



## **Wisconsin Damage Prevention Council**

### **Minutes of the September 19, 2024 WI DPC Meeting**

The meeting began with introductions. Jason Pingel, from SITECH Mid-America, gave a brief presentation on Trimble's mapping software and systems which can integrate with locate equipment. Trimble is also working on a device which can connect to a skid steer and map the facilities in the ground to a device mounted to the cab. If anyone would like any more information on SITECH or Trimble's products, you can reach out to Jason at [Jason.pingel@sitechmidamerica.com](mailto:Jason.pingel@sitechmidamerica.com) or 636-680-1305.

The subcommittees then updated the group on their status. The Legislative Subcommittee is beginning the process of drafting the language for the legislative wish list and has a subcommittee meeting scheduled for October 15 at 1pm.

The Data Sharing committee has scheduled our next meeting for October 4<sup>th</sup>. Due to busy schedules we were not able to fit a meeting in for August or September. The October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting will solely focus on the issue of sharing project schedules in advance of upcoming work. The discussion will need to focus on what information the utility companies are willing to share. We also need to focus in on other major projects that consume a lot of marking resource like WisDOT construction and engineering plan work. The plan is to be able to narrow down some possible solutions to make recommendations to the WDPC Legislative Committee.

The Training and Resources Subcommittee had no update and no meeting is currently scheduled.

Mike Meyer, from Diggers Hotline, recommended the creation of another subcommittee to discuss the possibility of hosting a Safety Summit some time in the future. Since the safety meetings of the past have gone away, there are stakeholders who would like to see some version of a safety meeting occur. The idea was floated a couple meetings ago to perhaps hold a one- or 2-day safety conference, centrally located, here in Wisconsin. Other states have put on similar events. Mike asked if anyone wishes to sit on the new Safety Summit Subcommittee to reach out to him after the meeting.

During the open forum, Bill Esbeck, from the WSTA, asked if StakeCenter (the new locator for Brightspeed) was contacted and invited to attend the WI DPC meetings. Mike said they had not been contacted, but it would be a good idea to do so. Bill said his members have had issues this season with getting Brightspeed's facilities located. Mike acknowledged that Diggers Hotline has received many questions and concerns as well. Mike said he would reach out to Brightspeed and StakeCenter, and ask if they could attend the next meeting and just discuss what has gone on this season and what is being done to improve the situation in 2025.

Justin Larson, from Xcel Energy, asked about the possibility of holding in-person DPC meetings and rotating it around the state. DPC members still would like a virtual option, but could discuss in-person as well. Mike will poll the DPC members to see how many people are interested in in-person meetings.

The next meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, November 21 at 2pm. The meeting will be virtual only.