



WISDOT

DBE Reporter

2014 SPRING ISSUE

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY AND EQUITY COMPLIANCE

Feature Article



Mark Gottlieb, P.E.,
WisDOT Secretary

TRANSPORTATION MOVES WISCONSIN

Wisconsin's transportation infrastructure has come a long way over the last century. It has developed from a system of two-lane roads and highways, grass landing strips, wooden piers and locomotives, to a network of multi-lane divided highways, airports, modern water ports, efficient transit systems and rail lines linking the state with markets throughout the world.

Transportation touches the lives of nearly everyone every day. Whether traveling to work, school, or to a favorite vacation spot, Wisconsin's transportation network provides the means to get there.

As part of a new WisDOT initiative - "Transportation Moves Wisconsin" - Secretary Mark Gottlieb conducted a statewide tour featuring a series of town hall meetings in April and May 2014. He highlighted the important role and growing needs of the State's transportation system and requested public input on how to fund those needs into the future. These are issues critical to the future of both the transportation system and the Department's work.

To learn more about Wisconsin's multimodal transportation system and the funding needed to maintain and improve the statewide network review the Secretary's presentation by clicking [Transportation Moves Wisconsin](#).

The DBE Office encourages WisDOT DBE firms to visit this website and provide your comment on the Wisconsin transportation system and funds. Go to [Transportation Moves Wisconsin - Get Involved](#).

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Mission Statement: The Office of Business Opportunity and Equity Compliance (OBOEC) is dedicated to the assurance of civil rights and labor compliance, affirmative action, equal employment opportunity, and services for disadvantaged business enterprises for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. It is the policy of WisDOT to support the fullest possible participation of firms owned and controlled by disadvantaged individuals in federal aid and state highway contracts within the state of Wisconsin. This includes assisting disadvantaged business enterprises throughout the life of contracts in which they participate.

DBE National News



ABUSERS OF MINORITY PROGRAMS BEWARE

The Federal Transit Administration Office of Civil Rights (FTA OCR) openly accepts complaints from any person that believes that a recipient of funds used in connection with federally supported transportation projects has failed to comply with its obligations under 49CFR Part 26. In order to file such a complaint, one must do so within 180 days after the date of the alleged violation or date on which the complainant learns of a continuing course of conduct in violation of this part.

A recent story in [The Hartford Business Journal](#) by Dr. Fred McKinney, President and CEO of the Greater New England Minority Supplier Development Council, addresses a situation which may have risen to the attention of the FTA OCR in just such a manner.

[The Hartford Business Journal](#) story published highlights a \$2.4 million forfeiture and changes in the management team and structure agreed to by a specialty contractor -- after its admission of fraud related to a federally funded road-building project in Connecticut. The column is appropriately titled, "Abusers of minority programs beware," as it focuses not just on the penalties levied against one firm, but suggests it is a solemn reminder to those that would defraud legitimate DBEs out of the intended purpose of the DBE program -- which is to increase economic opportunity and participation by disadvantaged businesses on federal contracts. [FTA Office of Civil Rights / Complaints](#)

WISDOT DBE News



Michele Carter
DBE Program Chief

WISDOT DBE OVERALL ANNUAL GOAL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETINGS

On highway construction projects, the overall annual goal for the last three years was 11.9%. WisDOT ended FFY 2012 and 2013 with a DBE Percent Committed at 13.26% and 13.76%, respectively. As of March 2014, the total DBE Percent Committed is 11.04% as shown in Table 1 on the following page.

September 30, 2014 will mark the end of the WisDOT Triennial Overall DBE Goal of 11.9%.

Beginning in February 2014 WisDOT staff began gathering data and preparing documents to review with stakeholder groups. From March to June WisDOT leadership and members of TRANS-AC and TRANS-CAC advisory committees convened to discuss and debate the new Overall Triennial DBE Goal for FFY 2015 to 2017.

WisDOT DBE Construction Summary Report Federal Contracts DBE Overall Annual Goal 11.9%	
Estimated FFY 2014 Federal Funds	\$500,000,000
FFY 2014 DBE Projection	\$59,500,000
Awarded Contracts Amount (Oct '13-Apr '14)	\$466,852,881
Federal Contract Amount (Oct '13-Apr '14)	\$296,400,380
Total DBE Committed	\$32,708,762
Total DBE Percent Committed (DBE / Federal)	11.04%

Table 1

When the new triennial DBE goal is established, the DBE Program staff will publish a 30-day notice announcing WisDOT's proposed overall goal and give the public 45 days from the date of the notice to submit any comments. We will also host a series of public participation meetings in June and July at targeted community associations and in the megaproject regions: SE, SW and NE. The proposed Triennial Overall DBE Goal for FAA, FHWA, and FTA will be available for review, inspection, and comment until July 22, 2014 at the following address:

Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4802 Sheboygan Avenue, Room 451
Madison, WI 53707-7965

The DBE Program Annual Goal Plan is due to FHWA-WI Division on August 1, 2014. The approved plans will be available for review on the [WisDOT DBE Plans - goals \(proposed\)](#) website after September 1, 2014. For a list of dates to the public participation meetings contact Suki Han at (608) 267-3849 or email: Suki.han@dot.wi.gov.

DBE Contracting Updates on WISDOT Mega Projects

A mega project is an extremely large-scale investment project typically defined as costing more than \$1 billion. Megaprojects attract a lot of public attention because of substantial impacts on communities, environment, and budgets. To address these issues, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation has facilitated stakeholder advisory committees on each of its megaprojects and spearheaded the development and oversight of DBE contracting reports/updates to demonstrate its commitment to transparency, the DBE program, and its Overall Annual DBE Goal.

Below you will see tables that report the latest results on DBE participation on WisDOT megaprojects. These reports provide data on construction contracts, design engineering and construction management for the Total Amounts and DBE share. To learn more about WisDOT megaprojects go to [Construction Wisconsin 511 Projects](#). For a schedule of the megaproject committee meetings contact the DBE Program Office at (414) 438-4583.



[Vernon Road \(US 41/151\) Project](#)
 Contract Execution to Completion: 2014 to 2021
 (Dane County)

As of March 2014	Construction Contracts	Construction Management
Total Contracted Amount	\$26,148,830	\$1,703,909
DBE Contracted Amount	\$2,614,883	\$418,219
DBE Share	10%	25%
Total Paid Amounts	\$4,063,577	\$91,586
DBE Paid Amounts	\$361,731	\$45,146
DBE Share Paid	8.90%	49%



[I-39/90 Expansion Project](#)
 Contract Execution to Completion: 2015 to 2021
 (Dane County and Rock County)

As of March 2014	Construction Contracts	Design Engineering
Total Contracted Amount	\$18,945,645	\$57,262,426.47
DBE Contracted Amount	\$466,861	\$10,045,754.45
DBE Share	2.46%	18%
Total Paid Amounts	\$16,437,661	\$28,470,827
DBE Paid Amounts	\$341,326	\$4,927,330
DBE Share Paid	2.08%	17%



I-94 North-South Freeway Reconstruction Project
 Contract Execution to Completion: 2008 to 2021
 (Milwaukee, Racine, and Kenosha Counties)

As of April 2014	Construction Contracts	Design Engineering	Construction Management
Total Contracted Amount	\$686,390,143.23	\$103,068,475	\$59,990,111
DBE Contracted Amount	\$124,560,434.55	\$29,727,559	\$15,391,903
DBE Share	18.15%	28.84%	25.66%
Total Paid Amounts	\$631,488,420.28	\$100,507,470	\$51,366,444
DBE Paid Amounts	\$118,788,161.66	\$28,687,340	\$13,412,240
DBE Share Paid	18.81%	28.54%	26.11%



US 41 Corridor Expansion Project
 Contract Execution to Completion: 2009 to 2017
 (Brown County and Winnebago County)

As of March 2014	Construction Contracts	Design Engineering	Construction Management
Total Contracted Amount	\$882,579,970	\$85,509,610	\$86,997,629
DBE Contracted Amount	\$70,528,663	\$18,342,795	\$37,922,493
DBE Share	8.00%	21.5%	43.6%
Total Paid Amounts	\$663,435,311	\$81,899,577	\$57,998,049
DBE Paid Amounts	\$56,792,643	\$17,106,449	\$26,884,472
DBE Share Paid	8.6%	20.9%	46.4%



Zoo Interchange Project
 Contract Execution to Completion: 2014 to 2017
 (Milwaukee County)

As of March 2014	Construction Contracts	Design Engineering	Construction Management
Total Contracted Amount	\$248,172,883.27	\$98,922,251.70	\$15,959,629.12
DBE Contracted Amount	\$30,657,340.50	\$16,045,121.94	\$1,395,619.56
DBE Share	12.35%	16.2%	8.7%
Total Paid Amounts	\$116,153,532.66	\$79,903,560.97	\$7,430,245.80
DBE Paid Amounts	\$16,678,444.56	\$11,731,256.70	\$638,165.84
DBE Share Paid	14.36%	14.7%	8.6%

WISDOT DBE Support Services (DBESS)

WisDOT DBE Support Services are an integral component of the WisDOT DBE Program. DBE Support Services (DBESS) utilizes both State and Federal funds to implement services provided to WisDOT primes and DBE contractors and consultants depending on the service requested. DBESS consultants are awarded contracts based on their level of expertise, commitment, and knowledge of the DBE Program to provide support services directly to DBE firms either in a training format or on a one-on-one basis. These services include the Mobilization Loan Guaranty Program, Financial Technical Assistance, Legal Services, Outreach and Marketing, and Technical Assistance. Listed below are upcoming DBESS trainings for WisDOT DBE firms.

WISDOT DBESS Training

DBE Orientation

DBE Orientations are planned meetings for newly certified and potential DBE firms who desire to do business with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. At a DBE Orientation, a firm will receive information on the DBE Program components such as the DBE certification process, DBE Support Services, and the DBE commitment process. The attending firms will learn how to utilize the WisDOT *Doing Business* website and WisDOT administrative processes such as bidding and letting procedures, Additional Special Provisions, and the DBE goal setting processes. A WisDOT DBE Program specialist will host a DBE Orientation in your region upon request.



Post Contract Award

The purpose of the Post Contract Award training is to educate DBE firms on WisDOT's expectations after they win a contract or subcontract. The trainer will give a general overview of bidding and estimating, focus on the importance of communication with your Prime, and discuss the value of attending Preconstruction conferences. DBE firms will also learn what documents are required to complete and submit during the term of a contract, and what are the best practices used in this industry.

DBE contractors or consultants who attend this training are eligible for 5 hours of one-on-one technical assistance in bidding and estimating by M Squared Engineering.

Trainer: M Squared Engineering, LLC
Location: SE Region, DBESS Program Office, 6150 W. Fond du Lac Avenue
Date: Wednesday, July 16 2014
Time: 8:30AM to 12:30PM

Dispute Resolution

Disputes between a prime contractor and sub-contractor often arise during the course of performing the contract. This training will focus on how to minimize disputes between the parties of a contract. The attendees will learn what mechanisms are available to subcontractors to resolve disputes before they turn into a serious problem causing disruptions in their work performance and what actions to take in the event the dispute is unresolved.

Trainer: 4N Consultants, Inc.
Location: SE Region, DBESS Program Office, 6150 W. Fond du Lac Avenue
Date: Wednesday, August 13, 2014
Time: 8:30AM to 12:30PM

How to Write a Business Plan

All businesses in the midst of change need a business plan. That includes those in startup, survival or growth modes. Certainly, anyone seeking to hire new staff members unifies its leadership team around a common mission or those seeking any financing will find this training invaluable. The Business Plan Development seminar is a two-day course for contractors, consultants, specialized transit service providers, and airport concessionaires.

On day one of this training, the presenter will focus on the development of your mission and vision statement, how and where to obtain market data, and strategic planning through the development of a personalized SWOT analysis. On day two of this training, another presenter will focus on the creation and purpose of financial reports such as projections, cash flow, and business ratios.

To assist in the development of your business plan, DBE firms who attend this training are eligible for one-on-one technical assistance from a qualified consultant through the WisDOT DBE Support Services Program.

Trainer: Prism Technical Management & Marketing Services
Location: SE Region, DBESS Program Office, 6150 W. Fond du Lac Avenue
Date: Wednesday, July 23, 2014 and Thursday, July 24, 2014
Time: 8:30AM to 12:30PM

Introduction to Computerized Accounting Systems

The purpose of this training is to alert DBE firms to the importance of a computerized accounting system versus a manual one. The trainer will provide information on the benefits of utilizing a computerized accounting system and an overview of the features of QuickBooks Accounting software.

DBE contractors and consultants who attend this training are eligible for 5 hours of one-on-one assistance in setting up their QuickBooks Accounting system and/or providing assistance in the use of the product.

Trainer: Prism Technical Management & Marketing Services
Location: SE Region, DBESS Program Office, 6150 W. Fond du Lac Avenue
Date: Wednesday, September 24, 2014
Time: 8:30AM to 12:30PM

Estimating and Bidding

Knowing how to bid construction jobs makes the difference between success and bankruptcy for a construction contractor. There is no set way on how to bid highway and construction projects; but coming up with the most accurate [cost estimate](#) and developing the lowest bid demonstrate a company's ability to read plans and specifications, and calculate costs.

To do business with WisDOT you must understand the bidding process. M Squared Engineering will guide DBE firms through the WisDOT estimating bidding process from understanding the construction bid proposal to preparing your bid for Primes.

DBE firms who attend this training are eligible for 5-hours one-on-one consultation with M Squared Engineering.

Trainer: M Squared Engineering, Inc.
Location: SE Region, DBESS Program Office, 6150 W. Fond du Lac Avenue
Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2014
Time: 8:30AM to 12:30PM

How to Register for DBESS Training

To register for any of the trainings listed above complete the DBESS registration form on the next page and email to DBESSTraining@prismtechnical.com or fax to 414-847-0992.

To schedule a DBESS Training in your region, contact Rosalind Roberson at (414) 438-2154 or email Rosalind.roberson@dot.wi.gov.

For one-on-one technical support service, contact Rosalind Roberson at (414) 438-2154 or email Rosalind.roberson@wi.gov.dot. The DBE Support Services available for WisDOT DBE firms are listed below:

- Early Intervention Planning/Needs Assessment
- Review legal contracts, subcontracts, and lease agreements
- Financial Management Assistance
- Financial Packaging for WisDOT DBE Mobilization Loan Guaranty Program
- Business Plan Development
- Computerized Accounting System Training
- Bidding and Estimating
- Mentoring Connections
- Mentor / Protégé Program



DBESS TRAINING REGISTRATION FORM

NAME OF ATTENDEE: _____

COMPANY NAME: _____

TYPE OF WORK: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL: _____

1. TRAINING SESSION: _____

2. TRAINING SESSION: _____

3. TRAINING SESSION: _____

4. TRAINING SESSION: _____

5. TRAINING SESSION: _____

6. TRAINING SESSION: _____

COMMENTS, IF ANY

Please fill in form, print and fax to:

EMAIL: DBESSTraining@prismtechnical.com

PHONE: (414) 847-0990 X108

FAX: (414) 847-0992

WISDOT TrANS Program



THE TrANS PROGRAM: WISDOT'S AFFIRMATIVE INVESTMENT IN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is responsible for planning, building and maintaining Wisconsin's network of state highways and the Interstate highway system.

The Transportation Alliance for New Solutions (TrANS) program is WisDOT's investment in promoting equity and access to the potential new workforce generated by our projects. WisDOT awards the TrANS contract through a competitive process that selects the winning provider based on qualifications, compliance with proposal requirements and pricing. We are happy to announce the winning TrANS service provider for DOT's Southwest Region, Forward Service Corporation.

As the TrANS provider for the I-39/90 Corridor Expansion Project, Forward Service Corporation has the responsibility of recruiting, training, placing and retaining community residents who've expressed an interest in highway construction careers located in the areas impacted by the mega project, primarily for those residing in both Rock and Dane Counties. Forward Service Corporation is charged with sharing information about the road construction industry and the TrANS program with interested residents throughout DOT's southwest region.

This year, Forward Service will focus on interested candidates referred to them by WisDOT's stakeholder partners including Community Action of Beloit and Construction Workforce Diversity Alliance of Dane County. Working cooperatively, they will identify and assess TrANS training recruits while referring ineligible candidates to appropriate community networks for support or assistance when needed. Next year, Forward Service Corporation will expand their outreach efforts more broadly.

Forward Service Corporation will conduct four (4) TrANS classes over the next twelve months alternating between Beloit and Madison. The minimum eligibility requirements are: 18 years of age and older, a valid driver's license, the ability to successfully pass a drug screen and pass a math and reading competency test above 8th grade.

The six-week, 160 hours of instruction includes traffic control or flagging procedures, 10 hours of an OSHA Construction Safety training, CPR and First Aid, test preparation for a construction apprenticeship exam and the commercial driver's license written exam.

For 2014, the program goals are as follows:

- 150 candidates screened for training
- 100 candidates trained for placement
- 65 candidates placed into road construction jobs and/or careers

If you or someone you know has an interest in getting more information about WisDOT's Southwest Region TrANS Program, contact Brian Covey of Forward Service Corporation at (608) 268-2257.

WISDOT Mega Projects Workforce Hours

AS OF MARCH 2014	US 41	I-94 N/S	I 39/90	VERONA RD	Zoo IC
Total Hours Worked	2,590,349	2,886,806	65,712	62,326	566,309
Total Minority Hours Worked	164,255	525,825	3,784	3,642	11,386
Minority Share	6.34%	20.15%	14.5%	8.4%	19.67%
Total Female Hours	60,472	75,126	1,136	2,199	16,242
Female Share	2.3%	2.6%	4.9%	4.3%	2.9%

Business Management Resources



The Wisconsin Department of Administration has launched a redesigned Wisconsin.gov website to serve the citizens of Wisconsin more efficiently. This website is the portal to all State agencies, boards and commissions, and the site receives more than 2.9 million visits each year. The new site is organized around user groups for improved customer service for our citizens, business partners, visitors, government, and the Wisconsin workforce.

Some highlights of the [redesigned website](#) include:

- An ability for customers to view the website on all mobile devices
- Links to top online services associated with each State agency
- A Google search engine for better, more productive search results
- An online chat feature to help citizens reach the appropriate agency for assistance
- Targeted paths to help workers locate employment resources and businesses connect with jobseekers
- A directory of state agencies conveniently linked to the top online services each offers



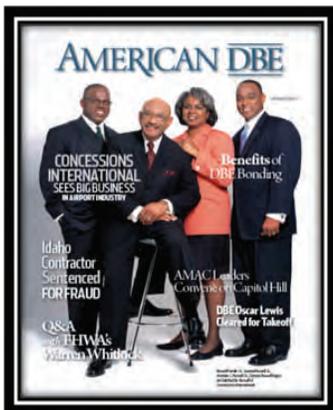
[The U.S. Department of Transportation - Departmental Office of Civil Rights](#) is committed to realizing the goals and objectives of the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program set forth at 49 C.F.R. Parts 23 and 26, maintaining a program that meets constitutional requirements, and ensuring the integrity of the DBE program overall. On February 5, 2014, Secretary Foxx signed an order on coordination and oversight of the DBE program clearly defining roles and responsibilities within our organization to ensure that all offices within the Department are working efficiently, effectively, and cohesively towards the success of the program. The Departmental Office of Civil Rights (DOCR) acts as the lead office in the Office of the Secretary (OST) for the DBE program.

Business Management Resources continued



If you are prepared to do business with the federal government, SBA can help you start, build, and grow your business. You can begin by [clicking on this link to the SBA Contracting website](#) that list several basic steps every company should complete to increase their ability to contract in the marketplace. You will also find information on contracting for small businesses and understanding the federal marketplace.

Last spring SBA in partnership with Women Impacting Public Policy and American Express launched the ChallengeHer initiative to help more women-owned businesses get a bigger piece of the federal contracting pie and benefit from SBA's Women-Owned Small Business Federal Contract Program. This collaboration is hosting a series of ChallengeHer events throughout the United States. SBA will host a ChallengeHer event in Milwaukee on June 26, 2014. [Click here for more information on the SBA ChallengeHer campaign.](#)



One of the many DBE-related resources available to program administrators, recipients, contractors, consultants and suppliers in highway, aeronautics, and transit industries is **the American DBE magazine** which is a quarterly trade publication released by the USDOT DBE program.

American DBE magazine provides information and program updates to engage small, minority, and women-owned companies in state and national discussions. DBE firms can read a variety of articles ranging from transportation trends to construction projects to DBE program components and regulations.

One example of an article is from the Fall 2013 issue entitled *11 Common Misconceptions of the DBE Program*. This article educates readers on some of the long-standing rules and regulations of the DBE program dispelling misconceptions on issues such as the overall DBE goal, DBE certification, graduating DBE firms, etc. To read this article [click here](#).

Another intriguing article was posted on March 12th titled *The Capacity to Succeed* by Marcus Gravely. This article is highly recommended as a must read by the WisDOT DBE Program Chief, Michele Carter. She stated, "*Capacity building is one of our primary goals of the DBE program and it's important that they know what that entails.*" [Click here to read the full article.](#)

American DBE offers free digital subscription. [Click here to register for DBE Magazine Online](#). A one-year subscription to the printed magazine is available for \$19.99, two-years for \$34.99, and single issues for \$5.99 each.



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We're on the web!

<http://www.dot.state.wi.us/business/engrserv/dbe-main.htm>

2014-2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



NAMC 45th National Conference, June 18-20, 2014, National Harbor, MD

[National Association of Minority Contractors - Wisconsin Chapter](#)

Milwaukee County Business Expo, Thursday, September 18, 2014

[Milwaukee County. Gov](#)

2014 Wisconsin Tribal Transportation Conference, October 20-22, 2014

[Tribal Affairs - Annual Tribal Transportation Conference](#)

Governor's Marketplace 2014, October 22 -23, 2014

[2014 Marketplace Conference](#)

WTBA Construction and Engineers (CE) Conference, January 29-30, 2015

[Wisconsin Transportation Builders Association](#)

DBE Annual Workshops and Secretary's Golden Shovel Awards, February 18, 2015 (Tentative)

[Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program](#)

ACEC Transportation Improvement Conference, March 3-4, 2015

[American Council of Engineering Companies of Wisconsin](#)

WISDOT DBE REPORTER IS A PUBLICATION OF THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
OFFICE OF BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY AND EQUITY COMPLIANCE

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