

Virginia Department of Transportation

Rte. 1/123 Underground Utilities Ductbank Construction

0001-076-171, C501

Pardon Our Dust – March 9, 2015
Notes with Question and Answer Session

The doors were open at 6pm in order to allow citizens the opportunity to look at the plans and ask questions before the presentation began at 7pm. There were approximately 65 attendees.

VDOT's William "Bill" Cuttler began the presentation with a quick description of the project and the purpose of our meeting. He also noted that 31 buildings will be demolished which led to applause by all. Bill introduced Woodbridge's Magisterial District Supervisor Frank Principi.

Mr. Principi thanked all of those that attended the meeting last month in regard to this underground utility project. A new website will be up and running in a few days; newwoodbridge.org and will be updated daily; comments can be received through this website. He ended by thanking everyone for coming out tonight.

Bill reiterated VDOT's commitment to performance: Last fiscal year, the NOVA District's Construction dashboard received a 95% (40 projects out of 42) for on time or ahead of schedule in completing construction projects. He also introduced Chan Basnayake, the Area Construction Engineer (ACE) and Shea Ridings, VDOT's Sr. Utility Construction Program Manager.

Shea began the presentation and introduced the project staff. A question and answer session followed the presentation.

1. It was noted during the presentation that service poles will not be removed; where are these poles located?
 - a. These service poles are located on individual properties.
2. How many service poles are there?
 - a. Approximately five
3. Will the current center line (base line) remain the same or will it change?
 - a. As part of the ductbank construction, the base line will remain the same. When the roadway construction begins, the base line will change in order to achieve the proposed six lanes. This will occur in order to shift traffic away from the railroad and in order to build the proposed ramp for the interchange.
4. What is the road going to be; concrete or asphalt?
 - a. Asphalt
5. Are power outages expected during the course of this work and if so, will residents be notified in advance?

- a. As part of the ductbank work, no power outages are expected. However, once the conduits have been installed and Dominion Virginia Power (DVP) begins pulling their lines, it is possible that power outages could occur. DVP will notify the public according to their standard protocol.
6. Along Rte. 1 on both sides of the roadway, there are boarded up buildings, are they going to be removed?
 - a. Yes, there are 31 properties that will be demolished
7. What does Enhanced Access to the VRE mean?
 - a. During the widening, a sidewalk will be placed on one side, a shared use path will be on the other side and crosswalks will be installed.
8. How will the demolition of the properties be performed?
 - a. Construction equipment such as a backhoe will be used for demolition.
9. What is the schedule for switching the utilities?
 - a. Once the first segment of the construction work is complete; then the utility companies can come in and perform their work. DVP is still designing their plan so no formal schedule has been provided yet, however will most likely happen at the beginning of next year and the second phase will follow.
10. There are three methods for placing conduit; please explain those methods?
 - a. Open Cut – Use a track hoe and then dig; place the conduit and then backfill
 - b. Directional Bore – Drill and pull the conduit through
 - c. Jack & Bore – Drill under the road and encasements
11. There is a large building on Annapolis Way that is shown on the plans to be demolished, however that building is still occupied. What are the plans for this location?
 - a. This location is still with VDOT's Right of Way (ROW).
12. There are two buildings at 123 Occoquan Road; Econo Lodge and Taco Bell; will those be demolished as well?
 - a. Econo Lodge – this location will be included in the next contract
 - b. Taco Bell – will be demolished as part of this contract
13. What about the Subway?
 - a. The Ductbank will proceed beside the proposed structure that houses the Subway with no impact. Part of the structure will be demolished on the next phase of construction.
14. On the East Side, are any buildings coming down?
 - a. There will be some structures on the east side that will be demolished. Mr. Hunan's restaurant, as well as the Next Car building. Currently we will be utilizing the Next Car structure as an impromptu field office for the construction staff. It will be demolished at the end of the project.
15. What is the sequence of demolition of the properties?

- a. Begin at Mary's Way to Occoquan; the plan is to have all demolition completed by July.
16. How soon before landscaping in this area will be completed?
- a. Minimal landscaping will be provided as part of the ductbank portion of this project. Some landscaping will be provided as part of the Roadway project and ultimate landscaping will be performed during the Interchange portion of this project.
17. Will the speed limit be changing?
- a. No, the speed limit will remain the same.
18. Can the speed limit be increased going across the bridge into Fairfax?
- a. VDOT's Traffic Engineering would need to perform a traffic study in order to consider changing the speed limit in this area.
19. The Woodbridge Potomac Communities Civic Association (WPCCA) asked if "Please Excuse our Mess" signs can be placed.
- a. The Supervisor's office commented that signs are already in the works.
20. Citizen Comments:
- a. Homeowner owns two properties and in the last 10 years the area has deteriorated and the property values have gone down because of the vacant buildings along this corridor. VDOT needs to make it better and provide landscaping.
 - b. Follow up to the above comment: On the weekends, there are cars for sale and food trucks all along Rte. 1
 - c. These lots have become mom and pop car shops; why not tow the cars, VDOT owns the property?
 - i. The Contractor has been calling the car owners to let them know they have until Wednesday, 3/11/15 to remove their cars or they will be towed.
 - d. This issue (noted in letter C) was brought up during a Town Hall Meeting. County Transportation said they can't do anything unless VDOT posted TOW Away signs on their property.
 - i. VDOT will share these concerns with our property management staff for review.

The meeting was adjourned at this time, however VDOT and Contractor was available for any additional questions.