

From: David Simms <dsimms@scprt.com>
To: Marcia.Adams@SCDMV.net; Marcia.Adams@SCDMV.net
Date: 4/26/2007 4:10:12 PM
Subject: RE: BCB input - State Engineers Office

Here is what we have so far. I'll call you tomorrow to discuss these.

SUGGESTED CHANGES FOR OSE

Restructure low bid process – establish a list of approved contractors from which to solicit bids
select contractors to bid on larger jobs based on qualifications

(Eliminate or curtail the requirement for bonds and insurance - our payments to the contractor are based on work completed and we require a minimum one year warranty. Bonding actually hurts us, it drives up the cost and if we have to use it, it costs us a great deal of down time in dealing with the bonding company, and even more time if it results in legal action. Most of the time we would be better off trying to work with the contractor. Additionally, these requirements preclude many small contractors, who might otherwise be qualified, from bidding or forces them to act as a sub to a larger contractor – unnecessarily driving up costs.

Raise agency certifications – should be based not just on the construction cost, but should take into account the professional qualifications of the agency staff as well as the type and complexity of projects. This would speed up the process for the qualified agency and free up the OSE to work on larger more complicated projects or with agencies that do not have that expertise in house.

Reduce red tape – the stack of OSE forms in the 1993 manual measured about 1/8 inch high, in 2001 it was 3/4 inch.

Increase the small purchase limit

Reduce the 45 day review period

1. Change Automotive Insurance back to \$1,000,000 limit.
2. Recommended A/E service guidelines for LEED certification and Commissioning.
3. Do away with or better define “above average complexity” A&E’s all think they are entitled to this.
4. Change demolition projects to allow small projects to be completed without OSE approval, but with acknowledgement. Perhaps a dollar amount like \$25,000.
5. Change SCBO advertisement from over \$10,000 to over \$25,000 to match section 6.4.
6. Do away with contractor and A&E performance evaluations.

Thanks,

David R. Simms, P.E.

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Office of Recreation, Planning and Engineering
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From: Marcia.Adams@SCDMV.net [mailto:Marcia.Adams@SCDMV.net]

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2007 2:43 PM

To: David Simms

Subject: RE: BCB input - State Engineers Office

David,
I just left you a message on your voicemail. I have been out of town with some unexpected meetings and was not available last week. The Governor has asked me to serve on the Government Efficiency and Accountability Review (GEAR) committee. The GEAR committee is looking at the functions of the Budget and Control Board to ensure that those functions provide the highest levels of customer service and are efficient and effective. Specifically, I have been assigned to look at the procurement functions of the Board to include those functions administered by the State Engineer's office.

I would like to talk with you about the process at the State Engineer's office. I would like your opinion about what works well, and what could be improved. I would like to hear your suggestions for improvement and how those processes could be more effective and maybe even save the state some money. For example, I have heard from other agencies that the contract approval and amendment process is lengthy, and that by the time approvals are in place, contracts may have increased in dollar value above the original estimate.

If you have some ideas to share, I will be glad to meet with you in person or by phone. You can call me at my office at 896-8925 or on my cell at 206-0156. Thanks for your help.

Marcia

-----Original Message-----

From: David Simms [mailto:dsimms@scprt.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2007 1:29 PM

To: Marcia.Adams@scdmv.net

Subject: RE: BCB input - State Engineers Office

Hi Marcia:

Amy wanted us to talk about our input on the State Engineer's Office. Please let me know what you are looking for and we can schedule a meeting.

Thanks,

David R. Simms, P.E.

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From: Amy Duffy

Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2007 4:12 PM

To: Marcia Adams (Marcia.Adams@scdmv.net)

Cc: David Simms

Subject: BCB input - State Engineers Office

Marcia -

Yes, we would like to offer input on the state Engineers Office. David Simms will be out of the office until next week. David can be reached at dsimms@scprt.com.

Thanks!

Amy

Amy D. Duffy

Chief of Staff

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