## INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2249 INTER-DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION

December 10, 1997

Memorandum 97-27

#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

**District Directors** 

District Operations Engineers
Area Engineers

FROM:

Timothy D. Bertrant. Chief

**Operations Support Division** 

RE:

Guidelines for Setting Contract Time

Attached herewith are revised charts and specific examples of bridge work to be used as a guide for setting contract time. Setting contract time is not an exact science. Many things must be taken into account when time is set for contract completion.

Outlined below are several steps to be considered when determining time on a contract:

- 1. A general review of the plans and contract provisions is made to determine type of construction, length of job, number of bridges, traffic features, urban or rural site, magnitude, and any special features of the project.
- 2. If possible the person setting contract time should visit the site to get a feel for the extent that utilities or other features might impact construction.
- 3. Determine if a commitment has been made by others to complete the contract, unrestrict lanes, open a road etc., by a certain time.
- 4. How are schools, businesses, local festivals, farmers, rush hour traffic, other contracts in the area, etc., affected by the contract?
- 5. Review plans to determine controlling operations.

- 6. Decide if contract can be completed in one or two construction seasons.
- 7. Determine how letting date may affect the controlling operations, starting times, completion times, etc.
- 8. Determine how adjacent contracts, existing or future, any affect detours, restrictions, access on this contract.
- 9. Using the Itemized Proposal, determine when each item can be done. Certain items control other items while some items can be done simultaneously. Use the controlling items to set the time. Normally the time is set in work days and if a completion date is desired, attached charts will convert work days to calendar days depending on letting dates.
- 10. Determine in any intermediate times need to be addressed in the contract so that certain roads, bridges, entrances, ramps, etc., are put back into normal use by certain times.
- 11. Some contracts have items involving specific materials that takes considerable time to obtain. Delivery time for mast arm poles, strain poles, and hi mast poles is about 10 to 12 weeks. Material delivery times should be considered when setting contract time. Delivery time for structural steel is a minimum of three months unless singular members are being used. Singular members delivery time is three weeks. Delivery time for concrete structural members is about six weeks.
- 12. Because of the construction staffing, certain holidays, or other influencing factors, some contracts can require delayed starting times specified in the contract provisions. Delayed starting times are normally used on resurface or maintenance type contracts but they might be considered for other types of contracts.
- 13. Permit restrictions can have a major effect on construction schedules. They often control time on bridge contracts. Therefore they should be addressed when time is set for a contract.
- 14. Once contract time is established an incentive/disincentive clause might be considered. These types of clauses are normally only used on special contracts that involve high traffic volumes. User costs are used to establish time costs and one way to quickly determine a reasonable time cost is to use the following formula:

Cost to restrict one lane of traffic during peak lane closure period =  $\underline{A.A.D.T. (1 + 2 \times \% Trucks)}$ Number of Lanes

The non-peak lane closure period = 1/3 of peak lane closure period

This formula could also be used as a basis for specifying higher liquidated damages for restriction or closed times/dates.

- 15. Adjusting the time to fit contract circumstances should always be considered.
- 16. Last keep your work sheets in a file for future reference.

As stated earlier, setting time is not an exact science. The above information and attached sheets are to serve as a guide only when setting contract time. It should always be kept in mind that because of the tremendous impact construction contracts have on traffic, particularly on high volume roads, the focus of our customer's (the traveling public) satisfaction or dissatisfaction is ever increasing.

A + B contract bidding might be considered for some high profile/traffic jobs such as major interstate reconstruction. B times and B time costs are to be coordinated through Operations Support Division.

Further, if a contract does not sell or many revisions are added, the contract time should be reconsidered to see how the letting date or revision might affect the work.

TDB:pl

# WORKDAYS ON CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS

NOTE:

These rates are just a general or average guide to be used when setting time. Large quantity items may increase these rates and small contracts may reduce them. Each project is unique and must be looked at closely prior to setting time.

ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT	METRIC UNIT	RATE PER DAY	METRIC UNIT	RATES PER DAY FOR INTERSTATE TYPE CONTRACTS	METRIC UNIT	RATES FOR A+B	METRIC UNIT
Aggregate Shoulder	Tons	Mg	800	725	1600	1450	2000	1825
Bituminous Patching	Tons	Mg	60	55	200	180	300	270
Bituminous Widening	Tons	Mg	900	815	2000	1825	2500	2270
Bituminous Wedge & Level	Tons	Mg	500	455	1000	905	1500	1360
Bituminous Base	Tons	Mg	800	725	2000	1825	3000	2720
Bituminous Binder	Tons	Mg	800	725	2000	1825	3000	2720
Bituminous Surface	Tons	Mg	1000	905	2000	1825	3000	2720
Bituminous Shoulders	Tons	Mg	700	635	1500	1360	2000	1825
Bituminous Approach	Tons	Mg	200	180	500	455	700	635
Catch Basins	Ea	Ea	5	5	10	10	15	15
Chain Link Fence	Lft	m	1200	365	2500	760	3500	1065
Class "A" Concrete in STR's	Cys	m <sup>3</sup>	150	115	300	230	400	305
Class "B" Concrete in STR's	Cys	m <sup>3</sup>	100	75	200	155	300	230
Combination Curb & Gutter	Lft	m	300	90	600	180	1000	305
Concrete Driveways	Sys	m <sup>3</sup>	180	150	400	335	600	500
Concrete Gutter	Lft	m	500	150	1000	305	1500	455
Concrete Patching	Sys	m <sup>2</sup>	100	85	200	165	300	250
Concrete wement	Sys	m <sup>2</sup>	2500	0100	5000	4175	6000	5025

ITEM TSCRIPTION	UNIT	METRIC UNIT	RATE PER DAY	TRIC	RATES PER DAY FOR INTERSTATE TYPE CONTRACTS	METRIC UNIT	RATES FOR A+B	TRIC
Concrete Sidewalk	Sys	$m^2$	1000	1680	1500	2520	2000	3360
Curb & Gutter	Lft	m	300	90	600	180	1000	305
Drilled Holes	Ea	Ea	250	250	500	500	700	700
Embankment	Cys	$m^3$	2200	1680	* 5000	3825	8000	6115
Excavation:								
Borrow Large Areas	Cys	$m^3$	2500	1910	5000	3825	8000	6115
or Common Small Areas			500	380	1000	765	2000	1530
Channel	Cys	$m^3$	650	495	1500	1145	2000	1530
Rock	Cys	$m^3$	1000	765	2000	1530	2500	1910
Unclassified	Cys	$m^3$	3000	2300	5000	3825	8000	6125
Ground or Crushed Stone	Tons	Mg	800	725	1800	1635	2500	2270
Granular Backfill	Cys	$m^3$	300	230	500	385	1000	765
Guardrail	Lft	m	400	120	1000	305	1500	455
Inlet	Ea	Ea	5	5	6	6	9	9
Laying Signal Conduit	Lft	m	200	60	500	150	1000	305
Manholes	Ea	Ea	3	3	6	6	9	9
Paved Side Ditch	Lft	m	350	105	1000	305	1200	365
Pipes:								
Culverts	Lft	m	200	60	300	90	400	120
Underdrains	Lft	m	1000	305	2000	610	3000	915
Removal:					·			
Curb & Gutter	Lft	m	800	245	1500	455	2000	610
Personant (Conc.)	Sys	m <sup>2</sup>	800	675	1500	1250	2000	1675

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Removal (cont.)		·						
Sidewalk	Sq.Ft.	m <sup>2</sup>	1500	140	3000	280	4000	370
Surface(Milling)	Sys	$m^2$	10,000	8350	20,000	16,725	30,000	25,075
Rip-Rap	Sys	m <sup>2</sup>	200	165	<sup>*</sup> 400	335	600	500
Seeding	Acres	ha	10	4	15	6	20	8
Sodding	Sys	m <sup>2</sup>	900	750	2000	1675	3000	2500
Subbase	Tons	Mg	800	725	1600	1450	2500	2270
Thermoplastic Pavement:								
Markings	Lft	m	6000	1825	12,000	3650	18,000	5475
Underseal	Tons	Mg	40	36	60	55	80	73
Crack & Seating Pvmt.	Sys	$M^2$	6000	5000	10,000	8350	13,400	6700
Rubblizing Pavement	Sys	$M^2$	3000	2510	4000	3345	6000	5015
Excavating for Subgrade Treatment	Cys	$M^3$	1000	765	2000	1530	2500	1910
Peat Excavation	Cys	$M^3$	800	610	1000	765	1500	1145
Jacked Pipe	Lft	m	50	15	80	25	100	30
Temp. Conc. Barrier	Lft	m	2400	730	3600	1100	6000	1830
Temp. Crossovers	Ea	Ea	1/5	1/5	1/4	1/4	1/3	1/3
Paved Side Ditch	Lft	m	300	90	450	140	600	180
Concrete Median Barrier	Lft	m	800	245	1000	305	1500	455
Soil Stabilization	Cys	$M^3$	4500	3440	5870	4500	8000	6100
Sidewalk Curb Ramps	Sys	$M^2$	20	17			40	34

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### SETTING OF WORK DAYS FOR BRIDGE CONTRACTS

When setting days for bridge contracts, it is usually best to establish the time required to accomplish each project by assigning time for each controlling operation involved.

To illustrate this let's look at three different jobs, the first being an overlay project. This contract would be set up for calendar day restriction:

- 1. The first operation would be widening the shoulders. No time charged because this operation can be done without full time restriction.
- 2. Traffic control items signals and barrier wall. Probably three to four days unless exceptionally long barrier wall.
- 3. Scarifying the deck one day, if it takes longer because of size the next operation will overlap and control.
- 4. Placing or forming full depth patches plus curing time this item depends on quantity.
- 5. Handchipping and removals usually two to three days per span.
- 6. Forming and pouring concrete rail usually 24 to 36 lineal meter per day.
- 7. Sandblast and clean deck usually one day operation.
- 8. Overlay usually one day operation.
- 9. Curing of Overlay three days.
- 10. Bituminous approach and installation of guardrail normally two days operation, unless full depth approach dictates cooling time between lays.
- 11. Transferring traffic to next phase or removal of traffic control devices. one day.

Another job used to illustrate the procedure is a three span steel beam contract using a temporary runaround. This job would be set on work days.

- 1. Construction temporary runaround. Depends on quantity of dirt and length of temporary structure. Use 300 to 500 M<sup>3</sup> of fill per day with structure construction overlap.
- 2. Removal of present structure depends on size and type of structure. Consider structure removal phases, be reasonable, also consider phase overlap. (One day per bent, includes superstructure.)

- 3. Construction of two piers in water construct cofferdam (if required) four-six days, excavate cofferdam one day, drive piling five-10 piles per day depending on driving conditions look at borings and tip. Form and pour footing one day unless mandatory joints, pier stem two days per pour, hammerhead caps two days, caps on columns two days plus additional days when delays are shown on plans between construction joints.
- 4. Construction of the end bents usually assume the dirt work on a bridge replacement is being done while the piers are being constructed. If the grade is being raised (or lowered) or has new alignment, use road procedure to assign time to dirt operation. Drive piling five piles per day plus a day to core if required. Form and pour end bents two days.
- 5. Setting of structural steel usually two to three weeks.
- 6. Forming the decks usually four to five days.
- 7. Placing resteel usually three to four days. (9 metric tons/day).
- 8. Pouring deck one day. (380 M<sup>3</sup> or less in deck).
- 9. Form and pour mudwalls one day each, cure three days.
- 10. Backfill and placing R.C. approach slab 24' wide two days each three days cure before access to bridge.
- 11. Forming and pouring concrete rail 24 to 36 lineal meters per day three days cure.
- 12. Bituminous approaches based on quantities to be placed and cool time between lays.
- 13. Guardrail based on quantities to be installed (See road progress sheets).
- 14. Removal of temporary runaround about five days. (460 to 700 meters<sup>3</sup> removed/day and one to two days to remove temporary structure per span.)
- 15. Wreck and clean-up usually five days.
- 16. Sodding and seeding are miscellaneous items usually accomplished during something else.

Another is a three span slab-top on pile bents with the road being closed. This would be set as a calendar date or number of calendar days to be closed.

- 1. Closed road 1/2 day.
- 2. Remove present structure depends on size and type of structure. (One day per bent, includes span.)

- 3. Drive piles for bents Five to 10 piles per day depending on driving conditions look at boring and tip required.
- 4. Construction of end bents 250 m³/day for small quantities of fill, one day to core for piling if required five to 10 piles per day.
- 5. Falsework and forms usually two to three weeks.
- 6. Placing resteel usually three to four days (9 metric tons/day).
- 7. Pouring deck one day (380 M<sup>3</sup> or less in pour).
- 8. Backfill and place R.C. approach slab 24' wide two days each three days cure before access to bridge.
- 9. Form and pour concrete rail 24 to 36 lineal meters per day.
- 10. Bituminous approaches based on quantities and cool time between lays.
- 11. Guardrail based on quantities (see progress charts).
- 12. Cleanup- and traffic markings usually five days.
- 13. Sodding and seeding usually done concurrent with other operations.

After days are set, the considerations outlined previously should be evaluated. Are schools, businesses, farmers, other contracts, etc., affected? Will material procurement control job? How will permit restrictions control the schedule? Are there utility considerations?

Assume that only one crew will be used on small bridge jobs. Multiple operations can be used on larger bridges or possibly multiple bridges. Assume five day work week on state and county work. Assume six day work week on interstate work.

When setting days a) most LPA jobs use work days.

- b) state jobs with temporary runaround use work days.
- c) interstate restrictions are always calendar days.
- d) all state highway closures are calendar days.
- e) all state highway restrictions to one lane are calendar days.

Be lenient when possible but tight when necessary. The more you can encourage additional bidders, the better potential for lower bid prices.