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I-78 Toll Bridge Parapet Upgrade and Approach Paving Improvements

Easton, Pennsylvania

PROJECT NAME

I-78 Toll Bridge Parapet Upgrade and PA Approach Paving Improvements (DRJTBC Contract No. C-506A, Capital Project No. 0702A)

PROJECT OWNER/CLIENT

Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission

START/END DATES

2011 – Present



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Interstate 78 Toll Bridge is one of seven toll bridges located and operated within the jurisdiction of the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission. The DRJTBC identified a need for improvements to the Pennsylvania approach roadway to the Interstate 78 Toll Bridge, the Welcome Center, and various parapets on the main river and approach bridge structures. KS Engineers, P.C. (KSE) was retained to provide project coordination, a public participation program, design services, and construction administration.

In general, KSE is responsible for the overall coordination of the project work tasks, ensuring that the contract work remains on schedule and within budget, and that the flow of information among the project team members is maintained. KSE is also responsible for coordination with all agencies, and for organizing project coordination meetings. Other administrative activities include representing the Commission at external meetings, coordinating project issues with outside agencies, reviewing deliverables for quality, and documenting all project-related issues.

KSE also developed and implemented a Public Participation Program early in the Preliminary Design phase of the project. As part of this, potential stakeholders were identified and a contact information list was created and maintained. An Open House was conducted for elected officials and members of the general public, which included presentations and an information handout.

Based on research conducted in the Commission's and other agencies' files for all plan and report information relevant to this project, base mapping was prepared for the development of construction plans and details. The mapping was appropriately scaled and compatible with the latest version of MicroStation.

The Design services task involved a concept study, preliminary and final design, and post design for improvements to the Pennsylvania approach roadway, Welcome Center, and various parapets on the main river and bridge approach structures. A Roadway and Facility Condition Assessment was performed of the bridge, the Interstate 78 roadway approaches, and the Welcome Center, and an inspection of bridge structures was conducted to field verify existing as-built drawing information and identify existing conditions, with a focus on the utilities, lighting, noise barriers and other appurtenances in and around the existing parapets. The design process included the development of plans and specifications in accordance with the policy and procedures of PennDOT Publication 408-2003 and its supplements; in addition, design elements also conformed to FHWA standards and/or NJDOT standards, as applicable. The Preliminary Design Submission included typical sections and detail sheets, construction plans and cross-sections, utility plans, grading and drainage plans, construction staging and traffic control plans, erosion and sedimentation control plans, structure plans, and construction details.

KSE was also responsible for pre-construction services. These included attendance at and participation in a Pre-bid Meeting, responding to questions from potential contractors, review and analysis of bids, and providing a recommendation for award of the contract. After the contract was awarded, KSE has been responsible for construction period services, including the review of contractor submittals of shop drawings and material and equipment submittals; attendance at the contract kick-off, pre-construction, and CM/CI kick-off meetings, as well as progress and schedule update meetings during the construction period; response to Requests for Information, including field visits to discuss the issues raised; changes of plans, as needed, and responses to design-related questions and/or requests for document clarification; and preparation of change order estimates and recommendations. As-Built Load Ratings of the bridge structures will be performed once construction has been completed.