



Utilities and Railroads

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Presentation Overview

- Utility Relocations
- Railroads
- Buy America – Utility and RR Work

Utility Relocations

■ Utility Accommodation Policies

- Requires utilities to obtain permit from agency with jurisdiction over the roadway
- Policies and permits specify the conditions that will allow utilities to be located in the right-of-way
- Utilities inside the right-of-way must relocate at their own expense if required by the transportation project
- Specifies other administrative procedures associated with obtaining a permit

Utility Relocations

- Reimbursement of Utility Relocation Costs
 - The STBG Swap program can pay for utility relocations for which the LPA is obligated or has the authority to pay; for example:
 - Project requires property in which the utility has an interest (i.e., owns by fee title or occupies by private easement)
 - Needs approval from the MPO or RPA
 - Rules for projects on Interstate or Primary Highways are different (governed by State laws and policies)

Utility Relocations

■ Coordination with Utilities

- Be pro-active and cooperative
- Recommended “best practices” in I.M. 3.640
- Utilities must be notified of the project, Iowa Code Section 318.9
 - Provide information early and often! 90 day Iowa Code Requirement
 - Each project is different, lead times will vary
 - Provide copies of plans as early as possible

Utility Relocations

■ Coordination with Utilities

□ Utility Coordination Meeting, Iowa Code Section 306.47

- During design phase
- All utilities within project limits or corridor shall be invited

□ Recommendations

- At least 14 day notice of meeting
- Send invitation by certified mail
- Minutes of meeting to all who were invited

Utility Relocations

■ For more information:

- I.M. 3.640, Utility Accommodation and Coordination

- Non-primary Utility Policy

 - https://www.iowadot.gov/local_systems/publications/lpa_utility_policy.pdf

- Primary Utility Policy

 - <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/ACO/chapter/761.115.pdf>

 - <https://iowadot.gov/traffic/pdfs/UtilityPolicy.pdf>

- Utility Accommodation and Coordination web page

 - <https://iowadot.gov/traffic/utility/utility>

- Utility Contacts web page

 - <https://iowadot.gov/traffic/utility/utility>

Railroads – Items to Remember

- Notification
- Agreement
- Specification
- Bid Item for RR Protective Insurance

Railroads – Notification & Agreement

■ Notification of Railroad

- Provide notice as early as possible
- Describe the proposed work
- Request an agreement
- Attach a copy of the project plans
- See Railroad Information Sheets for LPA's, linked in I.M. 3.670
- Talk to District Local Systems staff or Nicole Fox for guidance

Railroads - Agreement

- Must have some form of agreement in writing
- Indemnity
 - LPA needs to determine their level of risk
- Contractor Right of Entry agreements are allowed but not recommended (see I.M. 3.670)

Railroads - Specifications

- Every RR project needs a specification
- Developmental Specification
 - Union Pacific – Construction or Maintenance
 - Canadian National
 - Canadian Pacific
- Special Provision
 - All Other Railroads

Railroads – Eligible Costs

■ Eligible Railroad Costs

□ Construction

- Either Railroad forces or private contractor
- Relocated Railroad signals
- Flagging costs not paid directly by LPA's Contractor

□ Right-of-way

- Eligible only if transportation project requires replacement Railroad facilities

Railroads – Ineligible Costs

- Costs ineligible for Swap participation:
 - Additional length of bridge provided if certain clearances are exceeded, unless an exception is approved:
 - Horizontal Clearance > 20'-0" (6.1 m)
 - Vertical Clearance > 23'-4" (7.1 m)
 - Additional length of bridge provided for future tracks, unless they are in the Railroad's 5-year plan.

Railroads – Bid Items

- Do not include the bid item for Flaggers
 - Only Office of Contracts adds bid item
 - Only for A+B (UP RR)
- Include Bid Items for Insurance for each Railroad (shown in RR Info Sheets)
- For Insurance in excess of allowable \$2M/\$6M, check with Administering Office for current requirements

Railroads – I.M.s

- For more information:
 - I.M. 3.670, Work on Railroad Right-of-Way
 - Railroad Information Sheets

Buy America - Utility & RR Work

- No longer applies!!

Questions?

- Reference Documents:
 - As listed on previous slides
- Iowa DOT Contact Person:
 - District Local Systems staff
 - Nicole Fox

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