

Updating The Utility Relocation Policy

Maryland's Progress
Tuesday May 1, 2012

2012 AASHTO Subcommittee on Right of Way and Utilities Conference

Marriott Waterfront Hotel – Portland, Oregon
April 29 to May 3, 2012



Where Tradition and Transformation Converge

AASHTO

Utility Coordination Evolution

- 1990's: Established Centralized Utility Coordinator in HQ's Design Group.
- 2000: First SUE Contracts
- 2001: First Utility Coordination Contracts
- 2003: Elkton Streetscape
 - Utility Infrastructure Inclusive Design-Build

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Utility Coordination Evolution

- 2008: ICC – Utility Agreements Written to Include Power and Communication Construction. Prior Rights Waved.
- 2001-2010: Participant Presenters at the MDQI Annual Conferences.
- 2010: Approved as Sub-Committee to the MdQI Steering Committee.

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MdQI - Utility Sub-Committee

- Sub-Committee: Attended by SHA Design/Construction, Utility Companies, Consultants and Contractors.
- Advisory Panel: Attended by SHA Management and Utility Management.

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MdQI - Utility Sub-Committee

- Mission Statement
 - Through collaboration amongst stakeholders the MdQI utility subcommittee will improve utility relocation design, rights-of-way acquisition and construction processes, while increasing the level of service and minimizing impacts to the end user, tax and rate payers.

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MdQI - Utility Sub-Committee

- Workshops Conclude that Procedures and Policies do not Reflect the Current Process.
- Sub-Committee is Chartered with Updating Procedures that will Influence the Policy Change by SHA.

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- Current Procedure Manuals
 - Follow Design Typical Milestones.
 - Process is Inherently Disconnected.
 - Do Not Address Use of SUE.
 - Do Not Address Design-Build.
 - Prior Rights Process Not Defined.
 - No Tie Between Design to Construction.

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- THE REAL PROBLEM
 - Procedures Are Not Followed.
 - Schedule Reductions.
 - Process Not Well Known.
 - No Triggers Within the Process.

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- Goals of the Revised Procedures
 - To be Up to Date and Relevant.
 - Solve Issues.
 - Easy to Follow.
 - Supported by All.

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MdQI – Utility Sub-Committee

- Rewrite Approach
 - Tried to get Main SHA Office to Provide Resources to Rewrite the Manual.
 - Sub-Committee Would act as Review Agent.
 - Declined Due to Funding Issues.

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MdQI – Utility Sub-Committee

- New Approach
 - Review Other DOT Procedures and Policies for Template that Best Meets Committee's Objectives.
 - Potential Candidates:
 - Georgia, Texas, Florida...Others???

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MdQI – Utility Sub-Committee

- Rough Long-Term Schedule
 - 2012 Select a Procedures Manual Model to Copy.
 - 2013 Adapt Model to SHA Standards and Future Utility Agreements*.
 - 2014-15 Utility Policy Review.
 - 2016-17 Utility Agreement Rewrite.

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MdQI – Utility Sub-Committee

- Challenges
 - Momentum
 - Lack of Program Funding Removes Immediacy.
 - Changing Positions.
 - Agreements
 - Varying Objectives Among Key Stakeholders.
 - Too Easy to Stick with old Agreements.

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