

FY 2025/2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
WARE RIVER SECONDARY
CULVERT REPLACEMENTS AT MP 19.84 AND MP 19.96
IN GILBERTVILLE, MA
Proposal No. 614056

Responses to Bidder's Questions

June 26, 2025

Question 1: Middlesex Construction Corporation, posted on Commbuys June 16, 2025

On page 5 of the Bid Form under section 8, it mentions furnish and install 29 Linear Feet of New 24 inch Class V Reinforced Concrete Pipe. Further down this section it mentions furnish and install 20 Linear Feet of New 48" Class V RCP culvert. Please confirm which size pipe to be used.

Response 1: 29 Linear Feet of New 24 inch pipe is the correct size to be installed at MP 19.84 as is depicted in the plan drawing elevation view at this location. The 48 inch size culvert reference is a typographical error in this line of text on page 5; section 8 of the Bid Form. Revised Bid Form will be included in Addendum No. 1

Question 2: Middlesex Construction Corporation, posted on Commbuys June 16, 2025

On page 6 of the Bid Form under section 9, it mentions furnish and install 34 Linear Feet of New 24 inch Class V Reinforced Concrete Pipe. Further down this section it mentions furnish and install 34 Linear Feet of New 48" Class V RCP culvert. Please confirm which size pipe to be used.

Response 2: 34 Linear Feet of New 48 inch culvert is the correct size to be installed at MP 19.96 as is depicted in the plan drawing elevation view at this location. The 24 inch Class V size pipe reference is a typographical error in this line of text on page 6; section 9 of the Bid Form. Revised Bid Form will be included in Addendum No. 1

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Question 3: JF White Contracting Company, Inc., posted on Commbuys June 17, 2025

Bid Item 14 - Wetland Mitigation Replication requires furnishing and installing wetland mitigation plantings .

We have reviewed the documents and have the following questions:

A.) What type of plantings are required?

B.) What are the limits of the plantings?

C.) The item description says that the plantings are resistance to tidal action .

We believe this is not required.

Response 3: The reference to "tidal action" was mistakenly carried forward as a typographical error. Tidal action is in fact NOT applicable to this project. The final redesign shown in the bid plans as was permitted and finally approved under the Water Quality Certificate successfully avoids permanent impact to Bordering Vegetated Wetland and therefore was later determined as not requiring any mitigation plantings. Therefore, Bid Item 14 calling for Wetland Mitigation Plantings was a placeholder item if the permit was contested by the agency in review of the permit approval. Wetland plants are longer required for this project. Only limited loam and grass seed placement in contractor disturbed areas outside of ballast & riprap areas is required as part of the final Erosion Control removals work to restore disturbed areas. Revised Bid Form removing bid item No. 14 will be included in Addendum No. 1.

Question 4: JF White Contracting Company, Inc., posted on Commbuys June 17, 2025

Bid Item 10 – Furnish and install 50 (LF) of 25 foot deep steel sheeting for permanent culvert support. This item requires the contractor's structural engineer to design and submit this wall for approval. In order to design this, borings in the area of wall required.

Please provide the borings.

Response 4: The track engineer during design 3 years ago determined that borings taken years prior to construction may have both compromised the stability of the steep rail embankment soil and cause adverse soil erosion runoff in direction of the downslope areas without any necessary erosion control measures that would not be installed until the start of construction. There was concern for the need for separate permitting for this work which would delay the ongoing permitting of the culvert work. Therefore, soil boring work was decided to be more immediately done in advance of construction work with all proper erosion control BMPs in place and such that the contractor would be present on-site following mobilization to monitor and control the boring operations closer in advance of the work commencing. Therefore, the contractor shall include the direct cost of this boring work in conjunction with the sheeting design within the lump sum cost of Bid Item 10.

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Question 5: Northern Construction Service, LLC, posted on Commbuys June 17, 2025

Can you please provide a listing of planholders

Response 5: *Pre-Bid Sign-in list posted on COMMBUYS provides list of Contractors present at mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting*

Question 6: Middlesex Construction Corporation, posted on Commbuys June 18, 2025

On page 1 of the Trains Operations Schedule, it mentions a schedule will be worked out between the contractor and MCER to provide necessary outages to perform the work. On which dates will these outages occur?

Response 6: *These outage dates, times and durations have yet to be determined and will be finalized by MCER in coordination with the awarded contractor prior to commencing the work. Six-day work window will include both weekend days. Addendum No. 1 will identify requirement of track outage to include work on the weekend.*

Question 7: Middlesex Construction Corporation, posted on Commbuys June 18, 2025

On page 1 of the Trains Operations Schedule, it mentions a schedule will be worked out between the contractor and MCER to provide necessary outages to perform the work. Are both culvert locations expected to be completed in one outage? Or will two separate outages be scheduled?

Response 7: *Since these two locations are in such close proximity to each other, it is ideal if these two culvert replacements can be completed in one outage to minimize impacts to the operating railroad. Coordinated movement of needed equipment and all materials for both locations are to be based on a single 6-day track outage.*

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Question 8: Middlesex Construction Corporation, posted on Commbuys June 18, 2025

On page 9 of the Bid Form under section 14, Wetland Mitigation Replication, it mentions bid price to include all installations and furnishing of wetland mitigation plantings. There is no mention of specific types of plantings in either the contract documents or construction drawings. Are there specific types of plants or a drawing detailing what is expected in the disturbed areas for the wetland mitigation?

Response 8: *The final redesign shown in the bid plans as was permitted and finally approved under the Water Quality Certificate successfully avoids permanent impact to Bordering Vegetated Wetland and therefore was later determined as not requiring any mitigation plantings. Therefore, Bid Item 14 originally calling for Wetland Mitigation Plantings was a placeholder item if the permit was contested by the agency in review of the permit approval. Wetland plants are longer required for this project. Only limited loam and grass seed placement in contractor disturbed areas outside of ballast & riprap areas is required as part of the final Erosion Control removals work to restore disturbed areas. Revised Bid Form removing bid item No. 14 will be included in Addendum No. 1.*

Question 9: Manafort Transit, LLC, posted on Commbuys June 23, 2025

What is the diameter of the compost filter tube?

Response 9: *Minimum 12" compost filter tubes as per Technical Specification Section on Erosion and Sedimentation Control*

Question 10: Manafort Transit, LLC, posted on Commbuys June 23, 2025

Bid item 14 states Bid price to include furnishing and installing wetland mitigation planting in accordance with the Contract Plans, Scope of Work, Technical Specifications, Special Conditions and AREMA standards. Scope of Work specification section does not provide information for wetland mitigation work. Please refer us to the drawing that show the wetland mitigation work.

Response 10: *The final redesign shown in the bid plans as was permitted and finally approved under the Water Quality Certificate successfully avoids permanent impact to Bordering Vegetated Wetland and therefore was later determined as not requiring any mitigation plantings. Therefore, Bid Item 14 originally calling for Wetland Mitigation Plantings was a placeholder item if the permit was contested by the agency in review of the permit approval. Wetland plants are longer required for this project. Only limited loam and grass seed placement in contractor disturbed areas outside of ballast & riprap areas is required as part of the final Erosion Control removals work to restore disturbed areas. Revised Bid Form removing bid item No. 14 will be included in Addendum No. 1.*

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Question 11: Manafort Transit, LLC, posted on Commbuys June 23, 2025

What is the cost for RWP training?

Response 11: MCER RWP Training provided online with cost per person of approximately \$100 payable to 3rd party vendor.

Question 12: Middlesex Construction Corporation, posted on Commbuys June 23, 2025

We have been informed by different pre-cast concrete vendors that lead times for the headwalls and concrete pipe will be between 8 to 10 weeks which could extend the current deadline completion date of September 30th. Is the completion date of September 30th firm?

Response 12: To accommodate the potential lead time for the precast products, substantial completion date will be extended to November 30, 2025. Bid documents will be updated in Addendum No. 1.