then green light on developing specifications.
      - i. Tim: This is a big deal for Caltrans for sustainability and lowering GHGs. We need put our thinking caps on and market this, to get the word out and let everyone know!
      - ii. Ray: We are working on a briefing sheet to provide to Mike Keever so he can brief the director on what the PMPC is doing and working on for sustainability.
      - iii. Ken to work with Tom Pyle on a briefing for the September 22 meeting, highlighting PMPC efforts in RAP, RAS, RCA, and Portland Limestone.
  - VIII. Closed/Tracking List
    - a. Nothing to report.
5. Review of Bin List (Keith Hoffman):
- I. CTG has submitted three bin lists for each of the Sub Task Groups (STG). It is easier to manage the sub task groups work products this way and CTG is following what the ATG is doing.
  - II. MQA STG bin list was presented. Order is in STG priority with industry input.
    - a. On item #7 - We had a task group that performed a survey on fly ash supply about four years ago that included Chuck Suszko and others. I would like to reform previous task group to perform another survey before the 5-year mark passes.
    - b. Chu: I don't see develop ultrahigh-performance concrete specification on the bin list. It was an innovation for 2020 for FHWA.
    - c. Keith: Ultrahigh-performance concrete is in another committee, ABC committee in DES, for use on girders.
    - d. Kuo-Wei: Our office was working on a task order for high performance concrete on I-80.
  - III. Keith: CIP STG bin list was presented. Some of the items may change depending on a later discussion about Precast STG. Also, I don't see item 3 mentioning using Recycled Concrete Aggregate (RCA) in a pilot for a two-lift system.
    - a. Precast item showing up as item 7 on the list. Will discuss this in a little bit.
    - b. Chu: On item #3, FHWA noted some states were having issues with premature cracking in the concrete when using RCA. We put out some information on this and can send to group.
      - i. **Action Item: Chu to forward the RCA information to CTG on recent issues with RCA.**
6. Precast STG (Keith Hoffman):
- I. The STG could only come up with 1 item (Revise Field Installation Guidance, Phase 3) related to pavement for precast work products. STG has not identified any additional work that relates to Pavement
  - II. They had planned on two years to develop the field guide. EC asked STG to delay start of next phase until the specification was out in construction to see if it was meeting the predicted savings before writing the guidance.
  - III. The WG also felt they needed a consultant on board to develop and write the guidance and wasn't possible to get one on board.

- IV. Eight months ago, Kuo-Wei identified work needed in the Foundations specifications and construction methods. And it makes sense that if we have work in one area and not another, why keep the STG resources idled when we could form a new STG and move the Precast STG under CIP for a year to see how it performs.
  - V. CTG is proposing moving the Precast STG under the CIP STG to be a Concrete STG and then form a Foundations STG as shown in the reorganization memo sent to Sergio. Are there any questions?
  - VI. Sergio: It makes sense that if there is not much workload for the Precast group and we have work for Foundations to try this approach. I'm good with the creation of the Foundation STG and combining the Precast and CIP STGs.
  - VII. Precast group is worried they won't have a forum to talk about Precast items. Suggestion was to create a committee in DES to deal with Precast Items.
  - VIII. Charlie: Not ideal but it makes sense. PMPC is not just about pavement, it is also materials and bridge items.
  - IX. Tim: It is important for Caltrans to have a forum to discuss changes in specifications for structures. Encourage you to do precast girders in STG. We need to capture bridge elements too.
  - X. The ABC committee is a good place for complicated precast concrete and field installation issues.
  - XI. Kevin: I need to look into this more on where Precast should be.
    - a. **Action Item: Kevin to check with staff on Precast issues, where best to address.**
  - XII. Brandon: This is a big issue, foundations under both the ATG and CTG. Don't want to duplicate efforts or contradict each others specifications.
  - XIII. Keith: We recognize there are some items that will be a joint task group with ATG and CTG because of the overlap between TGs.
  - XIV. Brandon: Concerned that some foundation items may be dropped off due to work under the CTG instead of a broader perspective to incorporate ATG foundation issues into the list of priorities to be worked on.
  - XV. **Action Item: EC to look at bigger picture for Foundations, should it be a STG or its own TG.**
7. Concrete Mix Design Naming Protocol Impasse Memo and Proposal (Keith Hoffman):
- I. During the circulation of the specification, we found many in industry objected to the work product. WG met to address the issues and came to an impasse among themselves. The issue that industry does not agree with is when an aggregate source change is made it generates a new name. Industry says as long as the aggregate meets the specifications there should not be a new name when an aggregate source changes. Caltrans disagrees and wants to know aggregate source for mix forensics.
  - II. Keith proposes they can remedy the issue by using the DIME database to capture the aggregate source and it would take less effort than it would have to create the new database for the concrete naming protocol.
    - a. This will allow us to not have to go back to the drawing board with original proposal but with DIME, have the means to track the concrete and aggregate easily used in mixes.
  - III. Mark: Industry does not change aggregate sources on a whim. Industry realized it would have massively increased mixes in their database to account for aggregate source.
  - IV. Keith: Caltrans needed a way to track EPDs for products and mixes as it was being considered in legislation, and we were working on getting a jump start on the issue.
  - V. Sergio: You may have a solution to the impasse through DIME. It is technical in nature. TG is supposed to handle issues by consensus.
    - a. This briefing is just informational, and we will be readjusting to utilize DIME for the efforts.
  - VI. Tim: It is my understanding that the TG will retire the old scoping document and develop a new scoping document to define what they are trying to do.
8. Misc. Items: Bruce Carter Memo, OE training, Change in membership: (Keith/Ken)
- I. The RCA WG completed their milestones according to their scoping document and submitted draft specifications and design guidance.
  - II. Bruce Carter from the CIP STG does not agree with the WG's recommendation and does not agree the specification should reside in Section 40 but should be in Section 90.
    - a. A NSSP was created so not sure what issue is about the Section it is in right now.

- b. The current RCA work product is completed. Another phase (Phase II) for the work product is needed to look more into this. Recommend adding another scoping document for a pilot test section to evaluate.
  - c. Tim: Fundamentally a materials issue, I would like to see it in Section 90 and can be invoked in Sections 40 & 51.
- III. Ken Solak is setting up a presentation on how specifications are developed. Ken is working with Mohsen Sultan, Office of Construction Contract Standards and has several dates for the training to provide background for specification development.
9. Roundtable
- I. Kirk McDonald is retiring at the end of the year, George Butorovich has been named as his replacement.
  - II. Kirk: It has been a great pleasure working with Caltrans in the PMPC.
  - III. Tim: We will miss you Kirk! Welcome George. Look forward to working with you.
  - IV. Tim: Wanted to announce Jackie Wong is the new head of the Central Lab. No immediate changes in the PMPC due to her new assignment.
10. Decisions made/Approvals given by EC:
- I. EC recommend moving Precast work product to closed/tracking section since milestones complete.
11. Action Items
- I. Find METS replacement for Bomasur Banzon for Concrete Smoothness working group. (Tim)
  - II. Forward the RCA information to CTG on recent issues with RCA. (Chu Wei) Completed
  - III. Check with staff on Precast concrete issues, where best to address in a committee. (Kevin)
  - IV. EC to look at bigger picture for Foundations, should it be a STG or its own TG. (EC)