To: ACEC Indiana Members  
From: Beth Bauer, ACEC Indiana  
Date: March 24, 2020  
Subject: Weekly call with INDOT Commissioner, ICI & Truckers Assoc.

We had our first conference call today, very positive!

Group includes: Joe McGuinness (INDOT), Richard Hedgecock (ICI), and Gary Langston (IN Motor Truck Assoc.) We will hold this call each week as needed to address critical issues impeding the highway system now, as well as delivering the planned projects.

McGuinness stressed that INDOT is fully working: Designers are mostly working remotely and all will be fully remote within a few days as they move their robust/sophisticated systems home...need to have adequate “support” to run their programs and equipment.

O&M is fully working, including surveyors, bridge inspection, construction inspection, testing. Practicing “safety protocols” and proper sanitization.

Proper Sanitization: INDOT standards are already contained in its contracts, so everyone just needs to refer to their contracts and adhere to the standards. INDOT has ramped up its supplies on field vehicles so workers can properly sanitize.

Prompt Pay: INDOT’s staff has set up remotely and is fully functioning to pay invoices on time, handle claims, etc. At this time either McGuinness or CFO Brassard or one other team member have picked up the mail to ensure all A/P or A/R is handled timely. No one should experience “slow pay.” This applies to MPO and Rural projects, too. In the Commissioner’s words, “INDOT needs all of our partners to keep going to help deliver this program.”

Traffic Monitoring: INDOT is conducting traffic counts as it impacts gas tax revenue. Saturday’s count saw a significant decline of 37%.

Taking advantage of “light volume” on highways: discussion on any opportunity to advance some projects or work at night, no specifics yet, just pondering at this time.

FHWA: working remotely and no adverse impact to INDOT operations.

Unique issue for ACEC IN: difficulty to do title research for surveys and land acquisition. McGuinness understood the potential problem if the county offices are not open. He suggested using online service if available, or email with local officials to get documents for now, and later submit the “official documents” when they can be obtained and notarized. Also suggested calling County Surveyor for help.

We have a strong partnership with our Indiana Transportation Team and very open dialogue. Commissioner McGuinness is committed to all of the businesses and firms that are working with INDOT to keep working and come out successfully through this situation.

Beth Bauer  
ACEC Indiana