August 12, 2019

To: Design-Build Forum Attendees


Thank you all for attending the 5th annual WSU Design-Build Forum. I appreciate the engaging conversations and constructive criticisms that are at the core of each year’s event. A special thank you to our presenters from the University of Washington as they provided insight into the complexity of their Integrated Design-Build process, a contracting method not for the faint of heart or those unfamiliar with Design-Build.

Last year’s look into the execution of projects after procurement generated meaningful conversation and ideas to address the challenges of delivering world-class facilities to our clients. As I noted at the forum, WSU took your feedback from last year and incorporated changes including adding a design charrette, travelling to the Design:build teams offices for interviews, and adding criteria to evaluate the Design Build team’s approach to growing MWBE participation in Design Build.

This year’s forum built upon last year’s success, and we are already looking at updating our process based on some of the comments received. Specifically, we are planning to review our RFQ/P and interview criteria to ask some of the ‘hard questions’ related to what we encounter on our projects; revise the Charrette component of the interview to more clearly communicate our expectations; and review the design deliverables section of the contract to better take advantage of the Design Build process.

As promised at the forum, we have included with this letter the UW Slideshow Presentation, the Summary of Changes: Design-Build Procurement (Changes in statute that became effective July 28th, 2019), and a link to the Washington State Disparity Study in the summarized minutes.

Thank you again and we look forward to seeing you all at next year’s event.

GO COUGS!

Sincerely,

Joe Kline, P.E.
Assistant Vice President
Facilities Services, Capital