

CASE STUDY

\$20 million road project managed online

Smith Seckman Reid, Inc + Appia®

CHALLENGE

Consulting firm Smith Seckman Reid, Inc. (SSR) was selected to manage a complex, multi-year project that involved multiple funding sources and stakeholders. The project included road, bridge, railroad work and more.

SOLUTION

SSR chose Infotech's Appia® service since it is web-based, allows for real-time online collaboration and "live look-ins" for all stakeholders based on role.

SSR estimates saving the equivalent of one staff person on the project.



“The fact that it is web-based, plus the reporting tools, give us multiple ways to find problems and illustrate issues to the clients. [Giving clients read-only access] makes it a step above other software in terms of keeping the client in the loop.”

CHRIS SWEAT, CONSTRUCTION MANAGER
SMITH SECKMAN REID, INC.

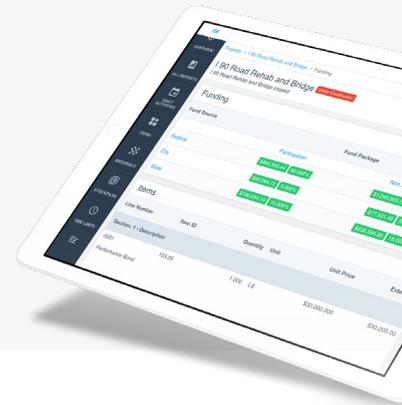
When you are put in charge of a \$20 million project that is anticipated to have a long and lasting economic impact on the region,

you need to get it right, on-time and on budget. That was the challenge for consulting firm Smith Seckman Reid, Inc. (SSR) when it signed on for the Veterans Parkway project just outside of Memphis in Millington, Tennessee.

The project involved the extension of the parkway to a three-mile, five-lane road with three bridges, including a rail-crossing bridge. It was the state's

largest local programs project to date, and included the construction of 3.27 miles of five-lane roadway, 1,300 feet of bridges, two box culverts, a temporary cofferdam, 900 feet of noise barrier wall, a railroad crossing improvement, and two signalized intersections. The anticipated results were huge: improved access to interstate highways and an airport in a growing industrial hub.

It was clear from the outset that communication, collaboration and frequent client interaction on the project status were going to be essential.



To ensure success, SSR sought out a web-based construction administration application to assist in the project. Specifically, they were looking for ways to allow all roles – project managers, inspectors and stakeholders – to access project data from a web browser. The intent was to replace previous methods for such projects which typically included generic spreadsheets and cumbersome paper field books. The Appia® service from Infotech, Inc. fit the bill.

Chris Sweat, Construction Manager for SSR, notes that moving from conventional methods was not easy, however. Infotech did initial training that Sweat notes “went well.”

“To get started, SSR chose several of our more ‘tech-centered’ engineers to learn the software and to transition their newer jobs from our old way to Appia,” Mr. Sweat said. “Once this was completed, those engineers provided additional training to their inspectors and subs through several meetings and presentations.”

As soon as users were familiar with the service, the benefits became apparent. The web platform was particularly key, since it allowed for all stakeholders to access live data, in realtime, at their convenience. “The fact that it is web-based, plus the reporting tools, give us multiple ways to find problems and illustrate issues to the clients,” said Mr. Sweat. “[Giving clients read-only access] makes it a step above other software in terms of keeping the client in the loop.”

The ROI on the service is very apparent to Mr. Sweat. “The Appia software allows us to be more efficient because we are able to keep inspectors in the field more, and provide the client with up-to-date information that they can access at their convenience,” he said. “The work the Appia software saves is equivalent to about one staff person.”

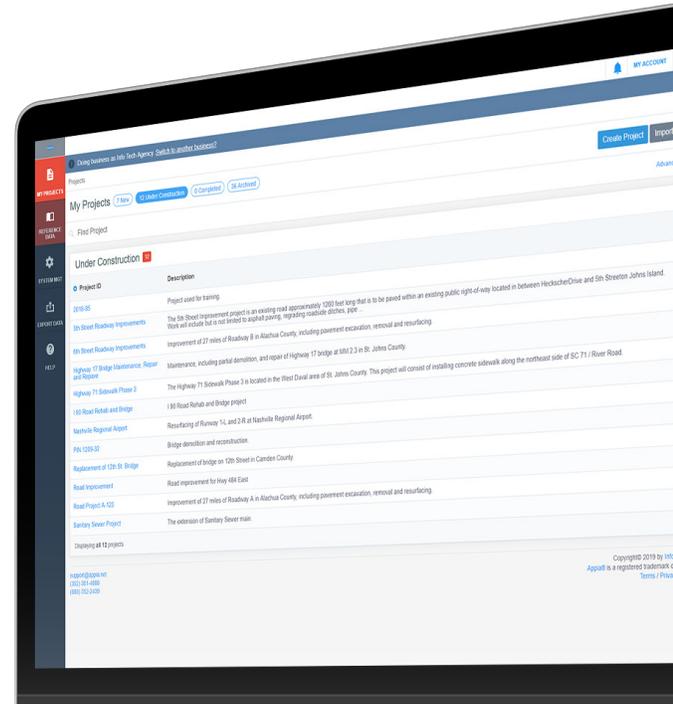
Traffic moves freely in Millington, Tennessee today and the economic impact of the Veteran’s Highway project is just beginning to take shape. Innovative thinking by SSR and an innovative product from Infotech. are making this possible.

Overcome the Challenges of Construction Administration and Inspection

Streamline your processes with a web-based, mobile-accessible service built on intuitive use and flexibility.

- + Mobile Field Inspection
- + Comprehensive Daily Reporting Features
- + Automated Item & Material Tracking
- + Efficient Payment Management
- + Real-Time Data Collaboration

Sign up for a demo at appia.net



infotech

Infotech provides web-based software solutions for construction administration and inspection, secure internet bidding, and paperless contracting. Our powerful software solutions are developed in line with our core values of innovation, transparency, and service. Founded in 1977 by two university professors, our extensive history with the construction industry enables a deeper understanding of the issues facing consultants, contractors, and inspectors. We seek to develop long-standing relationships with our clients and provide them with the tools and support for their operations to thrive.

Learn more at infotechinc.com