Addressing Utilities in Design Build

Maryland’s Continual Evolution
Wednesday May 2, 2012
Overview

• SHA’s History
  – Sample Projects
  – Lessons Learned

• SHA’s Future
  – Policies
  – Agreements
SHA’s History - Elkton

• 2000 – Elkton Streetscape Project
  – Water, Gas, Lighting – True DB w/ Design and Construction
SHA’s History - Elkton

• Interesting Facts
  – Designed to 99% and Relabeled as 30%, “Designed” again.
  – No Utility Coordinator on Contractor Side.
SHA’s History – The ICC

• The Inter County Connector
• In Planning since 1955.
• 18 Miles of new alignment electronic toll road.
• Constructed in 4 major Design Build Contracts.
  – Included all aspects of utility work.
SHA’s History – The ICC

- Perform Upfront Utility Coordination
- Establish Criteria for Utility Relocations
- Develop Concepts For Relocations
SHA’s History – The ICC

- Survey Existing Systems
  - Aerial Utility Mapping
  - Web-based Inventory of Existing Poles
SHA’s History – The ICC

• Developing Formal Agreements
• Dedicated Staff from Utilities
• All Utility Work Included In Contract
• 100% Reimbursement for CERTAIN Utilities
SHA’s History – The ICC

• Lesson’s Learned
  – Contractor will use Concept Designs as gospel and for claims.
  – Utilities will move faster when they are being paid.
  – Utility Coordinators keep things moving.
SHA’s History – The ICC

• DOT’s Perspective: The Work
  – No Utility based delays/claims. (known, at this time)
  – Support from Utility Company Management made everyday issues go away.
SHA’s History – The ICC

• Utility Company’s Perspective: The Work
  – Designed the Project Twice.
  – No (perceived) control over the contractors.
  – Important for Utility Companies to provide “Pre-Qualified” subs they want to work with.
SHA’s History – The ICC

• The Agreements
  – Bring $omething for the Utilities to the table.
  – Negotiate at the Highest Level.
  – Involve DOT officials with working knowledge of the existing Agreements.
  – Know your options and boundaries concerning Labor Unions.
SHA’s History – MD 715

• Base Realignment and Construction (BRAC) Project.
• One Interchange, One Intersection and One New Gate on Base Property.
• One Contract, Two Sections – One Design, Bid, Build the other: Design Build.
SHA’s History – MD 715

• Utility Coordination throughout Design.
  – Established alignments reflected in DB Plans.
  – Set the utilities on a schedule.
  – Dealt with right of way issues.
    • Off-site relocations
  – Covered issues related to Military Installation.
SHA’s History – MD 715

• Lessons Learned So Far.
  – Utilities don’t keep schedules when they are not being watched.
  – Contractors don’t follow the suggested sequence of construction.
  – There is a gap in Utility Coordination between Design and Construction.
SHA’s Future – Policies

• Policy to be Re-Written in 2014/15.
  – To be updated from 1989 publishing.
  – Incorporate SUE, Design Build and current ways of doing business.
  – Outline and incorporate centralized Utility Coordination from Design THROUGH Construction.
SHA’s Future – Agreements

• Policy to be Re-Written in 2014/15.
  – To be written to support new policy.
  – Needs to include financial penalties to be effective.
    • Legislation likely needed.
  – Needs the momentum of a strong DOT program to proceed.