Background of Construction Standards

- Recognition that inconsistent construction standards in use throughout the region was contributing to less than consistent product and compatibility issues among communities.
- The “Blue Book” was first published in 1977 by the North Central Texas Council of Governments’ Public Works Council.
- The Blue Book was revised and improved over time through a complex Public Works Committee structure for general provisions, methods and materials.
- Until the late 1990’s, the Blue Book was edited by NCTCOG and produced by a private contractor responsible for periodic amendments.
- NCTCOG responded to regional desire to bring the process in-house and to address construction.
- The Standard Drawings were first introduced in 1997 as a graphical companion to the Blue Book.
- The current PW Construction Standards version was adopted in 2004.
  - Contains Standard Specifications and Standard Drawings
- Since then the Standards have been on “maintenance mode” and iSWM has been a major focus of the Public Works program.
Construction Standards Update Survey

- We have continued to collect comments and suggestions for Construction Standards amendments and changes.

- The Public Works Council and staff are currently conducting a survey of North Texas public works professionals:
  - Who is using the Standards?
  - How are the Standards being used?
  - Which divisions of the Standards are current or need to be updated?

- To date, the survey has been sent out via email and standard mail to approximately 350 public works professionals.

- We have received approximately 50 complete survey responses.

- The results of the survey will help the Public Works Council decide whether the Standards need to be updated, and if so, to formulate a plan for the update process.
Who is using the Standards?

- Owner: 10%
- Contractor: 1%
- Constructor/Builder: 5%
- Engineer: 31%
- Architect: 2%
- Designer: 7%
- Inspector: 18%
- Tester: 4%
- Maintenance: 11%
- Other: 11%
Where are the survey respondents?

- Collin: 12%
- Dallas: 18%
- Denton: 12%
- Tarrant: 14%
- Wise: 4%
- Other, please specify (Other): 0%
- Other counties:
  - Ellis: 7%
  - Erath: 2%
  - Hunt: 2%
  - Hood: 2%
  - Johnson: 5%
  - Kaufman: 5%
  - Navarro: 2%
  - Palo Pinto: 2%
  - Park: 5%
  - Rockwall: 3%
  - Somervell: 2%
  - Tarrant: 14%
  - Erath: 2%
  - Hunt: 2%
  - Hood: 2%
  - Johnson: 5%
  - Kaufman: 5%
  - Navarro: 2%
  - Palo Pinto: 2%
  - Park: 5%
  - Rockwall: 3%
  - Somervell: 2%
  - Tarrant: 14%
  - Dallas: 18%
  - Denton: 12%
  - Wise: 4%
  - Other, please specify (Other): 0%
How are the Specifications being used?

- **Div 1000 Erosion & Sediment Control**: 45%
- **Div 2000 Pavement Systems**: 41%
- **Div 3000 General Underground Conduit**: 49%
- **Div 4000 Water Distribution**: 39%
- **Div 5000 Wastewater Collection**: 45%
- **Div 6000 Storm Water Drainage**: 35%
- **Div 700 Structures**: 39%
- **Div 800 Miscellaneous Construction and Materials**: 43%
- **Appendix A - Model Forms**: 33%

Colors represent:
- Blue: Use as a Contract Provision without Local Modifications
- Yellow: Use as a Contract Provision with Local Modifications
- Purple: Use as a Reference Only
- Green: Do Not Use This Division
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Current (No Revisions Needed)</th>
<th>Out of Date (Needs Revision)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Div 100 General Provisions:</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>32%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Div 200 Site Protection and Preparation:</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Div 300 Roadway Construction:</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Div 400 Roadway Maintenance and .</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Div 500 Underground Conduit Construction:</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Div 600 Conduit and Appurtenance:</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Div 700 Structures:</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Div 800 Miscellaneous Construction and .</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix A - Model Forms:</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Which Standard Drawings are being used and how?

- Use as a Contract Provision without Local Modifications
- Use as a Contract Provision with Local Modifications
- Use as a Reference Only
- Do Not Use This Division

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Use as a Contract Provision without Local Modifications</th>
<th>Use as a Contract Provision with Local Modifications</th>
<th>Use as a Reference Only</th>
<th>Do Not Use This Division</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Division 4000 Water Distribution</td>
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<td>5000</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Which Standard Drawings are current or out of date?

Current (No Revisions Needed) | Out of Date (Needs Revision)
--- | ---
Division 1000 Erosion & Sediment Control; | 63% | 37%
Division 2000 Pavement Systems | 71% | 29%
Division 3000 General Underground Conduit; | 74% | 26%
Division 4000 Water Distribution; | 74% | 26%
Division 5000 Wastewater Collection; | 50% | 50%
Division 6000 Storm Water Drainage; | 76% | 24%
What other formats would you like to see the Standards provided in?

- Adobe PDF: 53%
- Microstation DGN: 12%
- CADD - DWG: 31%
- Other, please specify: 4%
Do the Standards adequately allow for the use of new or improved products/systems/materials/methods?

- Yes: 69%
- No: 31%
Do you feel TxDOT Standard Specifications for Construction and Maintenance of Highways, Streets, and Bridges (including Standard Drawings) should be incorporated by reference?

- Yes: 71%
- No: 29%
Do you feel the Standards adequately address the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)?

- Yes: 58%
- No: 42%
Do you feel the Standards need to incorporate multi-modal considerations for roadways?

- Yes: 71%
- No: 29%
Should NCTCOG continue to provide the Public Works Construction Standards to the region?

- Yes: 100%
- No: 0%
In Summary:

- A wide range of respondents feel that the Standards are a benefit to the region and should continue to be provided.
- The Construction Standards need to be updated.
- NCTCOG should continue to provide the Standards.
- Thanks to all of you who have completed the survey. If you have not, please visit [http://www.nctcog.org/envir/SEEDevEx/pubworks/index.asp](http://www.nctcog.org/envir/SEEDevEx/pubworks/index.asp) to access the survey and give us your thoughts on the use and effectiveness of the Construction Standards.