CENTURY ENGINEERING
A Kleinfelder Company

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DELDOT UTILITIES SECTION
POST-COORDINATION & CONSTRUCTION REVIEW MEETING: FINAL

STATE CONTRACT: T201012001; SR299, SR 1 to Catherine Street
REVIEW MEETING DATE: February 23, 2024
PREPARED BY: Alan K. Marteney, P.E.
Century Engineering, LLC, a Kleinfelder Company

INVITEE	ORGANIZATION	ATTENDED
Alan Marteney	Meeting Organizer	Y
Eric Cimo	DelDOT Utilities Engineer	Y
Blowers, Cassidy	DelDOT Construction	Y
John (Jay) Evans, P.E.	DelDOT Construction	Y
Wintermute, Michael	McCormick Taylor	Y
Smith, Tucker B.	McCormick Taylor	Y
Todd Frey	Town of Middletown	Y
Paul Perrone	Town of Middletown	Y
Brandon Skrobot	Town of Middletown	Y
Wesley Page	Atlantic Broad Band	N
Garth Jones	Chesapeake Utilities	Y
Bill Muehlberger	Crown Castle	N
Tom Smith	DP&L-Electric Distribution	N
Wayne Tyler	Artesian Water	N
Kendall Robinson	Century Engineering	Y
Shaun Long	GPI-Construction	Y
Wes Rowe	GPI-Construction	N

BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Improvements to SR299 between Middletown and Odessa. SR 299 will be widened to two lanes in each direction from SR 1 to Cleaver Farm Road, and a two-way center lane turn lane will be added from Cleaver Farm Road to Catherine Street, along with pedestrian and bicycle improvements. This project is a result of the East Middletown Master Planning effort that was performed by DelDOT and was ultimately adopted by the Town of Middletown Council. Improvements extended on intersecting roadways including: Catherine St.; New St.; Cleaver Farms Road; Dickenson Blvd.; Silver Lake Road; Dover run Blvd.; Brick Mill Road; Willow Road; and Gloucester Blvd.

UTILITIES INVOLVED:

- Artesian-Water
- Atlantic Broadband-Communication
- Crown Castle-Communication
- Delmarva Power-Electric Distribution
- Town of Middletown-Water
- Town of Middletown-Sewer
- Town of Middletown-Electric Distribution
- Verizon-Communication

ADVANCE UTILITY RELOCATIONS: Yes.

ADVANCE UTILITY RELOCATION START DATE: Fall 2019 -Notice to Proceed.

ADVANCE CLEARING CONTRACTS: Winter/Spring 2020

ROAD CONTRACTOR: A-DEL Construction Co., Inc.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION START DATE: August 2021

ROAD CONSTRUCTION END DATE: On-going as of the date of the review meeting.

DELDOT PROJECT DEVELOPMENT SECTION/PROJECT MANAGER: PD North; Jerry Lovell

ENGINEER OF RECORD FIRM: McCormick Taylor

DELDOT CONSTRUCTION REPRESENTATIVES: Cassidy Blowers; Jay Evans.

CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION FIRM:

- Advance Utility Relocations: Century Engineering/Kendall Robinson
- Road Construction: GPI/Shaun Long

DELDOT UTILITY COORDINATOR: Eric Cimo

MAJOR PROJECT CHALLENGES: Project is located within a highly developed commercial and residential area. During both Project Development and Construction, a major challenge was keeping up with changes due to new developments. These resulted in changes to the road design and subsequently the utility relocations. A challenge was also coordinating with the timing of the road improvements and utility services needed for the new developments which included a new Public Library and a new Emergency Department.

The schedule for the advance utility relocations was developed so that they would be complete by the time that the road contract started based on the anticipated phasing and durations of the utility work. Century provided survey stakeout, on-site inspection and as-built documentation for the advance utilities until the road construction project started when GPI assumed the inspection role. Several factors prevented the utility relocations from being completed in the anticipated time-frame, including:

- Need for advance clearing.
- Clearance of the needed Right-of-Way for the advance clearing and utility relocations.
- On-going changes to the road design and subsequently the utility installations and relocations due to the aforementioned new developments.

PROJECT POSITIVES:

- All stressed the importance of having a dedicated inspector for the utility relocations as this provided a single point of contact and continuity for the relocation work and any changes needed for the relocations due to the design changes and encountering unknown conditions.
- Dedicated inspector also served as primary point of contact with the Design Engineers. Quick response from the Design Engineers was noted as a positive to implement changes and resolve conflicts.

- Having relocations, proposed improvements and right-of-way staked out in advance was noted as critical as it allowed final field review and identification of conflicts as was the follow up on as-builts to confirm no conflicts or work out conflicts with proposed work by others.
- Having monthly progress meetings focused on the utility relocations was very helpful in coordinating schedules and issues.
- Communications amongst all involved was noted as being responsive which minimized delays and costs to the extent possible.
- In sum, all agreed that communication between all parties was very good and that this minimized issues in this corridor that was congested with utilities and developments.

PROJECT NEGATIVES:

- Not having the right-of-way available was noted as being a major impact to scheduling and getting the work completed.
- Some unknown underground utilities were encountered.
- The proposed water main was very close to the existing water main which resulted in some conflicts with constructability and making service tie-ins.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- When advance underground relocations are placed thru wooded areas, subsequent clearing & grubbing (removal of tree roots) by the road contractor can affect those underground facilities. Consider including grubbing with any advance clearing work and/or having the advance underground utilities installed deeper if other design elements allow (e.g. drainage pipes).
- Need to account for maintaining electric service to the existing traffic signals and roadway lighting until the new signal/lighting is installed. This also includes any ITMS or other communications that are tied to the signals.
- Relocations of utilities should be accomplished at one-time for the entire limits of the project to minimize temporary tie-ins and subsequent time to complete, costs and service interruptions to the public. Temporary connections for the communications utilities were noted as being especially impactive.
- Conduct an Advance Utility Relocation pre-construction meeting. Establish points of contact for the day-to-day activities/scheduling.
- Proposed new developments and their proposed new entrances/sidewalks/utilities need to be coordinated as early as possible. Issuing construction permits from the town or DelDOT district for any new work also should be coordinated in advance and restrictions imposed on those permits as needed for coordination with the advance utilities or road work.
- Account for constructability issues when designing and incorporating the utility relocations into the contract documents.