

Oregon Department of Transportation Small Business Initiative

Small Contracting Program for Construction

Overview

The Oregon Department of Transportation is implementing a comprehensive plan to increase economic opportunities for Oregon workers and businesses through innovative efforts to boost participation in transportation projects.

Several components make up the agency's overall plan:

- Workforce Development Program – focuses on individual workers
- Small Business Opportunities Outreach through the OTIA III State Bridge Delivery Program – focuses on design and construction
- Small Business Initiative – focuses on contracting
 - Professional and Technical Services
 - Construction

Under ODOT's Small Business Initiative, the agency has developed the Small Contracting Program for Construction to diversify the size of companies that are awarded ODOT construction contracts. The program builds on the Small Contracting Program for Professional and Technical Services, which launched statewide in September 2007 following a one-year pilot program in the Portland metropolitan area.

A new process allows construction contractors to pre-qualify to participate in the program and have the opportunity to be selected as prime contractors for ODOT construction contracts valued at \$100,000 or less. Depending upon the number of contractors pre-qualified for a given construction work type, consideration may be given to whether the contractors have existing contracts as a prime with ODOT. Final selection and award will be based on low bid.

A Request for Qualifications to participate in the program is posted on ORPIN, the Oregon Procurement Information Network Web site, at <http://orpin.oregon.gov>, and on the ODOT Procurement Office – Construction Web site at www.oregon.gov/ODOT/CS/CONSTRUCTION/. The RFQ consists of a short pre-qualification form that requests basic information about the construction company, including its location, employees and experience.

Contractors may pre-qualify by completing the RFQ process at any time to be included in the selection pool for future program contract bidding opportunities.

For more information about the Small Contracting Program for Construction, visit ODOT's Office of Civil Rights' Small Business Support Web site at www.oregon.gov/ODOT/CS/CIVILRIGHTS/small_business.shtml. Visit the State of Oregon's contracting and procurement Web site at <http://orpin.oregon.gov>, or the OPO – Construction Web site at www.oregon.gov/ODOT/CS/CONSTRUCTION/.