

Smart Motorway Programme

Client: Jacobs
Commencement: October 2016
Completion: Ongoing



The Project History

Smart motorways are a technology-driven approach to the use of our motorways. They increase capacity and relieve congestion while maintaining safety. Smart motorways help make journey times more reliable.

The Project Description

M6 Junction 13 - 15 is a 28km length of motorway with a sinuous alignment. The current layout is 3.3m of hard shoulder, 11m of carriageway (3 lanes) and 4.5m of central reserve. It is proposed to modernise the layout to 13.75m of carriageway (4 lanes), 3m of central reservation and 1m of hardstrip for drainage.

The project involves the following:

- Installation of new gantries, signage, cameras, ERAs (Emergency Refuge Areas) and safety barrier
- Upgrade and replacement of drainage
- New communication system

Liaison with utility providers from an early stage of the design period has allowed a different approach to be taken to the diversionary works. By mutual agreement with the utility companies affected by the proposed works it has been agreed that the C3/C4 applications will be made in three distinct phases

1. Major structures (gantries, retaining walls and ERA's)
2. Drainage, communications, safety barrier, re-alignment and re-surfacing
3. Bridges

This approach has allowed the utility issues to be agreed as early as the design programme has allowed. In addition, major structures have been moved to avoid diversionary works.

Gattica Associates Responsibilities

- Identification of all utilities present within Highway Boundary
- Provide Existing Services Drawing which can be inputted into a 3D model for the main design
- Liaise with utility companies to provide costs for any diversion/ protection work
- Advise to designers/contractors on all interfaces with utility apparatus

"Gattica's team have adopted a collaborative approach throughout the lifecycle of the Smart Motorway Programme; key risks relating to the design interfaces between existing utilities and the provision of new infrastructure have been proactively managed, resulting in reduced costs and a robust delivery program. I look forward to continuing this successful working relationship, long-term."

David Riley, Executive Director of Operations, Jacobs.

