Thomas P. Carney INC.
CONSTRUCTION • SINCE 1949

THE LOCATION

SEPTA City Hall Renovations

THE CHALLENGE

To install an elevator and concrete shaft 40’ below the street level while keeping the passengers safe and the trolleys running at all times. This involved installation of steel beam, wood plank and plywood shielding over the existing East Bound Trolley Line; and removal of the concrete and steel of the Concourse and excavation to make way for the new elevator.

OUR RESPONSE

Thomas P. Carney, Inc. scheduled and completed the shielding work between 11 p.m. Friday night and 12 a.m. Sunday in order to minimize commuter rail interruption. The proposed shielding construction allowed the existing electrical cables to be attached directly to the shielding, which shortened the length of the outage time experienced by **SEPTA**. Once the shielding work was completed, the trolley resumed its regular schedule, and the concrete coupon surrounding the trolley line was demolished.

THE DETAILS

Thomas P. Carney, Inc. constructed shielding above the catenary supports, which consisted of plank and plywood cut to fit around the supports leaving the catenary wires undisturbed. The wires were de-energized, allowing for material and equipment to be safely mobilized. Once the beams were secured, plank and plywood was attached to the beams to complete the shielding, allowing SEPTA to re-energize the lines and run cars through on their normal schedules.

Excavation equipment and shoring were then mobilized at the street level and ***Thomas P. Carney, Inc.*** began digging through 40’ of earth, exposing old buildings and remnants of existing trolley tracks. This was a tight site and limited access made the job a challenge to complete. ***TPC*** overcame these logistical obstacles and successfully completed the work in cooperation with SEPTA.

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