



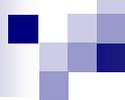
# Utilities and Railroads

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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 of 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 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](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>

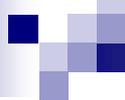
  - <https://iowadot.gov/rightofway/pdfs/UtilityPolicy.pdf>

- Utility Accommodation web page

  - <https://iowadot.gov/rightofway/utility-accommodation-and-coordination#50439614-accommodation>

- Utility Coordination & District Utility Coordinators

  - <https://iowadot.gov/rightofway/utility-accommodation-and-coordination#50439615-coordination>



# 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 Local Systems staff or Nicole Moore 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 by 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 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 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 Bureau 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

- Buy America requires the use of domestic iron and steel products in Federal-aid projects
- Effective Oct 1, 2012, MAP-21 expanded the reach of these requirements
- If one contract utilizes Federal-aid, then all contracts within the project, as defined by the NEPA document, are subject to Buy America
- Applies regardless of who pays

# Buy America - Utility & RR Work

- If utility relocations or RR work are eligible for Federal-aid, then Buy America applies
- Agreements for eligible utility relocations and RR work must include the Buy America provisions
- Failure to include these provisions or comply with Buy America may jeopardize Federal funding for the entire project!

# Questions?

- Reference Documents:
  - As listed on previous slides
- Iowa DOT Contact Person:
  - Local Systems Bureau
  - Nicole Moore

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