
Minutes of Meeting

Kickoff Meeting for the Project

Survey of Micropile Use in Neighboring Western States

Meeting Date: April 10, 2015

Location: MDT Helena

In Attendance: Stephanie Brandenberger, David Crumley, Scott Helm, Jeff Jackson, Jeff Patten, Steve Perkins, Sue Sillick

1. Sue Sillick opened the meeting by providing background on MDT's research program, the operation of MPART projects and the duties of technical panel members.
 2. Steve Perkins gave a presentation covering the background, motivation and objectives for the project, a description of how states will be contacted, and a draft list of survey question topics. Discussion during the presentation led to the following comments:
 - a. David said that micropiles may be more economically relevant on shorter span bridges and interior piers where access is difficult.
 - b. Scott felt that micropiles could be advantageous as foundations for noise walls in urban areas.
 - c. The use of micropiles for rapid repair of failed bridges was emphasized.
 - d. The use of micropiles for retrofitting bridges for which new loads are added was emphasized.
 - e. The panel discussed adding Nebraska to the survey and agreed to this.
 - f. The panel discussed adding one state that could be considered a leader in the use of micropiles. The decision was made to not do this at this time.
 - g. The panel discussed adding Western Federal Lands to the survey and agreed to do so.
 3. On the subject of survey topics, the following questions were proposed for inclusion in the survey:
 - a. What types of micropiles are used and why?
 - b. Are micropiles used in areas of restricted access?
 - c. What types of contracting methods are used?
 - d. Are micropiles used on urgent projects and what type of contracting method is used?
 - e. How are projects let?
 - f. Is a prequalified contractor list used and what is the process prequalification?
 - g. Does staff receive training for design and construction of micropiles?
 - h. Request a copy of the specifications used.
 - i. What are typical installation times?
 - j. What are the reasons for which micropiles are used over other foundation alternatives?
 - k. What are the environmental advantages to using micropiles, such as ease of permitting.
 - l. Is there a benefit to staging of construction?
 - m. If there is no use, why?
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- n. Once a load test is performed, is design revised accordingly?
 4. It was agreed that participating states would be promised to be on the distribution list for the project final report.
 5. As Sue summarized in her email following the meeting, the following action items will be taken:
 - a. Jeff Jackson will provide Steve with a list of contacts. Jeff will contact these people first to let them know that I will be contacting them with more details.
 - b. Steve expects to have a draft of the survey by the end of April.
 - c. Steve will submit one or more research problem statements for this year's solicitation for research projects by the end of April due date.
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