

August 3, 2022

To: Design-Build Forum Attendees

RE: 2022 WSU Design-Build Forum, "Next Steps in the Advancement of Design-Build"

We are so thankful to have hosted our 7th annual Design-Build Forum for all our in person and online attendees this year. Everyone came prepared to debate, problem solve and thoughtfully engage in discussion around topics of interest to WSU, and I hope the broader Design Build community. As our first fully hybrid event, we hope you all enjoyed it as much as we did! After the 2021 Forum we updated our processes to ask Design-Build Teams to propose and provide full input into the early phase of our Design-Build contracts. We tested limiting the volume of response required to the RFQ and RFP in answer to the industry's call toward streamlining or moving towards a more 'A3' style submission. Both brought varying degrees of success and lots of lessons learned.

This year we engaged in great conversations around selection criteria and what is really needed to encourage small and diverse business growth and utilization within our projects. It has us thinking more about the Q phase and creative questions before and during interviews. We will also be looking at our use of A/E fee guidelines within the proposals, and reference checks with the designer's and contractor's 'downstream' clients.

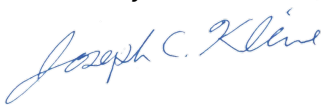
The [BE/DBI Report to the Legislature; June 2022](#) and accompanying [Letter from Chair Zahn](#) were briefly discussed and we encourage you to take the time to read the report and think of ways that we can continue to build a robust and inclusive Design-Build Industry. We discussed methods and ways for established businesses to help provide opportunities as well as prompt pay and training/mentoring concepts. The discussion surrounding how we 'count' diverse business inclusion was very intriguing and we are already thinking about ways to encourage diversity both within large businesses as well as growing the pool of small businesses.

Our last topic explored the right time to sign the GMP with consideration of scope, risk and budget. We heard and appreciated the various perspectives Architects, Engineers and Contractors, and the potential implications to our end user client's impact on the process. WSU is actively considering awarding the GMP very early in the process with a set of 'guiding principles' and 'prioritized scope goals' in lieu of a fully developed design.

Our forum continues to be a valuable opportunity to listen to and have open dialog with the Design-Build Industry on topics critical to the success of WSU's Design-Build Program. We thank you all again for joining us and look forward to seeing you July 28th, 2023.

GO COUGS!

Sincerely,



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