

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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7000 Geerdes Blvd

King of Prussia, Pa 19406

January 6, 2009



Mr. Stephen Dilts, Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 600
Trenton, NJ. 08625

Dear Commissioner:

This is a letter of reference as to the character and ability of Abbonizio Construction in their performance of a \$15 million roadway reconstruction with structure rehabilitation project on a section of Germantown Avenue in the City of Philadelphia.

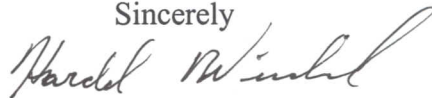
The section along Germantown Avenue was located in a highly sensitive and political area of Society Hill in the City. The project required the replacement of all underground utilities including gas, water, storm and sanitary sewer as well as installation of communications and electrical duct banks. The roadway typical section was a twenty foot cart way of concrete pavement with integral trolley tracks, and eight foot cobblestone shoulders over concrete base. The project had a condensed schedule of 10 months due to an outcry by merchants and residents along the avenue. The project had 5 staged closures of approximately two months each in order to meet the completion date.

Due to the problem of missed utilities on the construction plans and the greater than expected deteriorated condition of the arch structure, the first stage of the project had slipped by two months to an over four month completion. I remember this period well as accusations started back and forth between Abbonizio and the Department as to blame for the delay. At this point many contractors would have entrenched themselves into legal interpretations through letters of delay claim. Abbonizio had expressed verbally of their position on the delay of the project but continued to look ahead with the Department to gain time. With a concerted effort of schedule revisions, analysis of the contractors work force and work hours the contractor managed to excellerate the project and met the project completion date.

I found Abbonizio utilized their construction schedule to track the progress of the work very efficiently. Updates were provided without request. They fortified their work crews as necessary to complete items of work and brought in trained personnel as needed for specialized types of work. Most importantly they worked with the Department and adapted to changing conditions to minimize the impact to motorists, residents and businesses. This teamwork approach is what I found most appealing about this contractor. I feel you will find them capable

of completing a quality project within your district if you so desire. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call me at (610)-205-6692.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harold Windisch". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned between the word "Sincerely" and the printed name.

Harold Windisch, P.E.
Senior Assistant Construction Engineer