3x3x3 Studies, Ports Perspectives

August 30, 2016
How is the 3x3x3 process working?

• Sought the perspective of the cost-sharing project sponsor
• Inquiries made, feed back from:
  • Port of Houston Authority
  • Port of Long Beach
The questions

• How is the communication? Do you feel you are being kept informed?
• Is the Corps treating the sponsor as a partner? Good communications, a say in decision making, etc.
• Is the study on schedule? Within budget?
• The bottom line: Would you use the Corps again if there were other options available?
Port of Long Beach (POLB) responses

• How is the communication? Do you feel you are being kept informed?

• Communication with USACE staff has been very good, and has been improving with the addition of new team members. USACE staff have been very available to respond to questions and participate in discussions even on their time off! New Project Manager has brought added value and enhanced communication, organization and direction to the team. Regular project delivery team meetings and the minutes prepared to memorialize the minutes and identify action items, I believe USACE has kept the Port informed. (Continued)
Port of Long Beach (POLB) responses

• How is the communication? Do you feel you are being kept informed?

• (Continued) Additional focused meetings have also been helpful. The periodic meetings allow for opportunities to discuss the process and obtain a better understanding of issues and the next steps that need to be addressed to keep the study moving forward and on schedule.
POLB responses

• Is the Corps treating the sponsor as a partner? Good communications, a say in decision making, etc.
  • Yes. As the study has progressed, the USACE team has increased its recognition and understanding of the Port of Long Beach. As such, as stated above, the USACE has maintained good, positive communications, allows the port to provide input, and gives consideration to the port’s suggestions and recommendations, which would support the decision making process.
POLB responses

• Is the study on schedule? Within budget?
  
  • So far, I believe that the study is on schedule. The USACE has been very diligent about staying on schedule, which is very much appreciated by the port. According to the correspondence received from the USACE with cost summary information, the study is currently within budget. The port and USACE are currently evaluating work-in-kind services, which will offset a portion of the port’s cash contribution.
POLB responses

• The bottom line: Would you use the Corps again if there were other options available?

• Yes, the USACE brings a national perspective to the feasibility study that our port does not have. Furthermore, the study needs to be done consistent with protocols that will be acceptable and qualify for future congressional funding.
Others Views?