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ACCELA  
Government Software

focus

*Designed for all staff and departments who use Accela*

### **Contractors**

Welcome to a new beginning with the implementation of new Accela Automation Software in the Development Services Center. The project has reached a mid-point and, as the project continues to gain momentum, we are beginning to add contractors to our recipient list. Each week, for over six months, more than 250 Accela users and related people have received a Friday newsletter detailing the progress of the new software implementation. The “Go Live” date is September 19th. As we get closer to the implementation, we wanted to communicate our progress and share ideas about the software with each of you who soon will be using this product. We have selected one contractor from building, electrical, HVAC, and plumbing to “test drive” the software before it’s fully operational. This will give us the opportunity to insure that when we do switch over, everything works as predicted. These beta testers will help us identify any service glitches we need to address prior to each of you using the software. Each week, we will discuss pertinent features of the software that should be of most interest to all our builders, contractors, and developers. We are looking forward to serving each of you with new software and more efficient service.

### **Project Status Report**

We have nudged the project activities to 44% this week. There have been numerous internal meetings and conference calls to discuss the record type development activities and the project milestone dates. The Accela professionals are nearing an end point for collecting the sign-offs necessary to move forward with their efforts. We are still tracking on our project baseline and the budget still remains in check. The Lincoln Subject Matter Experts (SME's) are moving forward with the in-house record building efforts. To date the SME's have created numerous workflows, application specific tables, fee tables, and base records. Remember that between Accela lead efforts and Lincoln efforts we have about 140 different record types that will need to be built. And, as mentioned in previous issues, this is the heart of the system and this is the heart of the project. It is so vital to get this effort completed with exact specifications and yet remain on time and on budget. We also have spread the record and script building efforts out to others who attended the training to ensure that the work can be completed in a timely manner as well as for cross training purposes. Accela and Lincoln are in agreement that it would be in our best interest to have considerable record and script development experience under our belt prior to having Accela's Matt Hart return to Lincoln. With this experience and leaving some programming challenges open, we can move things forward and wait for Matt's help. At this time it looks as if the right time for Matt's trip will be mid-May. Conversion activities are beginning to get our attention. Accela's Andy Wittingham has been working with our technical staff to install Accela's Data Mapping Tool. The tool is currently installed on the Accela Automation server and the SME's will access the tool to build a conversion maps from the PermitsPlus data to Accela Automation record types one at a time. To keep working out in front of the project we are going to begin laying the ground work for the Accela Mobile Office configuration. This is an exciting component that will help facilitate the real-time activities out in the field.

### **Sub-Projects Update**

**Scanning** - Although Accela has shared some exciting news regarding the Product Development Team's scanning enhancement to the base product in version 7.3, we have a production gap to close on at least five or six months. During this period of time, a work-around must be determined how to handle the images of roughly 2,000 documents.

