Utilities Update

DelDOT Lessons Learned
March 8, 2021

Eric Cimo
DelDOT Utilities Engineer
302-760-2642
eric.cimo@delaware.gov
Agenda

- Miss Utility
- Private vs. Public
- Design Coordination w/ Utility Companies
- Advanced Utility Work Coordination & Inspection
- Highway Contractor Coordination w/ Utility Companies
Miss Utility

- Place ticket at least 2 working days (no more than 10) prior to performing work
- Do NOT start excavation until positive responses are received from ALL companies on the ticket
- Process a discrepancy to the ticket as needed (improper response, missing marks, etc.)
- Utilize the “Meeting Request” function
  - In situations where excavation projects are large, complicated, and will extend over 20 days, a Meeting Request is recommended so that a mutually agreeable construction and locate schedule can be agreed upon by all parties. Such pre-job meetings are important for major or unusual excavations. The meeting will facilitate communications, coordinate the marking with actual excavation, and assure identification of high priority facilities.
- Protect and Maintain the Marks
- Ticket Life
  - Valid if the described work begins within 10 working days after the call date and the work is continuous and the locate marks are still intact.
Private vs. Public

- Facilities not owned by the utility company?
- No marks through Miss Utility?
- Records of these facilities?
- How to find the utilities?
PRIVATLEY-OWNED LINES CAN BE LOCATED FOR A FEE

Water, natural gas, and residential electric lines are usually owned by the utility up to the meter. Some sewer districts own only the mains; others extend their ownership to laterals up to the property line. The customer typically owns everything beyond these points.

Customer-owned lines usually include any that serve outbuildings, hot tubs, security lighting, pools, and natural gas grills.

The free locating service available through 811 applies ONLY to facilities owned by utilities. The diagram below shows a variety of utilities, some owned by the utility and some by the homeowner.

Those utilities marked by dotted lines are typically owned by the homeowner. Private locating services will mark these for a fee.

WATER  ELECTRIC  PHONE AND CABLE
SEWER  GAS AND OIL

DON'T FORGET! After calling 811, wait two business days before you begin digging!

Know what's below. Call before you dig.
Other Examples
• Coordination occurs with companies throughout project design.
• Utility Statement
  – Summary of existing facilitates and proposed utility work
  – Provides anticipated work durations and relocation bar charts
• Utility Relocation Bar Charts
  – Summary and sequence of how utilities will relocate
  – Coordinated during design based on anticipated project phasing
• Utility Agreements
  – Utility agreements are generated with each company if there is reimbursable work
  – Agreement exhibits include
    • Outline of Reimbursable Work
    • Responsible Parties
    • Estimate(s)
    • Relocation Bar Chart or Anticipated Relocation Timeframe
• If there are changes to the anticipated design, schedule and construction methods, all anticipated utility work may be impacted.
### Advanced Utility Work Coordination & Inspection

**Advanced Utility Relocation is Utilized Frequently**

**Sometimes Subject to Other Provisions**
- ROW Clear
- Clearing/Grading Complete
- MOT
- Funding/NTPs
- Stakeout

**Requires Proactive Field Coordination & Inspection**
- Advanced inspection has proven crucial and big benefit.
- Reach out to companies to discuss work and timing
- Making sure companies understand where they need to go based on design and stakeout
- Notify companies on progress and when there are changes
- Handle questions and issues to keep work moving
- Keeping track of work to verify reimbursables

**Asbuilts & Knowledge for Highway Project**
Highway Contractor Coordination with Utility Companies

- Coordination to occur per the Standard Specs and the Utility Statement
- Provide Required Advanced Notice from Utility Statement
- Notify Companies of Any Anticipated or Approved Changes
  - Especially related to phasing and schedules as mentioned previously
- Coordinate and Communicate with Companies throughout Project Construction
Questions??

UTILITY WORK AHEAD