OLD BUSINESS

1. Approval of the January 7, 2010, Meeting Minutes – G. Johnson

The January 7, 2010, meeting minutes are approved.

2. Review Process for Requests to Publish or Share Findings From Research – C. Roberts

At the January 7, 2010, EOC meeting, a request to publish interim research findings was reviewed and approved by the EOC. In addition, the EOC directed the Office of Research and Best Practices (ORBP) to develop a process for considering such requests in the future.

The ORBP occasionally receives requests from principal investigators to publish the results of research prior to final approval of the research project final report, or prior to contract completion. MDOT must consider many things when reviewing such a request such as technical accuracy, project progress, and the sensitivity of the research information. The ORBP developed a step-by-step process to provide a procedure for reviewing such requests, as requested by the EOC. The ORBP is requesting approval of this new research publication review process.

**ACTION:** The EOC approves the new process, *Review Process for Requests to Publish or Share Findings from Research*, subject to minor editorial revisions; a timeline will be added to the review process. This new process will be incorporated into the *Research and Implementation Manual*. 
NEW BUSINESS

1. **Technical Agenda – Alternate Pavement Bid – M. Van Port Fleet**

   At the request of Greg Johnson, Chief Operations Officer, and in cooperation with the FHWA and associated contracting industries, small task groups have been identified to evaluate current practices and deliver recommendations on a pre-defined set of tasks and sub-tasks in focus areas that have an impact on project selection, scope, and construction quality. At the November and December 2009 EOC meetings, technical agenda memorandums for ride quality, life cycle costs analysis, warranties, and innovative contracting was approved. A new technical agenda issue, Alternate Pavement Bid, has been identified and is being submitted to the EOC for review and approval.

   At times during the life cycle cost analysis of pavements, the results indicate that minor changes to pavement options may change the pavement type selected. The department believes that in such cases, it may be beneficial to bid the project with alternate pavement options to gain the best value. MDOT currently does not have defined criteria for when to use alternate pavement bid design. Many factors may influence the decision to use alternate bid, including but not limited to design cost and time to develop a second pavement design, drainage impacts, utility impacts, right-of-way, or environmental impacts. The department recently bid several alternate pavement projects with mixed results. We need to build on these experiences to develop a decision matrix to assist in determining what type of projects are good candidates for alternate pavement bids. Currently, bidding projects with alternate pavement designs is outside the Federal Regulations Standard practice and requires approval from the FHWA through the Special Experimental Project process.

   Approval of the Technical Agenda for Alternate Pavement Bid is requested.

   **ACTION:** Approve the Technical Agenda for Alternate Pavement Bid pending minor revisions to the memorandum, including the following:

   - Add coordination with the Life cycle Cost Technical Agenda Committee to item 1.f.
   - Add an item to evaluate the impacts of the Mechanistic Empirical Design Guide.
   - Add an item to evaluate the effect on Design/Bid vs. Design/Bid/Build projects.

   The deliverable from this Technical Agenda Committee will be an appendix to the *Pavement Design and Selection Manual.*
2. **Bureau of Highway Instructional Memorandum (BOH IM) 2010-02, Construction and Technology Division Procedures Manual Updates – B. O’Brien and D. Pawelec**

As part of routine procedures, the Construction and Technology Division is updating several department manuals to incorporate current practices and changes, and introducing a new manual. Approval is requested for the following manuals:

- **Capital Preventative Maintenance Manual** - The entire manual is being reprinted and converted back to English units.
- **Density Testing and Inspection Manual** (formerly known as Density Control Handbook) - A new section for qualification/disqualification of testing technicians has been added. Maximum distance for retesting is now 3 feet, a testing frequency for shoulders has been added, and all instances of dual units have been eliminated.
- **Minimum Acceptance Requirements for Material Approvals and Documentation Guide** - This is a new manual that provides guidance on the current acceptance requirements for material approvals and required documentation for construction project pay items.

**ACTION:** Approve the manual revisions and the new manual pending concurrence from FHWA.


As part of routine procedures, the Construction and Technology Division is updating this manual with a number of revisions, which are detailed in the BOH IM. Approval is requested for this manual.

**ACTION:** Approve the manual revisions and pending concurrence from FHWA.


Item withdrawn.

5. **Proposed Roundabout: I-94/Main Street Interchange, Mattawan, VanBuren County – JN 107461, CS 80024 – M. Azam**

MDOT is proposing the reconstruction of I-94/Main Street ramp in the city of Mattawan as a roundabout. Option A, narrower drives with mountable “D” curb and aprons, is recommended for approval.

**ACTION:** Approved.

Item withdrawn.

7. **MDOT Mid-Term Report, Carbon Footprint for HMA and PCC Pavements – C. Bleech**

MDOT recognizes its role as a contributor to global warming. The metric that is commonly used to identify one aspect of this environmental impact is that of a carbon footprint. A carbon footprint is the measure of the amount of greenhouse gases produced by human activities. This research project aims to establish a carbon footprint for Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) and Portland Cement Concrete (PCC) Pavements for reconstruction, rehabilitation, and Capital Preventative Maintenance (CPM) through the life of the pavement. This research will establish primary and secondary footprints to determine the total carbon footprint of each of the two pavement types used in Michigan. This interim report establishes the methodology by which this analysis will be conducted. In order for the methodology presented in an interim report to be reviewed and scrutinized by peers, it is prudent that this information be published as soon as possible and before beginning the actual analysis. Doing so will lend credence to the proposed methodology and the acceptance of the research.

Approval to publish the interim research report is requested.

**ACTION:**

EOC approves the request to publish the interim report, provided the MDOT disclaimer (Review Process for Requests to Publish or Share findings from Research, item 2.a.ii.) is attached to the publication.

NOTE: Old Business, Item 2 above approved a process for reviewing and approving requests to publish interim research findings. This request is being evaluated as submitted since it was submitted for approval at the same time as Old Business, Item 2.