

Nicole M. Smullen
HNTB, Project Manager - Utilities & Real Estate
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January 11, 2024

Surface Transportation Board
Attn: Docket No. EPO 774 (Sub-No. 1)
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 24023-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
January 11, 2024
Part of
Public Record

Re: Docket No. EP 774 (Sub-No. 1)
Nomination for Passenger Rail Advisory Committee (PRAC)
At-large Representative

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to you today to submit my nomination for the Passenger Rail Advisory Committee.

As a member of the public, formally educated in public policy, trained in utilities, rail and transit, and real estate, I am nominating myself for membership on the PRAC.

I have over 20 years of experience in both public and private facility development (mainly project planning and construction), as a project manager and real estate professional. I thrive in running a successful project from conception to construction. My experience has taught me to communicate expectations clearly, encourage collaborative teamwork, build trusted relationships with colleagues, and share project vision.

Given my skills, areas of interest, formal education, and training, I believe I could add invaluable growth to this committee. If appointed, I agree to serve the Surface Transportation Board in a representative capacity as a member of the PRAC.

Attached is a copy of my resume for your review.

Respectfully,

Nicole M. Smullen

Nicole Smullen
HNTB Corporation

Attachment

NICOLE SMULLEN

Project Manager – Utility Infrastructure and Real Estate

Nicole is a licensed real estate salesperson and experienced project manager who collaborates with project teams and stakeholders, including WisDOT, to proactively prioritize utility conflict reviews and relocation designs. Nicole most recently served as a project manager at WEC Energy Group where she managed utility relocation work for state, county, and municipal road improvement projects. Her project experience includes:

WisDOT I-39/90/94 and U.S. 51/Stoughton Road Corridor Management, Dane, Columbia, Juneau and Sauk Counties, WI (October 2022-present) (#79556) — Responsible for identifying critical utilities within project corridors, including facilities that would require long lead times for relocations, material procurement or real estate acquisitions; significant relocation costs; and the potential to impact the design and construction schedule. HNTB serves as corridor manager for WisDOT Southwest Region's Majors Program to reconstruct and expand two major corridors, including approximately 11 miles of the U.S. 51 urban arterial on the east side of Madison and 67 miles of interstate reconstruction of I-39/90/94 from Madison to Wisconsin Dells. HNTB is providing oversight of design segment teams for both corridors, including strategic management, issue/risk management, scheduling, program cost estimating and oversight, environmental oversight and coordination, corridor-wide traffic forecasting, constructibility reviews and traffic management, corridor-wide public involvement, program controls, multimodal visioning and utility and real estate coordination oversight.

Wisconsin Bureau of Transit, Roads, Rails and Harbors Twin Cities-Milwaukee-Chicago (TCMC) Intercity Passenger Rail Final Design, MN, WI and IL (September 2022-present) (#79225) — Identify and engage utility facility owners to identify new, existing and proposed utility improvements to minimize potential conflicts with railroad project; significant coordination with key utility stakeholders to accelerate necessary relocation work to eliminate conflicts for a successful construction timeline; review real estate related documents to determine compensable relocation work, prepare necessary releases related to acquisition of land rights.

NICOLE SMULLEN

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HNTB Corporation

Education

MS, Public Administration, Urban Planning/Economic Development, 2003, Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI

BS, Social Sciences, 1999, Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI

Essentials of Leadership Certification, 2022, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Lubar School of Business, Milwaukee, WI

Registrations/Certifications

Real Estate Salesperson: WI, 2005 (#64747)

Affiliations

N/A

Date Hired with HNTB

September 2022

Years with Other Firms

18

WisDOT Lakefront Interchange NEPA and Preliminary Engineering, Milwaukee, WI (December 2022-present) (#81554) — Work with utility stakeholders to identify critical utilities within the project corridor that would require long lead times for relocation work, significant real estate acquisition needs, large relocations costs and lengthy construction schedules; minimize utility impacts by assisting with design alternatives as necessary.

I-43 North-South Freeway Final Design, Silver Spring Road to STH 60, Milwaukee and Ozaukee Counties, WI (Nov. 2022-present) (#76950) — Assist with utility permit reviews to conform with WisDOT design and construction standards, including accurate stationing, facility orientation, method of construction and work zone traffic control. The project involves replacement of multiple major bridge crossings, box culvert replacements, and updated storm sewer design.

MCTS North-South Bus Rapid Transit, Milwaukee, WI (December 2022-present) (#81554) — Utility coordinator lead working with utility stakeholders to identify critical utilities within the project corridor that would require long lead times for relocation work, significant real estate acquisition needs, large relocations costs and lengthy construction schedules; minimize utility impacts by assisting with design alternatives as necessary. Manage real estate sub-consultant project acquisition needs.

Previous Work History

WEC Energy Group – We Energies and Wisconsin Public Service, Milwaukee, WI (November 2006-September 2022)

- Project Manager, Customer Operations (2017-2022)
- Supervisor – Real Estate, Right of Way and Survey and Senior Acquisition Agent (2006-2017)

Internships:

- City of Milwaukee Department of City Development, Milwaukee, WI
- Village of Whitefish Bay, Whitefish Bay, WI