



DOT Biz Journal

The official publication of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

www.osdbu.dot.gov

FY 2013 Procurement Forecast

Taking the time this fall to review the recently released FY 2013 Procurement Forecast on the OSDBU website is a “must-do” for all small businesses interested in doing business with DOT. The Procurement Forecast provides first-hand insight of DOT’s best estimate of what each operating administration will be buying in the coming year. The Procurement Forecast is user-friendly and can be searched by quarter, industry category, operating administration and by using key words. For example, if you are interested in finding the projects the Federal Transit Administration is planning to fund in the 2nd quarter of FY 2013, check under the “Operating Administration” tab of the Forecast and click on FTA.

To find out which offices will be requesting construction or engineering services in the coming year, simply click on “Procurement Category” and select the appropriate category. You can also use the “Advanced Search” function to find out if any DOT offices anticipate a need for more specific services by using key words. This can also help you focus your marketing efforts based on the information acquired during your search. Searching the Procurement Forecast has proven to be a valuable tool in helping small businesses grow and succeed with DOT.

**Please note OSDBU's Procurement Forecast includes information for all operating administrations except for Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) which issues its own Procurement Forecast. You can access the FAA FY 2013 Procurement Forecast at the following link: <http://www.sbo.faa.gov/sbo/ProcurementForecast.cfm>*

For more information check out the Procurement Forecast at the following link: <http://www.osdbu.dot.gov/Procurement/index.cfm>

Reauthorized Surface Transportation Bill Signed into Law

On July 6, 2012, President Obama signed P.L. 112-141, *Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act* (MAP-21). MAP-21 represents a milestone for the U.S. economy including funds for surface transportation programs totaling over \$105 billion for fiscal years (FY) 2013 and 2014. The bipartisan agreement provides a two-year reauthorization of highway, public transit, and other surface transportation programs and is the first multi-year reauthorization of surface transportation programs since 2005.

The transportation measure reauthorizes surface transportation programs through FY 2014, mostly at current levels, with some programs receiving increases for inflation. It also consolidates highway programs and includes provisions to accelerate federal environmental review of construction projects.



DOT has focused on making progress on transportation options for the past three years and plans to continue to work closely with stakeholders to ensure that local communities are able to build multimodal, sustainable projects ranging from passenger rail and transit to bicycle and pedestrian paths.

For information on implementation of specific titles of MAP-21, including program information and guidance for grantees, visit <http://www.dot.gov/map21>.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- FHWA Holds First of Its Kind Technology Fair.....2
- Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Program Small Business Day.....2
- Follow the Money* - Ohio DOT Begins Process to Update Long-Range Transportation Plan.....3
- Calendar.....3
- Follow the Money* - Idaho Transportation Department Releases New Five-Year Plan.....4
- Secretary LaHood Launches Historic Expansion of Infrastructure Finance Fund.....4

FHWA Holds First of Its Kind Technology Fair

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Office of Acquisition Management collaborated with the Office of Research, Development, and Technology to hold a first-of-its-kind Technology Fair at the Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center (TFHRC) in McLean, Virginia, on Aug. 8, 2012.

The FHWA TFHRC is a preeminent research facility authorized by Congress in 1938 to respond to a growing public need for dedicated highway research. It now has more than 24 indoor and outdoor laboratories and support facilities located on a 44-acre campus setting. Approximately 300 Federal employees, onsite contractors and students are currently engaged in developing new technologies related to highway safety, infrastructure and operations.

The Fair was organized to introduce small businesses to FHWA's research and development contracting program. About 25 organizations, representing a diverse spectrum of small businesses – including Women Owned Small Businesses (WOSB), 8(a) Certified Businesses, Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSB), and Historically Underutilized Zone businesses (HUBZone) – from as far away as New Jersey, Georgia and Ohio, attended this inaugural fair. Several large business concerns were also in attendance, seeking potential small business subcontractors.



Senior TFHRC management and program officials presented a future vision of highway technology and the research opportunities expected in both the short and long term. The Fair included one-on-one meetings with program officials and tours of the center's program buildings, including a Pavement Testing Facility and an Aerodynamics Laboratory.

Most attendees were new to the FHWA research and development contracting program. The Fair was successful in providing a rare opportunity for new small businesses to see first-hand the nature of the work typically contracted for by the FHWA.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Program Small Business Day

On July 25, 2012 OSDBU hosted a Small Business Day with a focus on the DOT Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Program. OSDBU Director Brandon Neal kicked off the event by welcoming over 400 small businesses from across the country and highlighting the various services and programs offered by the OSDBU. DOT Secretary Ray LaHood spoke on the importance of the DBE Program and was followed by James Cole, Deputy General Counsel, DOT; Camille Hazeur, Director, DOT Office of Civil Rights; Therese McMillan, Deputy Administrator, FTA; Administrator Victor Mendez, FHWA; Mamie Mallory, Assistant Administrator, Office of Civil Rights, FAA; and Bryna Helfer, Director, DOT Office of Public Engagement.

As part of the ongoing effort to improve the DBE Program, DOT is seeking public input on a new Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM). In January 2011, DOT issued a DBE final rule which made several important policy changes to the DBE Program. In order not to delay the policy initiatives, the rulemaking did not include other technical program improvements. On September 6, 2012, DOT published the NPRM II, "Disadvantaged Business Enterprise: Program Implementation Modifications" in the Federal Register. The new NPRM proposes three categories of changes to improve implementation of the DBE rule:

- Revisions to the application and reporting forms.
- Modifications to certification-related provisions of the rule.
- Modifications to other provisions of the rule, concerning good faith efforts, transit vehicle manufacturers and counting of trucking companies. *continued on page 3*

Ohio DOT Begins Process to Update Long-Range Transportation Plan

In August 2012 the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) announced that it is seeking public comment on the future of Ohio's transportation system as part of the process of updating its long-range transportation plan. Access Ohio 2040, the newest version of ODOT's long-range transportation plan, is currently being updated and expected to be finalized in the summer of 2013. The plan will help set the stage for ODOT transportation policies and investment strategies for the coming years.

Access Ohio 2040 is an update to the previous plan, Access Ohio 2030, which was released in 2004. The new plan will include the latest data to forecast trends and analyze issues affecting transportation throughout the state. Much like the Access Ohio 2030, the new plan will also include Highway Funding and Program Projects targeted through to 2040.

This plan will guide and inform transportation decisions by:

- Providing an overview of the transportation, economic, social, and environmental trends affecting Ohio.
- Establishing a framework for multimodal transportation system investments that will influence and respond to these trends.
- Identifying corridors where transportation system needs converge to guide future project decisions.
- Providing an inventory of Ohio's transportation assets.
- Forecasting transportation conditions, needs, and costs.
- Identifying existing revenue streams and fiscal challenges in meeting transportation needs.
- Developing innovative funding strategies for meeting future challenges.

This is a great tool for the transportation small business community to learn where Ohio is planning to focus on longer term projects and allocate resources to address their transportation needs in the next three decades. The public will be given multiple opportunities over the next year to provide input into the development of Access Ohio 2040.

You can learn more about the Access Ohio 2040 at <http://access.ohio.gov>.

calendar

NOVEMBER 7 - 9

California Transit Association's 47th Annual Fall Conference & Expo
Palm Springs, CA

<http://www.caltransit.org/node/1918>

NOVEMBER 13-15

South Padre Island, Texas
2012 Border to Border Transportation Conference

<http://tti.tamu.edu/conferences/btb12/>

NOVEMBER 14

U. S. Small Business Administration
Monthly 8(a) Eligibility Workshop
Atlanta, GA

<http://events.sba.gov/EventManagement/EventRegistration.aspx?id=cf8a3232-bf1a-e111-b983-02bfa56e2a24>

DBE PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS DAY...continued from page 2

The full notice, as well as instructions on how to comment on the rule is at: <http://osdbu.dot.gov/documents/pdf/dbe/2012-21231.pdf>

Please note that comments on the new NPRM are due by December 24, 2012.

To qualify for the DBE Program, a company must be at least 51% owned and controlled by a member or members of a socially or economically disadvantaged group. The personal net worth was updated in 2009 to a limit not exceeding \$1,320,000 (excluding ownership interest in the firm, retirement fund assets, and equity value of primary residence). The firm's average gross receipts over the last three years must not exceed \$22.41 million. There are different size limits for various categories of businesses, including \$52.47 million for most Airport Concession DBEs (ACDBEs) and \$69.97 million for ACDBEs dealing in car rentals.

In that NPRM, DOT proposed various modifications of the DBE Program, including four proposed modifications to existing and/or new information collections. DOT has extended the period for comments on the NPRM from November 5, 2012 to December 24, 2012.

Idaho Transportation Department Releases New Five-Year Plan

Earlier this year, the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) published its *FY12 to FY16 Five-Year Idaho Transportation Investment Plan*. The Plan documents planned projects for highways, bridges, public transportation, railroad crossings, aviation, and non-motorized transportation. This Plan provides information to the general public on:

- Funding needs and assumptions.
- How projects are prioritized and selected.
- What projects are selected and when they will be completed.
- How progress is measured.

The ITD revenue forecasts assume federal highway allocations will be approximately \$296 million each year through federal fiscal year 2016. The State Highway Account is forecasted to increase from the FY12 level of \$234.1 million by approximately one percent per year.

The 2012 to 2016 Five-Year Transportation Plan invests over \$2.3 billion in the following categories.

- Highways: \$1.6 Billion
- Bridges: \$293 Million
- Aeronautics: \$308 Million
- Public Transportation: \$72 Million

The *FY12 to FY16 Five-Year Idaho Transportation Investment Plan* contains a list of projects that require the department to make accurate, long-term funding assumptions for both state and federal funds. This is a great resource for the small business transportation community in Idaho to learn more about planned projects in the next 5 years.

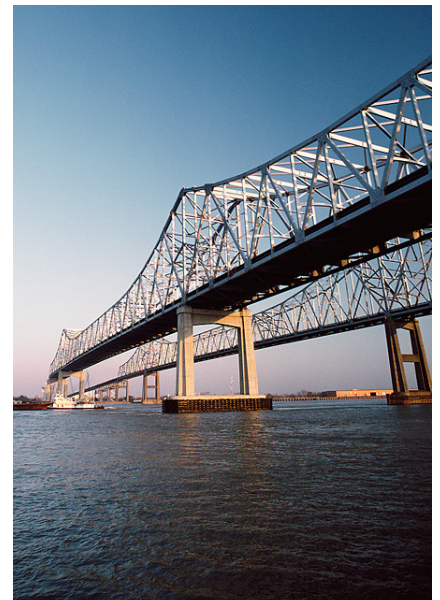
For more information you can download the Plan at:
<http://www.itd.idaho.gov/5yearplan/>.

Secretary LaHood Launches Historic Expansion of Infrastructure Finance Fund

In July, 2012, DOT Secretary Ray LaHood announced the availability of up to \$17 billion in loans for critical infrastructure projects across the country as a result of the recently enacted surface transportation bill, known as MAP-21 through the TIFIA (Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act) credit assistance program. TIFIA provides direct loans, loan guarantees, and standby lines of credit to major infrastructure projects with the potential to create jobs and spur economic development and growth.

A wide range of critical transportation projects are eligible for the funding, including everything from highway and passenger rail projects to public transit and international bridges and tunnels. Because of the flexibility provided by the TIFIA programs, many qualified, large-scale projects that might otherwise be delayed or shelved can move forward quickly, providing an immediate boost to jobs while laying a foundation for continued economic growth.

To date, the TIFIA program has used \$9.2 billion in funding to leverage more than \$36.4 billion in private and other capital to help build 27 major transportation projects around the country. In the past, TIFIA has supported signature projects like the Presidio Parkway Project in California, which is replacing the structurally and seismically deficient access road to the Golden Gate Bridge with the Presidio Parkway, which will connect San Francisco and Marin Counties with a safe and modern roadway. TIFIA also participated in funding the Miami Intermodal Facility in Florida, which will help travelers easily connect to the Miami International Airport, Metrorail transit, and Tri-Rail commuter rail, as well as Amtrak and Intercity bus services.



More information about other projects is available at:
http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ipd/tifa/projects_project_profiles/