

A new Paradigm for Utility Coordination

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INDOT Mission & Values

- INDOT Mission:
 - INDOT will plan, build, maintain and operate a superior transportation system enhancing safety, mobility and economic growth

- INDOT Values:
 - Respect
 - Teamwork
 - Accountability
 - Excellence



We are stewards of public trust

- \$208 million spent on Utilities/Railroad since 2010
- \$300 million spent on preliminary engineering
- \$350 million spent on right-of-way
- \$3.4 billion in construction
- \$8 million spent on UT related delay claims coded in Site Manager



Identifying the critical path?

Stumbling blocks to success

Right of Way Acquisition

Utilities

Environmental Permitting

**Successful teams will identify and
address the critical path!**



A NEW PARADIGM FOR UTILITY COORDINATION

The primary goal of utility coordination is to get the utilities out of the way of our road project.

The primary objective is to proactively engage our partners so that maintenance of and improvements to the public infrastructures can be accomplished.



The current approach

- Survey
- Notify utility companies
- Establish right-of-way
- Design the project to stage 2-3
- Bring in the utility companies to finalize coordination
- Construct the project



A new paradigm

- Survey
- Bring utility companies to the table
- Avoid utility impacts whenever feasible
- Establish a preliminary layout for right-of-way and placement for utilities
- “Everyone knows where everyone goes!”
- Establish reimbursable positions



When is a utility eligible for reimbursement?

- a) When the utility has a property interest in it's present location,
- b) When a municipal utility resides on municipal property,
- c) When after a first move, the utility is relocating a second time due to design changes,
- d) When the project hasn't been let two years after the utility has relocated,
- e) Only a and b
- f) All of the above



When is a utility eligible for reimbursement?

- a) A utility is an attacher on poles located in an easement,
- b) A municipal utility is located within LARW along US 231,
- c) The public utility is financially unable to relocate which creates a hardship,
- d) A public utility on municipal property wishes to not remain under pavement,
- e) None of the above



A new paradigm

- Obtain a ballpark estimate
- Determine the team who will acquire right-of-way
- Establish the critical path for the project
- Build in contract whenever feasible
- Provide our Geo-Tech reports



A new paradigm (cont.)

- **Conduct constructability reviews at project specific intervals!**
- Complete design through tracings
- Thoroughly review utility work plans, schedules, right-of-way status, and special provisions before letting
- Construct the project
- Maintain utility coordination efforts



Constructability Manual on website

www.in.gov/indot/

On the left navigation from the home page:

- Click "About INDOT"
- Then Click "Central Office"
- Then Click "Project Management"

Or go directly to:

<http://www.in.gov/indot/2697.htm>



Special Provision example

The facilities of American Electric Power (AEP) Distribution (also known as Indiana Michigan Power) exist within the project limits. The utility could begin to implement work plan 45 days after receipt of the notice to proceed. The utility will be able to complete its involvement with the contract when the contractor has completed staking and clearing the right-of-way in the location of Sta. 54+00 to Sta. 62+50 "S-3(2)-C" such that the utility may adjust its facilities. It is anticipated that the utility will take approximately 75 calendar days to adjust its facilities in such area. AEP Distribution will need 60 days to obtain materials and 45 days to schedule work crews. If questions arise, Mark Walls of the utility may be contacted at 260-408-1895 or mawalls@aep.com.



Post-letting utility coordination

- Coordinator stays “on point”
- Advises CN and PM of all utility activities
- Manages schedule
- Adjust to field conditions
- Monitor cost overruns
- Issue acknowledgement of completed work plan and final bill reminder



Managing risk

Monitoring Accurate Placement

Constructability reviews point out the “risk points” within right-of-way where we need to monitor placement during the utility relocations and our construction.

- In-house
- Consultant
- Contractor



Managing risk (cont.)

Monitoring Accurate Placement (cont.)

Factors to consider when deciding how to manage risk:

- Project complexity (i.e., urban , rural, design-build)
- Project schedule and budget
- Number of utility relocations
- Phasing and timing of utility relocations
- Right-of-way space



Benefits to this approach

- The utility is brought in as a partner
- All right-of-way needs are accounted for
- One presentation to the property owner
- The project team controls the schedule
- Control costs of right-of-way, design, utility relocations and construction
- Avoid costly delays and confusion
- Construction, Utilities, and Project Managers are in full partnership throughout



Questions?

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Consultant Pre-Qualification

- Pre-qualified firm/Certified individuals
- Pre-Requisites to attend training
 - 4 Years industry exp w/ 1 year of Utility work
 - Bachelors in Engineering + 2 years
- Training 2-4 days,
- Testing,
- Maximum of 2 per firm in initial trainings
- Training frequency to meet industry needs

