

ACEC-NJ  
Transportation Committee  
January 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting with NJDOT Officials

A breakfast meeting was held at the Woodbridge Sheraton with NJDOT Capital Program Management staff to discuss recent staff changes, the Capital Program and what lies ahead.

Rick Hammer, Assistant Commissioner for Capital Program Management (CPM), and Rick Crum, Director of Project Management made a presentation to the members attending, summarized below:

- 1) CPM is going through a re-structuring process. It is anticipated that there are 100 fewer employees in CPM at present, than nine months ago, and there will probably be an additional 100 fewer by June 2007. The Landscape and Urban Design group has been merged into the Environmental Resources group. Access Management has been merged with Right-of-Way. Other changes include, reduction from six to five Program Managers, establishment of a "Smart Solutions" group within Capital Program Support, and shifting Drainage Management into Design Services.
- 2) Formation of the "Smart Solutions" group that will utilize "hyper-build" and Context Sensitive Design tools to assess possible ways to reduce project construction costs and right-of-way impacts for projects in the design pipeline.
- 3) The pipeline is clogged with \$2 billion of construction projects coming out in the next two years, not including Pipeline 3 projects. The Department is taking a hard look at these projects and decisions will be made as to which project will proceed and which will be cut. Eighty new capital construction starts are anticipated this year.
- 4) Sixteen new Task Order Agreements (Design and Drainage) are anticipated to come out in the near future, some after the start of the new State fiscal year in July.
- 5) For upcoming Pipeline 2 projects, refer to the Department's website.
- 6) The Department is getting ready to select multiple consultants for the Pipeline 3 Deck Replacement project advertised in June 2006. Forty firms submitted proposals for this work.
- 7) It is anticipated that future Final Design Contract Addendums will be lump sum with Department review limited to constructability.
- 8) Several questions were posed by ACEC-NJ members regarding more designer involvement during construction to address issues efficiently and cost effectively, the status of Design-Build, and anticipated new design starts before June 2007. Mr. Hammer stated he believes the Department has already begun to get the designers more involved during construction. Design-Build is being looked into again as a project-delivery tool. Mr. Hammer stated that it would be difficult to make a reasonable estimate of new design starts within a given period of time due to the variables involved.