

**MaineDOT Utility Task Force Meeting**  
**March 30, 2017**  
**MaineDOT Conference Room 216**  
**Chair: Brian Burne**

**Attendee:** See list at end of document

**Agenda –**

- New Policy: Protection of MaineDOT electric services to Traffic Signal and Lighting Control boxes
- New Draft Policy: Wireless Technology in State ROW
- Map Viewer Demo
- Letter 1 Responses
- Downloadable Work Plan Spreadsheet

Brian welcomed all to the meeting and shared the sad news of Mike's mother passing away. Introductions were done and handouts shared with the group (Agenda; Final Protection of MaineDOT Owned Underground Electrical Service Connections; Draft Microcell/Transport/Small Cell/and Distributed Antenna System).

**New Policy: Protection of MaineDOT electric services to Traffic Signal and Lighting Control boxes**

- Comments were all positive with the new policy. All felt that the policy corrected inconsistencies that have existed in the past

Jerrod (EMERA) commented on the use of flexible armored cable being easier to use in some instances. No need for brackets, steel flexible cable; used on Union Street, Bangor for underground cable. Jerrod will share specs with Brian and Skip (CMP). Brian will discuss with John Craig.

**New Draft Policy: Wireless Technology in State ROW**

- Gearing up for 5G expansion/ high bandwidth. Antennas even closer to each other. Little antenna's. 5G will need more towers.
- Maine, like many states, are having issues with 120' towers being proposed within the highway R/W.
- Policy acknowledges that we are aware that aboveground utilities are also dealing with the issue of proposed attachments to existing poles and MaineDOT has no intention of interfering with that.
- All permitting still needed – towers will have to be outside of ROW – will work with those as we have handled them in the past.

Emera – has not been allowing Antenna's on their poles – concerned with interference. Feels attachment to street lights creates a code violation.

Q – Is DOT communicating with these companies? Who has to permit? It is there responsibility to obtain permits from MaineDOT.

- If a Utility has a process intact we may follow suit
- Current company that is pushing in most areas is Mobilitie – It would appear they have not done a lot of research into the specific locations that they have been proposing to date.
- More to come – very much a DRAFT document that still has a lot of edits and changes coming.

## Map Viewer Demo

- Work Plan is available in several options: Mapviewer, PDF document, Excel spreadsheet
- From Work Plan page – Mapviewer will start with all Projects added
- Features – Road information by clicking on the section of the Project
  - AADT information available
  - Traffic volumes are also available and are helpful to determine if traffic issues are likely with proposed work. If AADT is at or above 6,000, you will need to work with a traffic engineer to avoid the peak hour(s). If the AADT is over 10,000 to 12,000, night work is likely to be necessary.
  - ROW is also available - both property plans and corridor layouts. Different layers can be added or removed also. Property Plan view is an option as well. Plan Sheets are printable.
    - No plans available on country layout roads (in green)
  - ROW dates are available
  - Many filters are also available to customize to your needs
  - Route log miles are another useful tool.
  - DOT is adding new features to Map Viewer
- Maine WAZE viewer is also a useful App. Gathers information and give information on traffic concerns anywhere. WAZE is a downloadable application for phone.
- Nate Kane is the MaineDOT contact for Map Viewer for any questions.

## Letter 1 Responses

- Josh – any way to make the process easier? May receive a quicker turnaround if possible. A lot of repeat information to complete / if contact person is the same and within your database, can we just share the person name and submit?
- Terry B. Many times we do not know who the Utility will assign to a Project; especially in large companies. More information is needed with large Utilities
  - DOT needs this information to make formal contact
    - Information is entered into our Utility Database
    - Formal contact is required to meet our Federal requirements
  - Many time we do not receive updates when staff changes with Utilities
  - If any contact info changes note the changes – if no changes then the person's name works
    - DOT keeps all utility contact information for each company
  - If Utility is not located in the area of the project just note “NOT THERE” and return

Wiscasset Water made a template of the form to make easier to complete

Utility Database was demoed to the group showing the information MaineDOT has on file for all Utilities

DOT will pull the list of contacts for Emera and CMP to confirm information is correct or update for our records

Q - How far in advance of a Project are the Letter 1's usually sent?

- Overlays and Maintenance Projects Highway and Bridge are usually 6 months
- Highway and Bridge Capital Projects can be 12 to 24 months
- Emergency Projects could be 30 days
- LAP's and Multimodal Projects could vary from these timeframes

Wiscasset Water - Few years back received short notice on a Project only to find out the Project was pulled without notification to the Utilities. Communication lacking at times with MaineDOT, seeming to be falling behind more than years past

- Utilities making contact with the Regions but not getting any responses back from them. Many cases a year later; waiting for one currently for 4 months on required permitting. Several email sent.... follow up with after the meeting with Brian

### **Downloadable Work Plan Spreadsheet**

- Please share feedback on needs or comments on features
- You can use the information that benefits you the best; sorting, deleting, etc.
- Customize to your fit your needs

Comment – CMP has a 5-year Work Plan that sees a lot of changes so hard to stay on track. Very impressed on how DOT is able to stick to their Work Plan. We are able to cross-reference our Projects with DOT's when the Letter 1's arrive.

- Other utilities have Work Plans as well; asked to please share with Brian, Mike and Utility Coordinator's, will be helpful
- EMERA – shares theirs with John Devin which helps to keep all on the same page
- CMP is rebuilding miles of lines due to Marijuana Business/fields. Putting a large volume of services needing to support the business.
- Huge benefit to know what MaineDOT has in the pipeline for projects

Useful if able to add your projects with MaineDOT's – see how any Projects relate to each other. Talk with the Utility Coordinator in the Region of the Project with questions

### **Recurring Items –**

- Lessons Learned - Traffic Signal Project in Waterville – Mast Arms

Dig safe is the only notice – which is too late; no room available between Fairpoint and utility. No Communication done; made for a touchy location for both utilities.

- Emera asked about if a new policy was in place on Street Lights/Mast Arms
  - 60' pole with 16' street light beyond that. Derrick comment the 16' will not be happening
  - Street light pole extends beyond the Mast Arm Pole
    - Brian will mention to Traffic
  - 60' pole is the standard in Bangor since 2016
  - Standard spacing is 40" on Poles

- LAPs – Location Permits – is the way DOT becomes aware of LAP project. Would be helpful to check in to make aware prior to the issuance of the permit.

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<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>TELEPHONE</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
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