

November 7, 2005

Mr. Mohammed Alghurabi, Project Manager
MDOT, Design Division
425 West Ottawa
Lansing, MI 48933

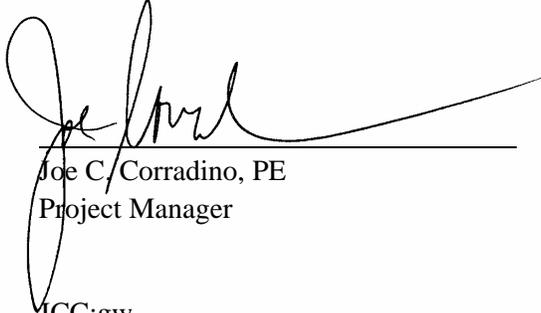
RE: DRIC EPE/EIS Project; Job N. 802330
TCG Project No. 3600 - Invoice No. 10 Progress Report

Dear Mohammed:

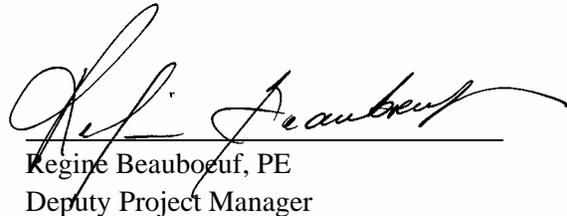
Enclosed is the narrative progress report for the DRIC EPE/EIS Project. It supports Invoice No. 10 for October 2005. The invoice will be submitted under separate cover to Tonya Novach.

Please call if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely yours,



Joe C. Corradino, PE
Project Manager



Regine Beauboeuf, PE
Deputy Project Manager

JCC:gw
I:\Projects\3600\WP\ProgRpt\PR10.doc
Attachment

**PROGRESS REPORT
THE CORRADINO GROUP
DRIC EPE/EIS PHASE
OCTOBER 1 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2005**

The following details the work progress for the project by task (Sections A, B, & C). At the end of the task progress discussion are sections that address updates of the schedule, items needed from MDOT, and a listing of substantive verbal contacts with MDOT. Schedule adjustments and verbal contacts are listed on attachments G and H, respectively.

A, B, AND C – PROGRESS BY TASK

TASK 1 (1220) – VERIFY SCOPE/CONDUCT PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN

A. Work Progress

- Prepared for and participated in the October 5th Working Group meeting and the October 6th Steering Committee meeting.
- Met with DRTP on October 13th to discuss details of their various proposals.
- Prepared for and participated in the October 20th Steering Committee teleconference.
- Prepared for and participated in the October 26th Working Group meeting.
- Prepared for and participated in the October 26th Local Advisory Council meeting.
- Prepared the mailer for the December 5, 6, 7 and 8 public meetings on the U.S. side of the border.
- Finalized the paid radio announcement and radio buy for the December public meetings.
- Assisted in developing information for the rollout of the results of the Illustrative Alternatives analysis.
- Continued to respond to e-mails, comment forms, and telephone hotline calls.
- Continued to assist in response to media inquiries.
- Prepared for the public meetings of December 5th-8th.
- Assisted in the preparation of a scope of work for additional services as a result of information learned in the first nine months of the project.

B. Products

- Materials for the following meetings:
 - ✓ October 5th with the Working Group.
 - ✓ October 6th with the Steering Committee.
 - ✓ October 13th with the DRTP.

- ✓ October 20th Steering Committee teleconference.
- ✓ October 26th with the Working Group.
- ✓ October 26th with the Local Advisory Council.
- Mailer for the December public meetings.
- Paid radio announcement and radio buy for the December public meetings.
- Draft material for use at the public meetings in December.
- Status reports for October 14th and October 28th.
- Monthly progress report.
- Scope and budget for additional work.

C. Task Evaluation

- The LAC meeting of October 26th involved a healthy discussion of the announcement on October 4th of preliminary results that excluded from further consideration the Downriver and Belle Isle crossing systems. The LAC had also expressed their concerns about the credibility of the process being negatively affected by virtue of this unexpected media release.
- A key aspect of the continuing work of defining the Practical Alternatives will be community consultation. All previous plazas, crossings and connecting routes are to be replaced by new ones developed in this public consultation process.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Assist in the preparation for and participation in the rollout of the Illustrative Alternatives results.
- Participate in a November 15th Partnership teleconference.
- Meet on November 18th with the U.S. Coast Guard to further define the Practical Alternatives.
- Set meeting with DHS/CBT to further define the Practical Alternatives.
- Prepare for the November 28th LAC meeting.
- Prepare for the December 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th public meetings.
- Mail invitations to the December public meetings.
- Execute the paid radio announcements in association with the December public meetings.
- Finalize all three volumes of the Illustrative Alternatives report before distribution on and after November 28th.
- Prepare for the November 28th Working Group meeting.
- Continue to respond to media inquiries, letters, emails, comment forms and calls to the telephone hotline.

TASK 2 (2120) – PREPARE TRAFFIC ANALYSIS REPORT

A. Work Progress

- Produced AM peak hour assignments for the 100 model runs used in the evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.
- Continued to address the issue of international trucks on local streets.
- Examined using contraflow on the Ambassador Bridge in conjunction with the DRTP tunnel.
- Participated in the October 18th meeting with MDOT and SEMCOG dealing with model validation.
- Began the transition from Phase I (Illustrative Alternatives) to Phase II (Practical Alternatives) traffic analyses including application of Border Wizard. This included the definition of data collection techniques by aerial videotaping as well as traffic counting on the ground.
- Submitted the Traffic Analysis Report for review.
- Responded to the last five questions raised by the MDOT Statewide Modeling Group on the overall TDM approach.

B. Products

- CDs/DVDs with the AM peak hour assignments.
- Response to the question about the adequacy of a contraflow on the Ambassador Bridge in combination with the DRTP two-lane tunnel.
- The draft Traffic Analysis Report.
- Response to the last five questions raised by the MDOT Statewide Modeling Group.

C. Task Evaluation

- The TDM work on the Illustrative Alternatives has been accepted by MDOT's Statewide Modeling Group.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Revise the Traffic Analysis Report based on MDOT comments.
- Establish a meeting with MDOT to discuss data collection techniques for TDM work on the Practical Alternatives and the application of induced demand modeling techniques.

TASK 3 (2130) – PREPARE JOB JUSTIFICATION/PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT

A. Work Progress

- Conducted a meeting on October 19th with various federal cooperating agencies to review the scoping meeting as well as to discuss the preliminary results of the Illustrative Alternatives evaluation.

B. Products

- Materials for the October 19th meeting of federal cooperating agencies.

C. Task Evaluation

- October 19th meeting provided considerable input to the DRIC study going forward. However, no comments were received from the cooperating agencies following the meeting, as anticipated.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Meet with the Coast Guard on November 18th to further define the Practical Alternatives.
- Set meeting with DHS/CBP to further define the Practical Alternatives.
- Cooperate with EPA to establish a meeting on the Air Quality Protocol in the U.S.

TASK 4 (2140) – DEVELOP/REVIEW ILLUSTRATIVE ALTERNATIVES

A. Work Progress

- Continued to exchange information with Canadians on the reporting of the Illustrative Alternatives evaluation process.
- Met with the Steering Committee on October 6th to discuss the results of the Illustrative Alternatives analysis resulting from the U.S. and Canadian evaluations.
- Submitted on October 6th a draft report on the U.S. evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives. Updated the draft of the Summary and Volume 2 based on comments from MDOT.
- Continued to cooperate with MDOT on the right-of-entry needs.
- Participated in the federal cooperating agency review meeting on October 19th.
- Prepared for and participated in the teleconference with the Steering Committee on October 20th to further discuss the results of the Illustrative Alternatives evaluation.
- Prepared for and participated in the October 26th Working Group meeting to further advance the determination of the end-to-end alternatives.

- Prepared for the Steering Committee meeting on November 3rd to finalize the results of the Illustrative Alternatives analysis.
- Refined the focus area and preliminary identification of potential locations of crossings and connector routes.
- Met with DRTP on the characteristics of their proposal for the tunnel at the X-14 Crossing location.
- Conducted an internal plaza workshop for advancing to the Practical Alternatives phase.
- Performed additional bridge pier location review in the area between Dearborn Avenue and the foot of the Ambassador Bridge.
- Began the analysis of the vertical profile along I-75 and the future ramp connections that may be necessary in connecting a plaza to that freeway.
- Prepared photographs of each structure in the area between Dearborn Avenue and the foot of the Ambassador Bridge.

B. Products

- Upgraded Summary Report and Volume 2 of the Illustrative Alternatives analysis.
- Materials for meetings with the:
 - ✓ Working Group on October 5th.
 - ✓ Steering Committee on October 6th.
 - ✓ Federal Cooperating Agencies on October 19th.
 - ✓ Steering Committee via teleconference on October 20th.
 - ✓ Working Group on October 26th.
 - ✓ LAC on October 26th.
 - ✓ Steering Committee on November 3rd.
- Photographs for each structure in the area between Dearborn Avenue and the foot of the Ambassador Bridge from I-75 to the Detroit River.
- Additional input to MDOT to finalize right-of-entry needs.

C. Task Evaluation

- It appears that the key issue surrounding finalizing the Illustrative Alternatives results is whether to include as a Practical Alternative the second span of the Ambassador Bridge.
- A key aspect of the continuing work in defining the Practical Alternatives will be community consultation. All previous plazas, crossings and connecting routes are to be replaced by new ones developed in this public consultation process.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Meet with the Steering Committee on November 3rd to determine the final results of the Illustrative Alternatives analysis.
- Participate in the preparation for the rollout of the results of the Illustrative Alternatives evaluation.
- Participate in the rollout of the results of the Illustrative Alternatives analysis.
- Present to the Local Advisory Council on November 28th the results of the Illustrative Alternatives evaluation.
- Prepare for the presentation of the results of the Illustrative Alternatives evaluation to the public on December 5th through 8th.

TASK 5 (2160) – DEVELOP SCOPING DOCUMENT

A. Work Progress

- This task has been completed.

TASK 6 (2310) – CONDUCT SEE TECHNICAL STUDIES

A. Work Progress

- Participated in the mid-October meeting with the U.S. consulting team to begin the DEIS analysis process.
- Provided additional input to MDOT to finalize the right-of-entry requirements.
- Participated in the October 19th meeting of the federal cooperating agencies on the preliminary Illustrative Alternatives results.
- Monitored MDOT's engagement of Native Americans.
- Prepared, in draft form, Volume 3 of the Illustrative Alternatives evaluation report which includes the GIS-based information upon which the evaluation was conducted.
- Cooperated with MDOT in gaining involvement of Native Americans.
- Cooperated with MDOT in gaining right-of-entry to various sites for the identification of threatened and endangered species, wetlands delineation, historic properties reconnaissance, and archaeological exploration.
- Coordinated with MDOT to advance the next steps on the hazardous material exploration.
- Began the recordation process of every property in the area between Dearborn Avenue and the foot of the Ambassador Bridge, from I-75 to the Detroit River.

- Cooperated with MDOT in advancing an additional scope of work for the Practical Alternatives.

B. Products

Photos of structures in area between Dearborn Avenue and the foot of the ambassador Bridge, from I-75 to the Detroit River.

Input to Right-of-Entry paperwork.

GIS material include in draft Volume 3 of the Illustrative Alternatives Analysis Report.

C. Task Evaluation

- The Canadians have indicated that there appears to be no need for a joint meeting of Canadian and U.S. agencies dealing with the air quality protocols. Therefore, a meeting with EPA and other appropriate U.S. agencies will be set up.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Begin the DEIS analysis of the Practical Alternatives.
- Start the “recordation” process for cultural resources in the area between Dearborn Avenue and the foot of the Ambassador Bridge from I-75 to the Detroit River.
- Cooperate with the Candian team to begin the Context sensitive Solutioins work.

TASK 7 (2320) – AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

A. Work Progress

- No additional work was accomplished in this area and will not be until a change order is approved by MDOT.
- Assisted in the preparation of a scope of work for additional services as a result of information learned in the first nine months of the project.

B. Products

- Input to scope/budget for additional work.

C. Task Evaluation

- Additional work in this area will be activated as a result of the team meeting in mid-October. Where work is beyond the original scope, it will not be activated until a change order is approved.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Proceed on the appropriate work once the results of the Illustrative Alternatives analysis are concluded.

TASK 8 (2330) – GEOTECHNICAL DATA

A. Work Progress

- Submitted a revised scope of work to extend the brine well investigations in the area between Dearborn Avenue and the foot of the Ambassador Bridge south of I-75 to the Detroit River.

B. Products

- A proposal for additional work submitted to MDOT.

C. Task Evaluation

- The additional geotechnical field work to assess risk of brine wells affecting the development/location of Practical Alternatives must be closely coordinated with the Canadian field work. The latter work has been slowed because of right-of-entry problems.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Determine the next steps for additional geotechnical investigation in cooperation with the Canadians of the Practical Alternatives.

TASK 9 (2340) – PRACTICAL ALTERNATIVES

A. Work Progress

- Met during the month of October with the Working Group and the Steering Committee to conclude the results of the Illustrative Alternatives evaluation.
- Attended a meeting of the federal cooperating agencies to get further input on the refinement of the definition of the Practical Alternatives.
- Set meeting with the Coast Guard on November 18th on navigation issues of proposed river crossings.

B. Products

- Revised reporting on the evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.

C. Task Evaluation

- Based upon a concept developed by Andy Irwin of MDOT, an approach was offered to the Canadians to allow an “area of continuing analysis” to be established in the U.S. that extends from the foot of the Ambassador Bridge downriver to the upstream side of Zug Island. This area would then be connected with a similar area in Canada but would not include the second span of the Ambassador Bridge. This effectively allows the information developed in the U.S. evaluation of alternatives to be sustained and yet the second span of the Ambassador Bridge to be eliminated, per the Canadians’ analysis.
- A key aspect of the continuing work in defining the Practical Alternatives will be community consultation. All previous plazas, crossings and connecting routes are to be replaced by new ones developed in this public consultation process.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Meet with the Coast Guard to determine issues affecting pier locations in the river.
- Set a meeting with DHS/CBP to discuss plaza locations, sizing and other requirements.
- Develop vertical alignment and evaluate effects of the horizontal alignments for connections of plazas to I-75 in the area between Dearborn Avenue and the foot of the Ambassador Bridge.
- Evaluate impacts on plaza areas and bridge touchdown points.
- Develop concept layouts of plazas and the allocation of acreage to the first functions to be served within the perimeter of the plazas based upon meetings with DHS/CBP.
- Develop criteria for circulation needs within the plaza and from the plaza to the road connector and the bridge based upon cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Coast Guard, and DHS/CBP.
- Coordinate with the Canadians so that the constraints on both sides of the river are considered in the placement of the river crossings and the connecting plazas.

TASK 10 (2360) – PREPARE DEIS**A. Work Progress**

- Conducted a mid-October coordination meeting with the U.S. consulting team on the DEIS phase of the work.

- Participated in a meeting on October 19th with the federal cooperating agencies to enter into the DEIS phase of the work based upon the results of the Illustrative Alternatives analysis.

B. Products

None as none required.

C. Task Evaluation

- Work has begun on the analysis required for the DEIS. But, additional public engagement will be necessary in order to define the exact location of the Practical Alternatives crossings, plazas and connecting routes to I-75 on the U.S. side of the border.

D. Upcoming Plans

Prepare DEIS documentation as SEE and Engineering work is completed.

TASK 11 (2380) – DEIS AVAILABILITY/PUBLIC HEARING

A. Work Progress

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

TASK 12 (2510) – RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE

A. Work Progress

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

TASK 13 (2525) – ENGINEERING REPORT

A. Work Progress

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

TASK 14 (2530) – PREPARE FEIS

A. Work Progress

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

TASK 15 (2550) – OBTAIN RECORD OF DECISION

A. Work Progress

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

TASK 16 (2810) – CONDUCT INITIAL SITE ASSESSMENT

A. Work Progress

- Cooperated with MDOT to begin the process of conducting the initial site assessment.

B. Products

- None as none required.

C. Task Evaluation

- The cooperation with MDOT will allow this work to be conducted in the most efficient manner. A GIS database will be coordinated with this effort for continuation in the project after the DEIS is completed.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Begin the additional site assessment work.

TASK 17 (2820) – CONDUCT PRELIMINARY SITE INVESTIGATION

A. Work Progress

- Work has not been initiated in this task.

TASK 18 (3310) – AERIAL TOPOGRAPHIC MAPPING

A. Work Progress

- Completed another 1 percent (total 16 percent) of DTM compilation.

B. Products

- An additional 1 percent of DTM compilation.

C. Task Evaluation

- DTM compilation on hold until MDOT approves the results of the Illustrative Alternatives analysis.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Begin the work in association with the final list of Practical Alternatives.

TASK 19 (3320) – CONTROL SURVEY FOR AERIALS

A. Work Progress

- Continued QA/QC on 50 check points.

B. Products

- QA/QC analysis on 50 check points is 50 percent complete.

C. Task Evaluation

- QA/QC is proceeding appropriately.

D. Plans for Next Reporting Period

- Provided test results of 50 check points.

TASK 20 (3330) – DESIGN SURVEY

A. Work Progress

- Work has not been initiated on this task.

TASK 21 (3350) – HYDRAULICS SURVEY

A. Work Progress

- Work has not been initiated on this task.

TASK 22 (4510) – RIGHT-OF-WAY SURVEY

A. Work Progress

- Work has not been initiated on this task.

TASK 23 (3370) – STRUCTURE SURVEY

A. Work Progress

- Work has not been initiated on this task.

TASK 24 (3520) – SCOUR ANALYSIS

A. Work Progress

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

TASK 25 (3530) – FOUNDATION INVESTIGATION

A. Work Progress

- Submitted the scope of work for additional geotechnical/foundation analysis to MDOT.
- Met in mid-October with the U.S. consulting team to begin preparation for the geotechnical/foundation work that is part of the original scope of work.

B. Products

- An updated memorandum that will be incorporated into the overall geotechnical report that defines the reasons that a tunnel anywhere in the Detroit River area is not a feasible alternative.

C. Task Evaluation

- The upcoming foundation work will largely be associated with an area between Dearborn Avenue and the foot of the Ambassador Bridge – likely more upstream than downstream. Close coordination is essential with the Canadians in order to ensure the work on both sides of the border informs a decision of the best location(s) for a border crossing.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Begin the geotechnical/foundation work in the original scope of work as it relates to the focused analysis area between Dearborn Avenue and the foot of the Ambassador Bridge.
- Begin, once the additional scope of work has been approved, of the detailed geotechnical work for brine well identification to further refine the Illustrative Alternatives.

TASK 26 (3710) – REQUIRED MITIGATION

A. Work Progress

- Broached the subject of the types of mitigation measures that can be discussed as the Practical Alternatives are defined in community consultation.

B. Products

- None as none required.

C. Task Evaluation

- It is clear that the issue of types of mitigation will be responsive to issues raised by the public during the consultation period to define the Practical Alternatives.

D. Plans for Next Reporting Period

- Set up the process for additional intense small group consultation on refining the list of Practical Alternatives.

D. UPDATE OF PREVIOUSLY APPROVED SCHEDULE (ATTACHED)

A change order for additional work has been submitted to MDOT and request for additional information provided by the consultant. It is anticipated that this matter will be acted upon appropriately in November.

E. ITEMS NEEDED FROM MDOT

- A review of the division of engineering work on the border crossing facilities.
- As-built plans for:
 - ✓ I-375 in Downtown Detroit.
- Review of a proposed change order dealing with additional aerial photography and geotechnical tasks.
- Right-of-entry to the properties needed to advance the analysis of the Practical Alternatives.

F. SUBSTANTIVE VERBAL CONTACTS WITH MDOT (ATTACHED)

- Attended the following meetings on:
 - ✓ October 5th with the Working Group.
 - ✓ October 6th with the Steering Committee.
 - ✓ October 13th with DRTP.
 - ✓ October 19th with the federal cooperating agencies.
 - ✓ October 20th in a teleconference with the Steering Committee.
 - ✓ October 26th with the Working Group.
 - ✓ October 26th with the Local Agency Group.
 - ✓ October 26th with the Local Advisory Council.
- Upcoming meetings:
 - ✓ November 3rd with the Steering Committee.
 - ✓ November 15th teleconference with the Steering Committee.

- ✓ November 23rd with the Core Team.
- ✓ November 28th with the Working Group.
- ✓ November 28th with the Local Agency Group.
- ✓ November 28th with the Local Advisory Committee.

ATTACHMENT

G. SCHEDULE DETAIL

Original Date	Anticipated Date	Explanation
Fourth week of February 2005	Fourth week of February 2005	1 Preliminary Evaluation Criteria
Last week of March 2005	Mid-April 2005 ¹	2 Study Kickoff
Third week of June 2005	Third week of June 2005	3 Illustrative Alternatives Definition
Fourth week of June 2005	Fourth week of June 2005	4 Scoping Document
Fourth week of August 2005	Fourth week of August 2005	5 Scoping
Third week of November 2005	Third week of November 2005	6 Preliminary Evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives
Second week of December 2005	Second week of December 2005	7 Preliminary Illustrative Alternatives Evaluation
Fourth week of February 2006	Fourth week of February 2006	8 Evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives/Select Practical Alternatives
Third week of March 2006	Third week of March 2006	9 Practical Alternatives Selection
First week of April 2006	First week of April 2006	10 Context Sensitive Design 1
First week of May 2006	First week of May 2006	11 Community Impact Assessment 1
First week of June 2006	First week of June 2006	12 Context Sensitive Design 2
First week of July 2006	First week of July 2006	13 Community Impact Assessment 2
Fourth week of July 2006	Fourth week of July 2006	14 Engineering Concepts Report
First week of August 2006	First week of August 2006	15 Context Sensitive Design 3
Second week of August 2006	Second week of August 2006	16 Preliminary DEIS
Second week of October 2006	Second week of October 2006	17 Draft DEIS
Fourth week of November 2006	Fourth week of November 2006	18 Public Hearing Script/Video
Second week of December 2006	Second week of December 2006	19 FHWA Approved DEIS
Second week of January 2007	Second week of January 2007	20 DEIS Public Hearing
Second week of April 2007	Second week of April 2007	21 Public Hearing Comment Summary
Fourth week of July 2007	Fourth week of July 2007	22 Recommended Alternative
Fourth week of August 2007	Fourth week of August 2007	23 Final EIS
Fourth week of September 2007	Fourth week of September 2007	24 Final Engineering Report
Fourth week of November 2007	Fourth week of November 2007	25 MOU
Second week of December 2007	Second week of December 2007	26 Recommended Alternative Presentation
Fourth week of December 2007	Fourth week of December 2007	27 Access Justification Report
Fourth week of December 2007	Fourth week of December 2007	28 ROD

¹ Revised based upon the occurrence of various overlapping spring breaks.

ATTACHMENT

H. CONTACT RECORDS

- Daily e-mail and conversations by phone and in person with MDOT Project Manager and other personnel.
- Two status reports.
- Monthly progress report.
- Meetings of:
 - ✓ October 5th with the Working Group.
 - ✓ October 6th with the Steering Committee.
 - ✓ October 13th with DRTP.
 - ✓ October 19th with the federal cooperating agencies.
 - ✓ October 20th in a teleconference with the Steering Committee.
 - ✓ October 26th with the Working Group.
 - ✓ October 26th with the Local Agency Group.
 - ✓ October 26th with the Local Advisory Council.