

Design – Traffic

The applicable Traffic Control Device questionnaires (Signals, Signing, Pavement Markings, and Lighting) shall be completed by the maintaining agency prior to the development of preliminary plans and the RFP technical requirements. These questionnaires provide the DDT insight into the maintaining agency's preferences and design requirements. The DDT should use the questionnaires when developing the technical requirements of the RFP.

The traffic designer shall review the proposed roadway design to ensure adequate right of way is provided for the installation and maintenance of all traffic control devices and to determine potential impacts to utilities. As part of this review, the traffic designer shall also conceptually determine if there will be any traffic control device installation, removals, and/or relocations beyond the project limits. Additional right of way required for traffic control devices, potential utility conflicts, and potential work beyond the project limits shall be reported to the roadway designer for further discussion and incorporation into the roadway design plans and/or RFP technical requirements.

For freeway projects, projects involving complex guide signing, projects including the installation of ITS/TMS devices, or projects including the installation of signalized intersections, the traffic designer should consider preparing conceptual traffic control device plans showing the location of existing traffic control devices as well as major equipment installations such as, but not limited to, overhead or cantilever signs, signal poles, controller cabinets, DMS, and CCTV Cameras. These conceptual plans can be used in reviewing for right of way and utility conflicts, developing the RFP technical requirements and in completion of the Traffic worksheet in PCES.

Utility Preliminary Investigation

Preliminary plans which include utility designation and locations of underground facilities should be distributed by the VDOT District Utilities Engineer (DUE) to those utility owners, agencies and municipalities that are impacted by the project. The distribution should include notification to parties that the project is proposed as a Design-Build project and that preliminary plans are ready for review. An estimate shall be developed and entered in PCES for the anticipated utility relocations identified in the preliminary plans. Plans shall not be advanced beyond this stage until after award of the project. The Design-Builder shall be responsible for confirming all utility facilities and utility owners located within the project limits.

The DUE should conduct a preliminary field meeting to review the project parameters and discuss the relocation process. It should be clearly noted that the completion of right of way requirements depends on relocation identification. Local utility owners should be encouraged to incorporate their relocations as part of the RFP where feasible. This can assist with the development of a project schedule and a coordination of conceptual drainage to assist with the minimization of utility relocations.