UTILITY EASEMENTS

In the past, utility easements have not been identified on public hearing plans. Following the public hearing and even as late as construction, concerns have been raised that citizens have not always been informed that utility easements may be added after the public hearing.

Discuss the necessity of showing preliminary utility easements on project plans at the scoping stage and at preliminary field inspection. Strong consideration should be given to showing proposed preliminary easements on project plans in residential areas prior to the willingness and public hearing stage.

The field inspection recommendation regarding inclusion of preliminary utility easements should be reviewed with the appropriate Assistant State Location & Design Engineer or District Location and Design Engineer.

If the decision is made to <u>add</u> preliminary utility easements on the project plans, plans will be made available in <u>ProjectWise</u> by the designer for the Regional Utility Coordinator along with a written request to develop preliminary utility easements for the public hearing stage. The date this information will be needed to meet the public hearing schedule will be included in the request.

If the decision is made <u>not to add</u> preliminary easements on the project plans, the appropriate plan note (See Note B on next page) is to be shown on prints for the willingness, public hearing and prints furnished outside the department.

When the preliminary utility easement information is received from the utility section, they are to be shown on prints for the willingness or public hearing and prints furnished outside of the department along with the appropriate plan note (See Note A on next page).