Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE)

Effective immediately, all new projects approved by the Project Review Committee (PRC) and anticipated to involve subsurface utility relocations shall include scope and workhour provisions for the completion of Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE) Level B during the project design phase. This requirement applies to all new projects, regardless of whether MassDOT, a municipality or another entity is responsible for funding the design.

Once the design commences, the District Utility and Constructability Engineer (DUCE) will determine whether SUE Level B is required upon their initial review of the project. Preferably, all required SUE Level B work will be performed at the pre-25% or 25% design stage.

The Designer is responsible for performing the required services or for hiring a qualified subconsultant to perform the required services. The work shall only be performed by qualified firms. The MassDOT Architects and Engineers Review Board maintains a list of prequalified SUE firms, which is publicly available on mass.gov (https://www.mass.gov/prequalification-of-architectural-engineering-firms).

For active designs and other projects approved by the PRC prior to issuance of this directive, MassDOT recommends the use of appropriate Subsurface Utility Engineering services where subsurface utility relocations are required.