

Le Cateau-Cambresis - RD 643 link road "Sustainable road" approach



Country

France

Client

Conseil Général du Nord

Date

2007-2011

Sogreah's services

- ▶ Preliminary studies
- ▶ Consultation documents
- ▶ Definition study for the project programme
- ▶ Impact assessment
- ▶ Public inquiry prior to declaration of public utility and modification of town planning documents to ensure compatibility

Background

The bypass around the town of Le Cateau-Cambresis falls within the scope of a special plan relating to the transfer of responsibility for roads from regional to local council level. The *Conseil Général* of the Nord *département*, which is managing this project, intends to be in a position to conduct the public utility declaration procedures for the project during 2009, after having performed the definition studies for the project programme. The dense housing and the presence of protected sites and listed historic monuments mean that it is vital to adopt a sustainable development approach to build this road.

The aim of the present contract is, through drawing up various scenarios and options, to define the ideal route in accordance with the 28 sub-objectives of the "Sustainable Road" approach. This future link road will have two lanes and be about 3.5 km long. A bridge across the River Selle will be designed.

Objectives

The creation of this new link road must meet the following key objectives:

- ◆ Improving links, by building a safe, fast, efficient road,
- ◆ Improving the area to encourage local development, while being careful to prevent urban sprawl,

- ◆ Improving safety and quality of life for the residents of the villages and built-up areas through which the road will pass, by taking effective measures to reduce visual nuisances and pollution,
- ◆ Preserving the environment by limiting the impacts of the road,
- ◆ Blending the road in with the urban landscape.

Description

A number of specific requirements will be taken into account in the project, in order to comply with the high environmental standards of the "Sustainable Road" approach:

- ◆ Town planning requirements, particularly with regard to road landscaping,

and ensuring that the developments blend in with assets in the surrounding area,

- ◆ Soundproofing requirements, in consideration of the existing conditions, both during the works phase and following hand-over of the road,
- ◆ Hydraulic requirements, to avoid disrupting the natural environment, i.e. by complying with applicable environmental legislation in all fields.

The bypass must be considered as a form of sustainable development, and not merely a road-building project.

The characteristics of the new road will comply with the recommendations issued by the Nord *département*, and abide by its "Sustainable Road" approach to building roads of a high environmental quality. The design and project supervision services supplied by Sogreah aim to provide the *Conseil Général du Nord* with confirmation that the project is feasible.

Content of the project

- ◆ Preliminary studies
- ◆ Consultation documents
- ◆ Definition study for the project programme
- ◆ Impact assessment

- ◆ Public inquiry prior to the declaration of public utility and modification of town planning documents to ensure compatibility

All the studies will be conducted in accordance with the "Sustainable Road" approach, and they will include the following aspects:

- ◆ Traffic,
- ◆ Socio-economics,
- ◆ Acoustics,
- ◆ Flora and fauna,
- ◆ Hydraulics and hydrogeology,
- ◆ Bridge design,
- ◆ Landscaping.