PROJECT DESIGN AND SECURING CLEARANCES

4/12/23

KEY PRESENTATION POINTS - LEARNING GUIDE

ROADWAY ENGINEERING

Roadway Engineering Group supports and delivers ADOTs Roadway projects. They look at the project need and objective, existing conditions, safety considerations, risk factors, budget, schedule and design parameters when analyzing a project.

7 sections within Roadway Engineering Group – Roadway Survey, Roadway Standards, Roadway Design, Roadway Pavement Design, Roadway Pre-Design, Roadside Development and Roadway Drainage.

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING

Traffic Engineering is comprised of Traffic Design Section, Traffic Standards and Administration.

Traffic Engineering oversees pavement markings, signing, signals, studies, work zone traffic control and highway lighting on our state roadways.

BRIDGE GROUP

The Bridge Group function is to scope bridge preservation projects, design plans in-house and review consultant design plans, provide construction support and develop and update bridge guidelines, standards and specs.

Bridge Group also houses the Geotechnical Design Section and Geotechnical Operations.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

An environmental clearance means the project has been reviewed under all applicable environmental requirements and is "cleared" for construction.

For federal-aid projects, environmental clearance is generally associated with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA).

Environmental Planning within ADOT consists of Environmental Planners, Air Quality experts, Noise Technical Experts, Archaeologists, Biologists, Hazardous Materials Specialists and Water Resources.

RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW) GROUP

ROW acquisition is a time consuming process. Plan accordingly.

Without a NEPA clearance, ROW cannot initiate negotiations for property acquisitions or submit to government agencies to begin their submittal process.

Eminent Domain – Government can take private property and convert it into public use with compensation.

UTILITY AND RAILROAD (URR) ENGINEERING

URR is responsible for clearing the ROW of utility conflicts in advance of highway construction projects. A URR clearance is required prior to any project advertisement.

Utilities are electric power, gas/oil lines, telecom/cable TV, water, sanitary sewer, reclaimed water and the railroad. The railroad is considered a utility.