

Michigan Utility Coordination Committee  
August 8, 2018  
Meeting Minutes

1. Utility Relocation Issues on LAP Projects with Private Utilities – Champions for Message
  - a. In previous meetings it was agreed that an educational campaign/roadshow for project teams to be more conscious of utility/project coordination during design, including a better understanding of design tickets and MDOT Form 0260, would be a benefit to utility coordination and construction impacts. To date, no one has volunteered to be a champion for this effort.
  - b. MDOT has reviewed what authority they have on LAP projects, and they don't really have much authority pre-bid based on most of the design work is performed prior to submitting for federal funding (when MDOT becomes involved with oversight).
    - i. Timing of funding may be adding to design phase utility coordination or lack of detailed pre-utility work. (Local agency projects often low-bid design work and do not include many hours for utility coordination. Design is done with local funding only, and construction involves federal funds.)
  - c. It was mentioned that there may be opportunities for influencing procedures through the MISS DIG pilot efforts and/or the Michigan Infrastructure Council efforts.
  - d. ACTION: ACEC has a committee and Ron will emphasize the checklist and recirculate the checklist at that committee meeting.
  
2. MDOT Electrical Contractor Completing Final Service Hook-Up
  - a. It was discussed that it is not a unique issue that during construction projects can experience months of delays because of timing to get the utility company (or their contractor) out for final power service hook-up.
    - i. It was discussed that although easements can create this issue, this is not typically an easements issue.
    - ii. This item is mainly an issue with signals and street lighting.
    - iii. Finding was to improve this issue would be a win-win.
  - b. Any updates to allow for the approved utility company contractor to complete hook-up as part of an MDOT project would have to be vetted through utility company Supply Chain Groups. A process would have to be put in place by the Supply Chain Group.
    - i. What is the current process to submit for hook-up?
    - ii. The issue could lie with the assigned utility planner.
      1. It was discussed that someone on a project could go months without hearing from a planner.
      2. Can a planner be assigned during design and included on the project contact sheet?
      3. It was suggested that the improving and clarifying the timing within the process may be the best next step for improvement.

- a. An idea was to assign a commitment date up front.
    - b. MDOT Traffic and Safety would need to lead the initiative.
  - c. ACTION: Erik Smith volunteered to receive project examples experienced of this issue and lead a discussion with DTE on possible improvements.
- 3. MUCC Annual Meeting Update
  - a. MISS DIG will now be hosting their annual meeting at Soaring Eagle the Tuesday (1/22/19) before the MITA Annual Conference.
    - i. MISS DIG offered to host and fund the 2019 MUCC Conference due to the overlap in membership.
    - ii. There will be a networking event on Tuesday night.
  - b. Conference planning will kick-off with the next MUCC meeting.
    - i. ***UPDATE: The MUCC Committee met on October 3<sup>rd</sup> to begin planning for the 2019 MUCC Conference. The committee members present voted unanimously to hold off on holding the conference in 2019 due to a lack of new items to report from the MUCC committee and a lack of presentation items proposed for the agenda. The MUCC Committee will reconvene in early 2019 and discuss the future of the committee and the possibility of an ever-other-year conference.***
    - ii. There is \$4,809.85 in funding remaining in the MUCC Conference account.
- 4. Future of MUCC
  - a. Questions were raised on the future of the MUCC committee and whether it would make sense for a new committee lead/organizer who is actively involved in pre-construction utility coordination to lead the committee's efforts to help with progress and help re-energize.
    - i. Meeting agenda items have been extremely slow to trickle in over the past few years.
    - ii. Meeting attendance has been consistently low.
    - iii. The committee has not made progress on many items over the last couple of years (since GUIDE took its own path).
  - b. There was consensus by a majority within the committee members present that MUCC is still an important/relevant committee.
    - i. It was mentioned to remain a relevant and important committee that the committee needs to be making progress.
    - ii. There were no volunteers to take over leader/organizer efforts.
  - c. ACTION: Committee will continue discussion at next meeting. Doug Strauss will schedule next MUCC meeting in early 2019.

SUBJECT: MUCC Meeting Attendance  
 DATE: 8/8/18  
 LOCATION: MITA Conference Room

Initial	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	COMPANY	EMAIL (if not already on file)
LJA	Laura	Arnold	MISS DIG	
RB	Ron	Brenke	ACEC	
Phone	Bruce	Campbell	MISS DIG	
A.C.	Adolfo	Castillo	DTE Energy	
	Rob	Coppersmith	MITA	
	Al	Dionise	AT&T	
	Dirk	Dunham	Consumers Energy	
LA	Scott	Greene	MDOT	
	Dave	Langlois	HNTB	
PL	Nick	Lefke	MDOT	
	Mark	Loch	OHM	
	Steve	Puuri	County Road Association/MML	
	Kristin	Schuster	MDOT	
ES	Erik	Smith	DTE Energy	
TS	Travis	Stokes	Rauhorn	+stokes@rauhornelec.com
EP	Doug	Strauss	Alfred Benesch & Co.	
RV	Rachelle	VanDeventer	MITA	
JH	JEFF	HEATH	ATT	JH786 c ATT-com
MS	MATT	SKINA	ATT	M56913@ATT.com
DJS	DAN	SMITH	CONSUMERS - ELECTRIC	daniel.smith@cmseenergy.com
ATB	ADAM	BERTRAM	CONSUMERS ENERGY - GAS	ADAM.BERTRAM@CMSENERGY.COM
MOB	MATT	BREUSH	HNTB	mbrush@hntb.com
A.C.	ADOLFO	CASTILLO	DTE ENERGY	adolfo.castillo@dteenergy.com
Phone	RICK	Piskowski	ATT	