

Meeting Minutes



Project Name: BRF-021-1(46)—38-54 Cedar Creek Lateral Slide
Meeting Subject: Pre-Bid Meeting

Meeting Date: 3/3/2026
Start Time: 10:00 AM
Location: Virtual

Attendees: **Iowa DOT** – Mustafa Qaisi, Stacy Ryan, Lili Yang, Mike Nop, Curtis Carter, Mark Dunn, Steven McElmeel, Christy Vanbuskirk, Anthony Blint
BMcD – Samantha Wermager, Luc Wellman
Others – Brian Jacob, Jodan Muller, Zach Steffen, Whitney Garman, Troy Calvert, Chuck Philipp, Jared Marugg, Dennis Herberger, Tom Ringelstetter, Tim Weis, Tyler Gustafson

Purpose of Meeting:

Discussion of unique continuous concrete slab bridge design details to accommodate the ABC lateral slide method.

Notes:

Requests for bidding docs must be submitted by noon the day before the letting March 17th.

Mustafa discussed Prebid meeting agenda.

Sam Wermager shared a presentation with specific items for bidders to note as related to the design and the prefabricated bridge move.

- Sam emphasized the need for an IOWA PE for sealing design calculations for temporary works, prefabricated bridge move, etc.

Questions:

Jordan, PCI – Concern with the late start date compared to letting date of March 17th.

- There is concern about having enough time to complete required submittals prior to getting started with construction/beginning of ‘working days’ clock.
- Project letting date was set earlier, but was pushed out to March to avoid conflict with a nearby culvert (open cut excavation) project. Each project uses the other route as a detour, so they cannot have road closures during the same time frame. Culvert project will occur first.

Do the abandoned in place fiber optic utilities still contain fiber optic lines or are the conduits empty? It would be an issue for excavation if the conduits are not empty.

- The abandoned fiber conduit most likely still have fiber cable in them but DOT will check with the utility coordinator on status and if they can be cut/removed by utility owner.

Can powerlines be moved to accommodate drilled shaft installation on east side of bridge?

- Steve noted there was no consideration/discussion about moving or de-energizing overhead lines during the design phase.
- The subject of overhead line clearance was discussed when pile bents were the preliminary option, but a solution needs to be found as it regards to drilled shaft clearance from the overhead lines.
- Brian Jacobs says moving the lines would be better over de-energized.
- Curtis does agree that the clearance from the overhead lines does look tight to get drilled shaft equipment in place with the existing foreslope staying in place before the slide. Safety concern in general for those overhead lines.
- Contractors say 20 ft of working space plus 10 ft safety distance from overhead power lines is not enough space to complete the drilled shaft installation.
- Temporary sheet pile wall discussed to help with getting equipment down berm slopes while maintaining clear from overhead lines, but the concern remains for having enough room to build a working pad, swing in casing, maneuver heavy equipment, etc.
- If number of working days is increased, the shafts on the east side could be constructed after bridge demo, with access from the west instead of the east.

Steven mentioned there needs to be further internal discussion as it relates to appropriate number of critical closure days since 40 days was noted by contractors as possibly being too short.

- Critical closure days are independent of the number of working days for the project.
- If the contractor closes a lane again after the critical closure period, the contractor will be charged a critical closure day currently as stated in the proposal by Contracts group. Discussion can be had if this needs to change. One lane each direction needs to be present for there not to be a critical closure. Steven reemphasized the need to limit closure time to limit impacts to the public.
- Steven asked input from contractors on closure days to accommodate mass concrete and drilled shaft. Steven proposed a fall schedule, Kramer said 20 additional days of closure seems reasonable.

- The contractors prefer flexibility to obtain pricing reductions. If construction is being done in the spring as opposed to the fall the working days may be able to be decreased. The move itself will go more smoothly for sure with nicer weather.

Steven says the comments talked about today will be used to make an adjustment as it relates to project timeline.

Lilly asked the contractors preferable clear from overhead lines. 40 ft clear from drilled shaft if the lines are de-energized is the bare minimum. 50 ft needed if the lines are live.

If the overhead power lines can go underground, that would also solve the problem.

How are working days applied to any egress and ingress plan? I.e. can lane closures occur after the critical closure period to accommodate work adjacent to traffic lanes?

- As the proposal is written now, no closures of any kind are allowed after the critical closure period.
- The district prefers no lane closures of any kind after the critical closure period. They would prefer to add days to the critical closure period to accommodate work adjacent to lanes after lateral bridge move.
- Kramer said shoulder closures instead of lane closures can handle most daily work. However, the deck pour would require a full lane closure due to heavy truck traffic.

The pre-bid meeting agenda and power point will be available on Bidx within few days.