

# **DC Power Line Undergrounding**

Technical Approach Presented by: Keith Foxx, DDOT Program Manager & Scott Placide, Pepco Electrical Engineer II Date: September 18, 2014

### Agenda

- Safety Culture
- Technical Overview
- Planning and Design
- Construction Practices
- Permitting Activities
- Construction Inspection Activities
- Q&A



# **Safety Culture**

**Emphasis on Safety** 

- "0-0-0" Goal, Zero Fatalities, Zero Recordable Injuries, Zero **Preventable Vehicle Accidents**
- Contractors are required to meet or exceed OSHA safety procedures
- There is not a job or activity that is so important that it cannot ulletbe accomplished in a safe manner





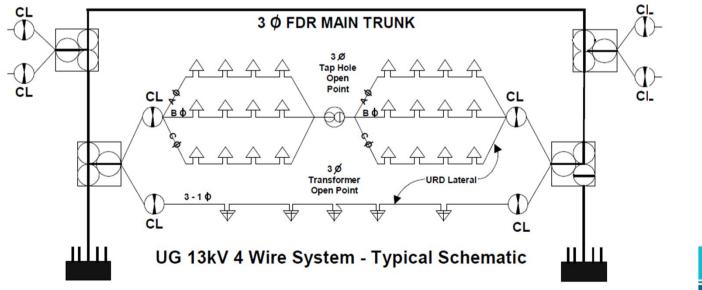
## **Technical Overview**

- DDOT responsible for civil design and civil construction contracts
- Pepco responsible for structural and electrical materials, electrical design and electrical construction contracts
- 21 Feeders spread among Wards 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8 over first three years (2015-2017)
- The current project delivery method is Design-Bid-Build
- Preliminary Construction costs range from \$5.5 to \$41.2 Million per feeder
- Preliminary Construction scope ranges from 1.1 to 12.4 linear miles of conduit excavation per feeder
- Each feeder is scheduled to be designed and built within 12 months (two exceptions 15177 and 15707), *if relocation is not necessary*



### Planning and Design – Underground Electrical System

- Overhead feeders are existing 13kV radial or 4kV network
- Underground design is double loop system
- Feeder main trunk primary is branched only through gang switches to adjacent feeders
- Load is supplied in fused lateral "half loops" that can be fully backed up at normally open tie points
- DC PLUG preliminary designs allow for potential load growth





#### Planning and Design - Preliminary Underground Schematics

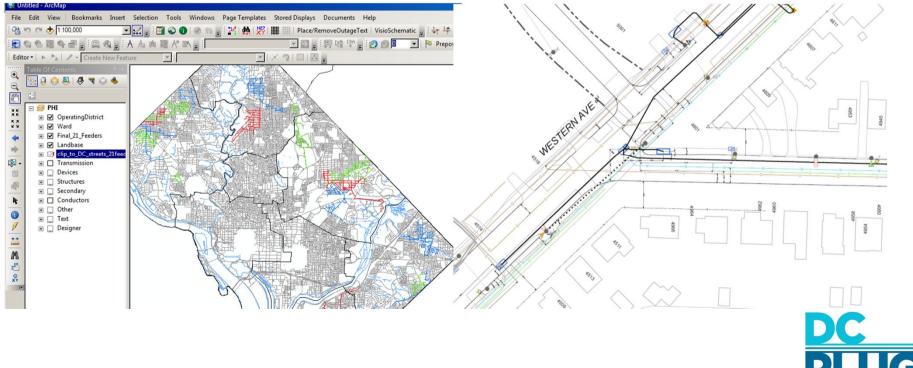
- Preliminary Electrical Schematics
  - Proposed underground lines closely follow existing overhead lines
  - Preliminary designs were done at a very high level
  - Reliability added to underground system by looping distribution transformers providing bilateral feed capability
- Preliminary Civil Schematics
  - Proposed civil facility locations designed from preliminary electrical schematics
  - Preliminary civil schematics were designed at a very high level
  - Underground mainline facilities and electrical equipment facilities proposed in public right-of-way

\* Note: DC PLUG Preliminary Schematics are included in the Triennial Plan application



### **Planning and Design - GIS/GWD**

- Pepco system is built in GIS/GWD ArcMap version 10.2
- Civil and electrical designs will be completed in GIS/GWD Workflow Manager
- Training specific to DC PLUG designs will be required and provided



#### Planning and Design - Field Survey

- Detail field surveys required for detail design placement of facilities
- Existing underground facility records from Washington Gas, DC Water, and Verizon have been obtained
- Will need to locate the following in the field:
  - Existing Utilities:
  - Water facilities
  - Sewer facilities
  - Gas facilities
  - Communication (Verizon, Comcast, RCN, etc.) facilities
  - Existing Pepco overhead transformer/cable poles
  - Existing Pepco underground facilities

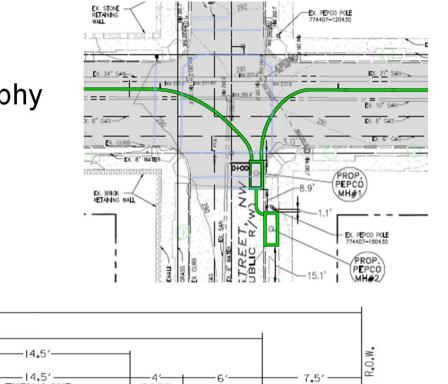
- Right of Way:Alleys
- Parking lanes
- □ Sidewalk dimensions
- □ Tree space/existing trees
- Public Parking

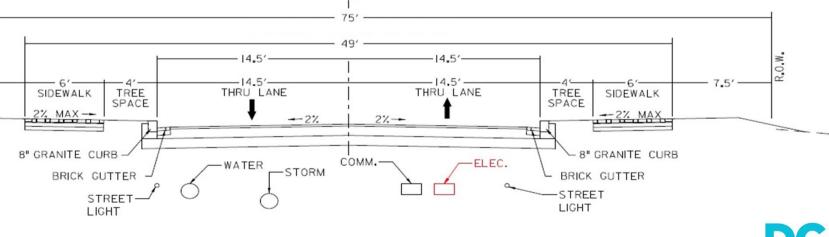
- Other:Traffic control
- Geographical challenges to underground construction
- DC government properties
- Padmount facility opportunities



### Planning and Design - Civil Design

- Field survey to observe, measure and record topography and delineate underground features
- As-built survey

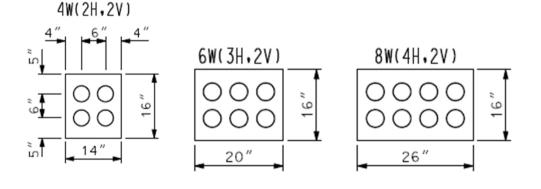


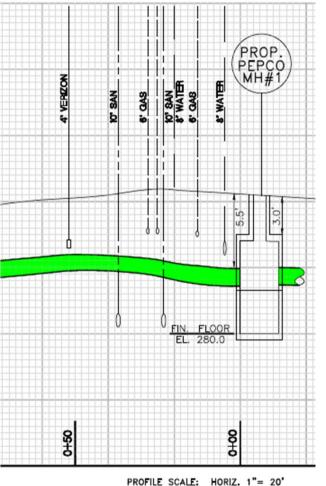




Planning and Design - Civil Design

Civil engineering design – finding the optimum locations for manholes, conduits and padmounted transformers - based on civil schematics, existing utilities and field conditions



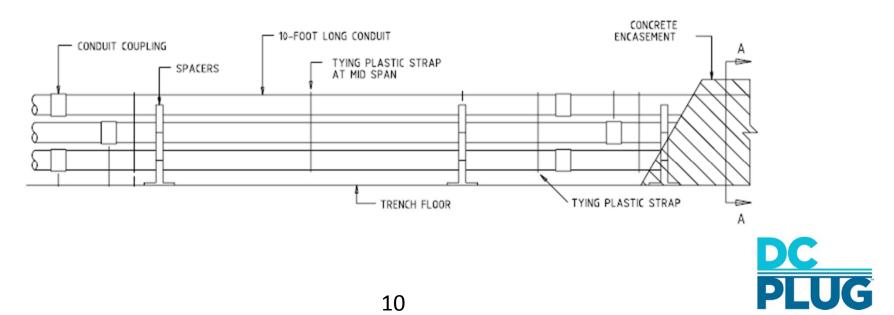


VERT. 1"= 5"



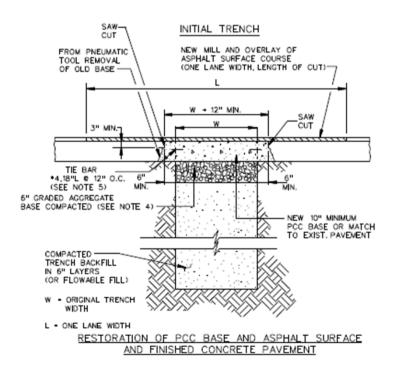
### **Construction Practices - Civil Construction**

- Manhole Construction
  - 6'x12'x6.5' line manholes for mainline primary cable splices
  - 6'x14'x10' vented vaults for subsurface switches and three phase transformers
  - 4.5'x6'x6.5' line manholes for lateral primary cable splices
- Conduit Construction
  - 5" fiberglass concrete encased conduit for mainline primary cable
  - 4" PVC schedule 40 concrete encased conduit for lateral primary cable



### **Construction Practices - Civil Construction**

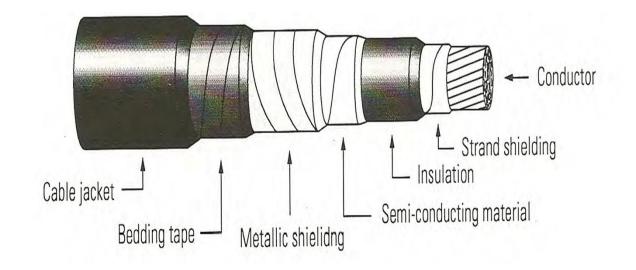
- Final Surface Restoration
  - Replacement of base course
  - Mill and overlay entire width of the affected lane
  - Pavement Marking
- Landscape Restoration
  - Restoration of green spaces (trees, grass, etc.)





## **Construction Practices - Electrical Construction**

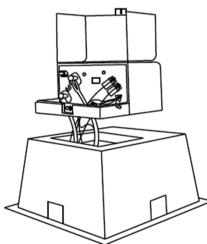
- Three phase primary main trunk conductors
  - 600 kcmil EPR insulated, rubber neoprene jacketed, shielded copper conductors with 4/0 bare copper neutral in conduit
- Three phase and single phase primary lateral conductors
  - #2 AWG EPR insulated, rubber neoprene jacketed, shielded copper conductor with #2 AWG equivalent concentric strand neutral in conduit



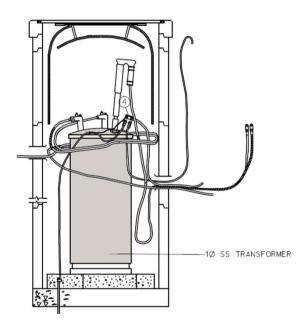


### **Construction Practices - Electrical Construction**

- Single phase low-profile padmounted transformers
  - Capacity sizes range from 25-167 KVA
  - Mounted on a 48"x48" fiberglass box pad
- Single phase subsurface transformers
  - Capacity sizes range from 25-100 KVA
  - Installed in 36" diameter grated manhole well
- Three phase subsurface transformers
  - Capacity sizes range from 75-1000 KVA
  - Installed in minimum 6'x14'x10' vented vault



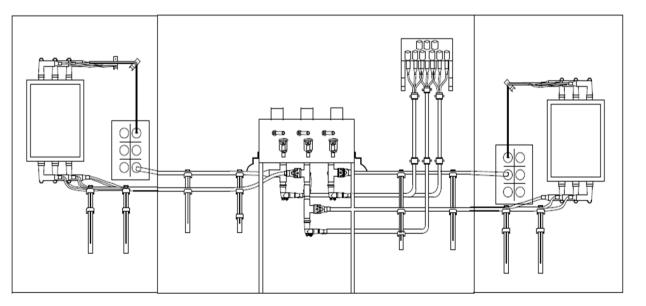


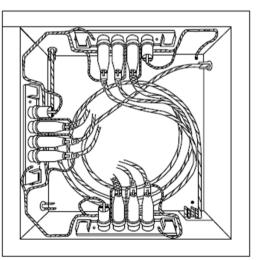




### **Construction Practices - Electrical Construction**

- Three phase subsurface oil switch
  - 600A deadbreak elbows for main trunk primary
  - 200A fuse boxes for lateral primary loops
  - Installed in minimum 6'x14'x10' vented vault
- Three phase subsurface taphole
  - 200A loadbreak elbows for fused lateral primary
  - Installed in 3.5'x3.5'x3.5' rectangular casing with surface access door

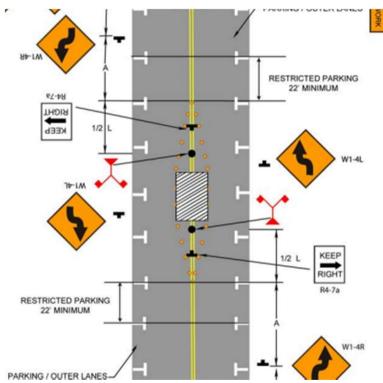






# **Permitting Activities**

- Permitting Liaison
- Traffic Control Plans





# **Construction Inspection Activities**

- Pepco and DDOT inspectors will be on site to inspect construction activities
- DDOT inspectors will monitor maintenance of traffic, excavation, embankment material, backfill compaction and safety
- Pepco inspectors will monitor conduit installation, electrical work and safety



