



CAGC/SCDOT Joint Committee Meeting

March 11, 2026

10am Contractors (Room 331)

11am Joint Meeting (Room 306)

SCDOT - HQ Columbia

AGENDA

I. INTRODUCTIONS

See attached

II. SAFETY

The Safety Office highlighted statewide tornado drill activities and encouraged contractors and districts to review emergency communication plans, including backup communication methods. National Work Zone Awareness Week (April 20–24) materials are available, and all were invited to the upcoming memorial event honoring fallen workers.

III. OLD BUSINESS

a. Blue Light Trailer Data

Initial crash data from blue-light trailer deployments show an approximate 20% reduction in crashes on certain routes. Additional data is still pending, and districts/contractors are encouraged to continue coordinating optimal trailer placement.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

a. New issues regarding DBE

Due to changes in federal guidance, SCDOT is recertifying DBEs without considering race or sex until clearer federal direction is issued. Lack of federal guidance on goal-setting means federal projects will continue to have zero DBE goals for the near future. Recertification is expected to begin in April, involving a large volume of prior DBE firms, including airport-related vendors.

b. Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)/Drone Criteria

All drones not on the federal “blue list” have been grounded on federally funded projects following recent federal national-security directives. Clearer federal guidance is expected in May. SCDOT and industry members requested clarity on procurement vs. usage restrictions, grace periods, and potential cost support for replacing restricted equipment.

c. Improving strategies for managing utility delays outside the contractor's control

Utility relocation delays remain a major concern. Legislative extensions of the water/sewer relocation act were noted. Industry requested stronger accountability mechanisms and improved communication with utilities and railroads. SCDOT noted the complexity and influence of utility stakeholders and welcomed a future structured off-session dialogue to explore solutions. Updated processes now require formal approval for adding subcontractors to utility-approved lists prior to bidding.

The enhanced online subcontractor listing function launched successfully in February after improvements. Industry feedback noted several usability issues, including import/export behaviors, manual entry limitations, and vendor lookup challenges. SCDOT and BidX are actively refining the system.

V. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Road Subcommittee

Will meet next month; concerns were noted about skipping July lettings.

b. Bridge Subcommittee

Bridge Subcommittee reported concerns about very large design-build packages and ongoing challenges with flagging and material lead times.

c. Alternative Delivery Subcommittee

Alternative Delivery Subcommittee covered staffing updates, ongoing major projects, forthcoming bridge packages, contract format reviews, and continued focus on permitting and utility coordination.

VI. NEXT MEETING

a. Wednesday, May 13, 2026

VII. ADJOURN

SCDOT/CAGC Joint Committee Attendees

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