SPROW Sustainable Public Rights Of Way Subcommittee

May 18, 2021



Welcome & Introductions



Approve Summary from April 20, 2021 Meeting

- Jan Rugg from Atmos presented on their business model and communication strategies with cities in the region.
 - Safety is their number 1 concern.
 - Atmos tries to have representatives at all regional and city quarterly/annual meetings. They want to build relationships so they can communicate as early as possible on projects.
 - Atmos prefers for cities to send them an image of the project area they are thinking about so Atmos can look at their future projects that can possibly be done while construction is already underway.
 - Cities need to start the conversation on projects, but Atmos will do everything too keep the relationship and communication open. It is never too early to communicate on a project.



Utility Coordination

- The next chapter of the BMP Guidebook is Utility Coordination (Coexisting Types, Franchises, Documentation, Coordinated Needs, etc.)
 - Each franchise has a different process and set of BMPs. As we develop BMPs the group should think about how to break down the chapter into different sections.
 - The BMP Guidebook should be beneficial and communicate the right information without getting too detailed.
 - The Guidebook needs to provide guidance that pertains to every jurisdiction in the NCT Region.
 - The Guidebook should consider sustainable practices for utility projects.



Utility Chapter Intent

- What is the purpose of this chapter?
- What does the subcommittee hope to convey through these BMPs?
- Public utilities included (water, sewer, MUDS, SUDS, wholesale water providers)?

Topic ideas:

- Coordination
- Existing ROW
- ROW expansion
- Relocation
- Streetlights/existing poles
- Equipment infrastructure
- Line of sight issues
- Above ground infrastructure



Utility Chapter General BMPs

- Any general statements that apply to all franchise utilities?
- What are franchise utilities?
- Background on franchise utilities-the who, what , where (mention different categories)
- Where do I go to find which franchise to talk to?
 - Service maps, call City/County
- How to keep relationships and dialogue open with different franchise utility companies?



Electric Utility BMPs

- What are the different elements?
- What is the organization?
 - Different departments for service, delivery, permitting, etc.
- New facilities in ROW
 - What are the elements (poles, service, transformers, streetlights underground conduit, above ground cable, etc.)?
 - What is the process?
- Relocations in ROW
 - Design Criteria/Rules of Thumb based upon subcategories (poles, transformers, underground conduit, above ground cable, etc.)
- Removing facilities in ROW
 - What is the process?
- FAQ or common issues



Gas Utility BMPs

- What are the different elements?
- What is the organization?
 - Different departments for service, delivery, permitting, etc.
- New facilities in ROW
 - What are the elements (pipeline, testing stations, valves, etc.)?
 - What is the process?
- Relocations in ROW
 - Design Criteria/Rules of Thumb based upon subcategories (pipeline, testing stations, valves, etc.)
- Removing facilities in ROW
 - What is the process?
- FAQ or common issues



Telecommunications Utility BMPs

- What are the different elements?
- What is the organization?
 - Different departments for service, delivery, permitting, etc.
- New facilities in ROW
 - What are the elements (poles, overhead and underground)?
 - What is the process?
- Relocations in ROW
 - Design Criteria/Rules of Thumb based upon subcategories (poles, overhead and underground)?
- Removing facilities in ROW
 - What is the process?
- FAQ or common issues



Council of Governments

Small cells and cell towers here or other category?
North Central Texas

Other Utilities BMPs

- What are the different elements?
- What is the organization?
 - Different departments for service, delivery, permitting, etc.
- New facilities in ROW
 - What are the elements?
 - What is the process?
- Relocations in ROW
 - Design Criteria/Rules of Thumb based upon subcategories?
- Removing facilities in ROW
 - What is the process?
- FAQ or common issues



Utility Survey Matrix

- How would you prefer for cities to contact your company?
- How do cities find the right person to contact for a project (ROW project, relocation, dig test, etc.) ?
- Please list the depth and/or spacing requirements for your utilities offered or provide a guidelines manual.
- What small cell procedure/placement guidelines do you have in place?
- What dig test guidelines do you have in place?
- What are your guidelines for the relocation of utilities?
- What are your guidelines for dual ownership of utilities?
- Please include a sample cross section/permutation of each utility type (illustrations), including overhead or buried as applicable
- Have you worked on any creative co-locations with proactive ductbanking solutions?
- Are there any federal or state laws that your utilities are limited by?
- Is your company involved in any city/regional utility coordination meetings? (whether annual, quarterly, etc.)
 - If so, what information is provided at these meetings? What info is helpful for cities to receive at these meetings?



North Central Texas Council of Governments

Public Works Roundup Presentations

- 22nd Annual Public Works Roundup will be held Sept. 2, 2021, at Grapevine Convention Center.
- From 1pm-4:10pm there will be a breakout room for a SPROW track.
 - Five (5) 30-minute presentations, or three (3) 35-minute presentations and one (1) 70-minute presentation
- Last year's presentations
 - Landscape Planning: Arlington Tree Manual
 - Utilities: Network Nodes and Shot Clocks
 - Green Infrastructure: Return on Investment: Online Tool Calculates the Benefits of Green Infrastructure
 - ROW Planning, Administration, and Policy: City of Dallas Comprehensive Environmental & Climate Action Plan (2 presentations)
- Presentation Topics from Public Works Council Survey
 - Green Streets and Green Infrastructure
 - 5G Permitting and Implementation



In-Person Meetings

- How/when would the SPROW Subcommittee like to come back to in-person meetings?
- The Public Works Council would like to move towards inperson meetings but wants to follow other NCTCOG policy bodies.



Member Roundtable





Next Meeting

Tuesday, June 15, 2021 1:30pm

Microsoft Teams



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