



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

From the Desk of the Director

As Director of the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU), it is my job to ensure that small businesses have access to the most up-to-date information, resources, and opportunities they need to compete in the federal and state transportation marketplace, especially during these difficult economic times. As part of the Administration's effort to put America back to work, we have developed new programs such as the ARRA Bonding Assistance Reimbursable Fee Program for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises.



You may have seen changes to our web site and other communication tools, updated to provide easier access to information on the programs and services offered at the U.S. Department of Transportation. In fact, we have even changed the name of the newsletter to DOT Biz Journal to better reflect the kinds of information that are important to you, our readers, including current grant and contract information, important updates on relevant small business programs, and our new and ongoing activities undertaken on your behalf at the OSDBU.

This fall edition is full of key procurement and contracting information for small businesses. On October 1st, OSDBU releases its Procurement Forecast which provides information on anticipated DOT procurements. The forecast can be searched by quarter, industry category, Operating Administration and key words.

In honor of this upcoming Veterans Day on November 11th, we also highlight Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (VOSBs) and DOT's strong commitment to use VOSBs as contracting resources. You will find information regarding the requirements to qualify as a VOSB, as well as the various resources available to VOSBs seeking federal contracting opportunities.

Brandon Neal
Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU)

U.S. Department of Transportation Launches ARRA Bonding Assistance Reimbursable Fee Program for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises

On August 28, 2009, the OSDBU introduced the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Bonding Assistance Reimbursable Fee program (BAP). Pursuant to ARRA, DOT was appropriated \$48.1 billion in funding for the purpose of stimulating the economy, creating jobs and investing in the nation's transportation infrastructure. ARRA also appropriated \$20 million to the DOT for DBE bonding assistance.

Under the DBE ARRA BAP, DOT will be providing direct reimbursement of bonding premiums and fees incurred by DBEs competing for, or performing on, eligible transportation infrastructure projects receiving DOT ARRA funding. The bonding assistance provided by the DBE ARRA BAP will allow DBEs with traditionally less working capital than large transportation-related contractors to perform on transportation infrastructure projects receiving ARRA funding from any DOT Operating Administration, such as Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), *continued on page 6*

U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood Kicks Off Program with Spelman College

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood recently announced the Pilot Entrepreneurial Training and Technical Assistance Women and Girls Program at Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. This program has been created to encourage girls to pursue careers in science, engineering, and technology and help women in the field to achieve their goals. *continued on page 10*



Seated from left, Myra Burnett, Vice Provost Spelman College, Brandon Neal, OSDBU Director, and Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood

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calendar

OCTOBER 4-7

American Public Transportation Association Annual Meeting; Orlando, FL

www.apta.com/mc/conferences/90days/2009annual/Pages/default.aspx

OCTOBER 15

Small Business Matchmaking Event sponsored by Business Matchmaking, Inc.; Boston, MA

www.businessmatchmaking.com/events.shtml

OCTOBER 20-21

GovLink Conference 2009; Sacramento, CA

www.theftc.org/govlinkconference/

OCTOBER 22-26

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Annual Meeting; Palm Desert, CA

www.dot.ca.gov/aashto2009/

NOVEMBER 2-5

National SBIR/STTR Conference; Reno, NV

www.unr.edu/sbir-sttr2009/

NOVEMBER 18

OSDBU Vendor Day; Washington, DC

www.osdbu.dot.gov

DECEMBER 9

Annual Small, Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Conference; San Antonio, TX

www.bexar.org/smwbe/BCSD_SMWBENew_T197_R17.html

DOT Surpasses Small Business Contracting Goals for the 3rd Consecutive Year

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) recently released the Small Business Procurement Scorecard (SBPS) for all agencies, reflecting their contracting accomplishments for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008, and plans and progress for FY 2009.

This annual Scorecard rates federal agency performance in meeting the overall small business goal and the component contracting goals for small disadvantaged businesses, small businesses in HUBZones, and small businesses owned by women and service-disabled veterans. Procurement goals for federal procuring agencies may vary because the SBA negotiates individual goals with each federal procuring agency. SBA rates 24 agencies green, yellow or red on each of the individual goals established by Congress and gave a numerical score to each agency based on how many of the five goals were met or surpassed. This scorecard helps measure the progress that federal agencies are making to ensure small business opportunities remain an integral part of their acquisition strategy to meet mission objectives.

Percentage of Contract Dollars to Small Businesses in FY 2008

Type of Small Business	DOT Goals FY 08	DOT Achievement FY 08	Gov't Wide Achievement FY 08
Small Business	37.0%	40.2%	21.5%
Small Disadvantaged Business	5.0%	16.2%	6.8%
Women-Owned Small Business	5.0%	8.1%	3.4%
HUBZone Small Business	3.0%	7.2%	2.3%
Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business	3.0%	1.8%	1.5%

OSDBU is pleased to announce that for the third consecutive year, the Department of Transportation (DOT) received a “Green” rating for its accomplishments in supporting small business contracting in FY 2008 and for its efforts during the current FY 2009.

DOT was one of eight agencies that met or surpassed their goals for four of the five small business categories. DOT attained their goals for small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, women-owned small businesses, and HUBZone businesses and outpaced the federal government as a whole in each of the five categories as the table below shows. These accomplishments reflect the Department’s ongoing commitment to providing the small business community the greatest access to federal contracting opportunities and to ensure that DOT’s procurement officers have the information and tools needed to connect with these innovative small companies.

For more information on the Small Business Procurement Scorecard click on the following: www.sba.gov/aboutsba/sbaprograms/goals/index.html

procurement assistance page

Jerry Franco, Chief
Procurement Assistance Division

Navigating the Web for ARRA-Funded Transportation Opportunities

As of early September, states had 4,900 transportation projects underway with ARRA funds. Many of these projects were for those determined as “shovel ready,” meaning they:

- Met the normal eligibility requirements under existing Federal highway, transit or other grant programs;
- Completed all necessary design work;
- Completed all environmental reviews;
- Are identified on the State Transportation Improvement Program Plan; and
- Are ready to be put out on bid, contracts can be awarded, and work underway within 90 days of enactment.

These initial “shovel ready” projects were required to be advertised for bid by the end of June 2009. If you think you missed out on ARRA-funded projects, think again. There are a significant amount of remaining ARRA funded transportation projects which must be advertised for bid by March 2010 and right now is a great time to learn more about these upcoming projects in order to plan your contract bidding strategy.

Although each state has a site dedicated to providing information on ARRA-funded projects and activities, it can seem daunting trying to find specific opportunities for transportation-related contracts, since this information may be posted differently in each state. Below are some hints to help you in your search.

First, go to the state’s Department of Transportation web site (you can find links to each state DOT site on the OSDBU web site at www.osdbu.dot.gov/DBEProgram/StateDOTDBESites.cfm). Many of these sites will have links to upcoming ARRA-funded projects. Look for the popular ARRA logo or text including “ARRA” or “American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.” These links will usually direct you to pages dedicated to infor-

Additional resources include the Federal government’s Recovery.gov web site (www.recovery.gov) and the Department of Transportation’s Recovery web page (www.dot.gov/recovery). Both sites provide information on the size and types of grants states are receiving under ARRA and about the status of projects that have already been funded and are underway. There is also information available on programs in place to assist the small business community including DOT’s ARRA DBE Bonding Assistance Program (see article on page 1), links to each state Recovery Program web site and DOT’s agency-dedicated pages such as FHWA, FAA, FRA, MARAD and the Office of the Secretary.

mation specific to state transportation-related projects funded through ARRA.

On these pages, look for terms such as “Doing Business,” “Bid Letting,” “Project Bids” or “Upcoming Projects.” These terms will usually point you in the right direction to identify projects that are currently being let for contract bids or are planned to be put out for bid by contractors in the near future. Many states provide lists of upcoming projects on a weekly or monthly basis. It’s always a good idea to visit those sites regularly or bookmark the site in order to be aware of upcoming contracting opportunities.

There are other resources related to ARRA funded projects that can be a great asset for you as you develop your bid strategy. One resource is to look at Statewide Transportation Improvement Program Plans which document upcoming projects across the state for the next five years. These provide a listing and descrip- *continued on page 6*

FY 2010 Procurement Forecast Available October 1

Checking out the Procurement Forecast is a “must” for all of OSDBU’s customers. It represents DOT’s best estimate of what the different operating administrations will be buying in the coming year. The Forecast is set up to be user-friendly. It can be searched by quarter, industry category, Operating Administration and key words. For example, are you interested in knowing what projects the Federal Transit Administration is planning to fund in the 3rd quarter of FY 2010? Just check under the “Operating Administration” tab of the Forecast. Do you want to know which offices will be requesting construction or engineering services in the coming year? Simply click on “Procurement Category.” You can also use the “Advanced Search” function to find out if DOT offices anticipate a need for more specific services – and focus your marketing efforts accordingly. Be sure to take advantage of this valuable tool for growing your business.

For more information: Check out the Procurement Forecast under the “OSDBU Services” link of the Website. Please note that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) issues its own Procurement Forecast separate from the one issued by OSDBU for the other operating administrations. A link to the FAA FY 2010 Procurement Forecast can be found on either the FAA or OSDBU websites.

Other ARRA-Funded Financing Opportunities for Small Businesses

SBA's America's Recovery Capital Loan Program to Offer Short-Term Relief for Small Businesses

If your small business is stressed meeting expenses during these economic times, the U.S. Small Business Administration has a new loan program designed just for you. Since June 15, lenders across the country have provided millions of dollars in capital to small businesses through the America's Recovery Capital (ARC) loan program.

Created under the Recovery Act, the temporary ARC program offers interest-free loans to viable small businesses which carry a 100 percent guaranty from the SBA to the lender and require no fees paid to SBA. Loan proceeds are provided over a six-month period and repayment of the ARC loan principal is deferred for 12 months after the last disbursement of the proceeds. Repayment can extend up to five years.

SBA's ARC Loan Program can provide up to \$35,000 in short-term relief for viable small businesses facing immediate financial hardship to help ride out the current uncertain economic times and return to profitability. Each small business is limited to one ARC loan and will be offered by some SBA lenders for as long as funding is available or until September 30, 2010, whichever comes first.

ARC Quick Tip:

The best candidates for ARC loans are small businesses that in the past were profitable but are currently struggling yet have been making loan payments or are just beginning to miss loan payments due to financial hardship.

504 and 7(a) Loan Programs Expand Eligibility and Refinancing Options for Small Businesses

504 Certified Development Company loan program:

If your small business is interested in expanding and purchasing a building or equipment, then we have good news for you! Recent changes to the 504 Certified Development Company loan program may help you refinance existing loans into this unique government-guaranteed program. Refinancing can help you benefit from increased cash flow and enhanced viability to support growth and job creation. The changes were authorized in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The Legislation allows 504 projects to include a limited amount of debt refinancing if there is a business expansion and the debt refinanced does not exceed 50 percent of

the projected cost of the expansion. "Expansion" includes any project that involves the acquisition, construction or improvement of land, building or equipment for use by the small business. The following are some of the conditions under which borrowers will be eligible for refinancing:

- The debt being refinanced was incurred to acquire land, to construct a building or to purchase equipment. The assets acquired must be eligible for financing under the 504 program.
- The existing debt is collateralized by fixed assets.
- The existing debt was incurred for the benefit of the small business.
- The new financing provides a substantial benefit to the borrower when prepayment penalties, financing fees, and other financing costs are taken into account.
- The borrower has been current on all payments of existing debt for one year prior to the date of refinancing.

Additionally, certain CDC fees have been temporarily eliminated, making the 504 loans more affordable for small businesses. On a typical 504 loan of \$1,500,000, this means borrowers can save \$12,750; on a \$3,750,000 loan, borrowers can save \$31,875.

7(a) Loan Program:

The Recovery Act provides several temporary incentives for lenders to increase their SBA-backed lending volume, including increased guarantees and reduced fees for certain SBA loans. Some of these benefits include

- Reduced risk – increased guaranty provides greater security and restores confidence.
- A lender may temporarily request up to a 90 percent guaranty for eligible 7(a) loans submitted on or after March 16, under the following programs:
- Ability to sell the guaranteed portion of an SBA loan on secondary market will improve lender's liquidity and yield.
- Quick SBA turnaround on loan applications – usually in as little as two to three days.
- Access to E-Tran, SBA's electronic application process.

Small businesses will benefit from these incentives, as well, through:

- The temporary elimination of upfront borrower loan fees makes SBA loans more affordable for small businesses that are hesitant to pursue a loan.
- Banks will begin investing in small businesses again, making credit more readily available for those businesses that need it.
- Streamlined applications and fast turnaround by SBA.
- Technical assistance available.

For additional information regarding the ARC, 504, and 7(a) Loan Programs, including frequently asked questions and application instructions, please visit www.sba.gov/recovery/arclloanprogram/index.html.

Contracting Resources for Veteran-Owned Small Businesses

DOT strongly supports the use of Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (VOSBs) as contracting resources and VOSBs are encouraged to tap into the many available tools to assist them with the process.

The Center for Veterans Enterprise (CVE) of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides the following services free to anyone who served in the active military, naval or air service, and who was discharged or released there from under conditions other than dishonorable:

- Vendor Information Pages (VIP) – a veteran business database that lists businesses that are 51 percent or more owned by veterans or service-connected disabled veterans. VIP averages over 4,500 visits per month accounting for over 4,100 vendor searches by federal agencies, prime contractors and private citizens. This database is also the sole source for all inquiries for market research requested through CVE and VA. VIP is located at www.vip.vetbiz.gov/
- Assistance Program Pages (APP) – an electronic Clearinghouse that provides a wealth of resources for the veteran contemplating small business ownership and veteran small business owners considering expansion. This database of professional business development organizations provides assistance in startup, financing and procurement as well as other areas in your local community. APP can be found at <http://app.vetbiz.gov/>
- Business, Coaching, Networking and Outreach – In-house experts help veteran business owners with specific business questions, brainstorming and counseling. For information, call toll free at 866-584-2344 or send an email to VACVE@va.gov

To qualify as a Veteran Owned Small Business (VOSB), a business concern must be at least 51 percent owned by one or more eligible veterans; or, in the case of any publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of the stock is owned by one or more veterans, and whose management and daily business operations are controlled by such veterans.

Attempts to Defraud ARRA Grantees

DOT is aware of attempts to defraud potential Recovery Act grantees. Those attempts occur by written request for confidential financial information that appear to be from DOT. Do not respond to these requests. If you receive such a request, please contact DOT at 202-366-0747, or email DOT's Senior Procurement Executive at recovery.grantee@dot.gov. DOT is working with domestic and international law enforcement agencies to identify and prosecute the persons responsible for this fraudulent activity.

Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses

The Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) Procurement Program was created by Congress in 2003 to provide federal contracting assistance to SDVOSBs. The Program requires that federal contracting agencies establish and achieve a participation goal of three percent of the total value of all prime contract and sub-contract awards for each fiscal year for small businesses owned and controlled by veterans with service-connected disabilities.

Since there is no federal SDVOSB certification program, the service disabled veteran business owner self represents his or her service-disabled status and small business status in the contract representations and certifications. To be eligible for the SDVOSB program, a veteran must be able to produce one of the following stating that s/he has a service-connected disability in the event of a protest:

- Adjudication letter from the Veterans Administration; or
- Department of Defense Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty.

According to the Center for Veteran's Enterprise, Defense Form 214 is needed to prove that the individual is honorably discharged and it also documents the type of service disability. The letter from VA is needed for confirmation that the individual is eligible to enter the program and that there is a disability.

To be seen as an SDVOSB, a small business concern must self-certify the presence of the following two conditions:

- At least 51 percent owned by one or more Service-Disabled Veterans; or, in the case of any publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of the stock of which is owned by one or more Service-Disabled Veterans; and
- Management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more Service-Disabled Veterans (or in the case of a veteran with a permanent and severe disability, the spouse or permanent caregiver of such a veteran).

More information on the SDVOSB Program can be found on the Veterans Affairs web site at: www.vetbiz.gov/

STLP Lender Named Financial Services Company of the Year

Congratulations to Legacy Bank, a participating lender in DOT's Short Term Lending Program (STLP), on being named Black Enterprise Magazine's Financial Services Company of the Year!

Located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Legacy Bank is the only bank holding company in the nation organized by African-American women, and a focus on economic development and community impact is the essence of its mission. In fact, its shareholders represent a diverse group of individuals, business owners, religious organizations, governmental bodies, banks, foundations, and major corporations.

Legacy celebrated its tenth anniversary this July, and despite the difficult economy, this financial institution's business is booming. Legacy has seen deposits jump an average of 21 percent during each year of operation to \$188 million. In 2008, Legacy's assets grew by 21 percent to \$224.5 million, while its loan portfolio expanded by 22 percent to \$176.8 million. Legacy is clearly a pillar in its community.

As a participating lender for the STLP, Legacy Bank helps small businesses gain access to transportation-related work by providing short term working capital financing at competitive interest rates for DOT or DOT funded contracts and subcontracts. Legacy's strong performance and broader economic and community development mission make the financial institution a perfect match for the STLP.

To link to Legacy Bank's article in Black Enterprise Magazine, go to www.blackenterprise.com/be-100s/be100s-articles/2009/05/10/financial-services-company-of-the-year-the-loan-rangers
For more information regarding DOT's STLP, please visit www.osdbu.dot.gov/financial/index.cfm

OSDBU is pleased to announce several new Participating Lenders (PLs) to the STLP. With the addition of these banks, the program has a broader reach to small business across the country in need of lending assistance for their transportation-related contracts. For a listing of all the PLs in the program, visit www.osdbu.dot.gov/financial/stlp.cfm#banks

The Bank of Missouri
3610 Buttonwood Drive
Columbia, MO 65201
www.bankofmissouri.com

National Bank of California
145 South Fairfax Avenue
Los Angeles, California, 90036
www.nbcal.com

Denali Alaskan Federal Credit Union
Member Business Lending
440 E. 36th Avenue, Suite 220
Anchorage, AK 99503
www.denalifcu.org

United Bank of Philadelphia
The Graham Building
30 S. 15th Street, Suite 1200
Philadelphia, PA 19102
www.unitedbankofphiladelphia.com

ARRA-FUNDED OPPS...continued from page 3

tion of transportation projects planned by the state and regional planning agencies in the upcoming years. You should note that funding may not be available for these projects, so use this information only to gain an understanding on the priorities that the state DOT has identified and not as specific contract opportunities.

For federal contract opportunities at DOT, make sure to visit OSDBU's Procurement Forecast for planned projects in the upcoming fiscal year which begins October 1st (see article on page 3).

Finally, for subcontracting opportunities on ARRA-funded projects, visit the Small Business Administration's (SBA) Subcontracting Network web page at <http://web.sba.gov/subnet/search/index.cfm>. This page provides specific information on the kind of work, the prime contractor, and the closing date of the opportunity.

ARRA BONDING ASSISTANCE...continued from page 1

Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), and the Maritime Administration (MARAD).

Applications must be received by mail or electronically transmitted to OSDBU on or before September 8, 2010 for bond issue dates for ARRA projects on or after August 28, 2009.

More information including the application and instructions is available at www.dot.gov/recovery/ost/osdbu/ or by email at bap.arra@dot.gov

Technical assistance is available from OSDBU Headquarters at 1-800-532-1169 or through the regional DOT Small Business Transportation Resource Centers. To contact the center near you call 1-866-928-6289 or visit www.osdbu.dot.gov/regional/all.cfm

Mendez Confirmed as Federal Highway Administrator

Former Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Director Victor Mendez was recently confirmed by the U.S. Senate as Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). In his role as the nation's top federal highway official, Mendez will deal with critical and timely issues, including implementing the ARRA, the largest new investment in the nation's infrastructure in years, and the reauthorization of the surface transportation law, which will guide federal investment in the nation's network of roads and bridges for years to come.

"Victor's lengthy record of delivering major infrastructure projects on time and his enthusiasm for innovative solutions to complex transportation problems make him an excellent addition to the team," said Jeff Paniati, FHWA's Executive Director, who had been serving as Acting Administrator since January 20. "His leader-

ship and experience are exactly what the nation's highways need right now."

Under his leadership at ADOT, Mendez oversaw the construction of the Regional Freeway System in the Phoenix area that was built six years ahead of schedule. He delivered statewide construction programs on time, including major infrastructure improvements throughout the state. In addition, he worked to improve the agency's customer service within motor vehicle and highway division offices.

Mendez started at ADOT in 1985, beginning as a transportation engineer. He worked his way up the agency, becoming Deputy Director in 1999 and, later, Acting Director in 2001. He also served as president of the American Association of State and Highway Transportation Officials in 2007.

New Contractor Disclosure Requirements in Effect

The Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) was recently amended to require that contractors timely notify the relevant Office of Inspector General (OIG) whenever there is credible evidence to believe that a violation(s) of criminal law and/or the civil False Claims Act have occurred in connection with a Federal contract.

Specifically, contractors must disclose, in writing, to the OIG whenever they have credible evidence that a principal, employee, agent, or subcontractor of the contractor has committed a violation of Federal criminal law involving fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, or gratuity violations or a violation of the civil False Claims Act, in connection with the award, performance, or closeout of a Government contract or subcontract. Disclosures must be made by a senior officer or manager authorized to speak for the contractor.

Disclosure regarding conduct that occurred before December 12, 2008, is also required under this new FAR rule. Penalties for knowing failure to timely disclose include suspension and/or debarment.

For additional information, including how to submit disclosures electronically, please visit www.oig.dot.gov/far_reporting.jsp

If you wish to report information that does not fall within the guidelines outlined above, please visit DOT's Hotline webpage at: www.oig.dot.gov/Hotline

Ed Cafiero Joins OSDBU

DOT would like to welcome Ed Cafiero as the new Business Enterprise Development Officer for the OSDBU. In this capacity, he will advise the Director on direct policy, program and managerial support for administering the overall policy formulation and operations of the OSDBU, as well as advising on political issues pertaining to small businesses. On behalf of the Director, Mr. Cafiero will help ensure that the office operates in compliance with the policy directives and objectives related to small and disadvantaged business participation in the departmental procurement and Federal financial assistance programs and activities.

Prior to joining DOT, Cafiero served as Vice President of Grassroots, Voter, and Constituent Communications for The Clinton Group, Inc., a political communications firm in Washington, DC. There he managed the company's business development and ran direct contact campaigns for scores of electoral candidates and organizations, trade associations, labor unions, non-profits, and corporations. Cafiero holds a B.A. in English from The College of William and Mary.

now available

FY'10 DOT
Procurement Forecast

Online at: www.osdbu.dot.gov

Colorado Department of Transportation

Like many state transportation agencies, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has been continuously working to improve their transportation system and contributing to job opportunities through construction projects. As of August 1st CDOT, through its transportation projects, has created or sustained approximately 1,685 jobs.

CDOT ARRA Project Status as of July 31, 2009

Gone to Advertisement

51

Under Contract

34

Under Construction or
Near Construction

31

Construction Complete

1

This milestone is thanks to the fact that Colorado is receiving over \$500 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds for Transportation projects statewide with CDOT receiving \$330 million in federal highway funding and another \$12.5 million in federal transit funding for transit projects in non-urbanized rural areas. This funding will provide a number of opportunities for businesses to contract with CDOT to help improve the states transportation system. The blue box at left contains a project status list of ARRA projects with CDOT. For additional information visit: www.dot.state.co.us/arra/index.cfm

tus list of ARRA projects with CDOT. For additional information visit: www.dot.state.co.us/arra/index.cfm

An Update on ARRA-Funded Transportation Grants

In an effort to stimulate job creation and economic growth as quickly as possible, DOT is approving and allocating ARRA funding at an unparalleled pace. In fact, nearly \$38 billion of the \$48.1 billion in transportation ARRA funds have been made available to states, transit districts and airports to use for eligible projects.

Below are additional key facts regarding the current status of transportation-related recovery investments, as well as ARRA implementation information impacting small businesses, and a snapshot of a particular state's strategic approach to quickly transitioning federal funding into economy boosting transportation projects.

- FHWA Division Offices have authorized 7,958 projects in all states and territories for a total of \$19.2 billion. This represents 68 percent of total funds available. Federal Lands authorized 134 projects to date for a total of \$184.8 million.
- Amtrak has received \$1.3 billion in capital grants that will speed service by replacing obsolete bridges, in

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North Carolina I-85 Corridor Improvement Project

The I-85 Corridor Improvement Project includes comprehensive upgrades to the highway, bridge and rail infrastructure located along a vital stretch of I-85 in North Carolina's Triad region. It plays a critical role in not only addressing current transportation needs, but also in meeting the travel demands of the future.

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) was prepared to take bids on this project in 2004; however, budget constraints prevented the project from being let to contract. The cost of the project, including all highway, bridge and rail components, is expected to exceed \$300 million. NCDOT plans to complete the project under two design-build contracts, which allow project teams of designers and contractors to simultaneously conduct project design and construction to expedite its completion. Once these contracts are in place, NCDOT expects the project will take about three years to complete.

Gov. Bev Perdue, Transportation Secretary Gene Conti, and North Carolina's congressional delegation are actively working to obtain discretionary grant funding for this project through the ARRA. The money will be awarded on a competitive basis by the U.S. Department of Transportation. Information on the status of this funding and subsequent contract letting will be posted on www.ncdot.gov/recovery/i85corridor/

New Jersey Receives \$298.7 Million in ARRA Funds for Transit Projects

The U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary LaHood recently announced the availability of \$298.7 Million in ARRA funds for transit projects in the state of New Jersey, including \$130 Million for the Mass Transit Tunnel Project. A total of 13 projects will use these allocated funds, improving aging infrastructure and generating contracting opportunities across the region.

These projects will in essence help jump start the economy in New Jersey and modernize the public transportation system used. In addition to the Mass Transit Tunnel Project, which consists of two new tunnels under the Hudson River and a new rail station in midtown Manhattan, these ARRA funds will also help pay for bus, van and railcar purchases, while at the same time providing facility, track, and safety and bridge improvements throughout the system.

To learn more about the New Jersey transit projects and possible contracting opportunities, visit: www.state.nj.us/transportation/

DOT Provides ARRA Funds for Transportation-Related Training



DOT understands that small businesses need qualified and trained workers to successfully compete for and execute transportation projects. That is why DOT recently awarded \$6.7 million in transportation-related job training grants from ARRA funds in fourteen states across the country. The grants will fund apprenticeships and training centers for underrepresented or disadvantaged people seeking careers in transportation, engineering or construction fields.

The “On-the-Job Training Supportive Services” (OJT/SS) grants supplement federal training programs and support the training programs of state departments of transportation for highway construction contractors, apprentices and trainees. The OJT/SS program encourages completion of training programs and promotes training opportunities for minorities and women in skilled and semi-skilled crafts.

To determine if a grantee is located in your area, review the list at right

For additional information regarding the program, visit www.fhwa.dot.gov/economicrecovery/index.htm.

OSDBU Launches New and Improved Website

OSDBU is proud to unveil the new look and feel to its website, www.osdbu.dot.gov. The new site maintains all of the great resources of the previous site while incorporating a new streamlined appearance to ensure easy access to the information most important to your small business. In one click, readers will now be able to link to key program and resource information sorted by type of customer, as well as DOT contact information. Let us know how you like the changes by dropping us a note on our feedback page at www.osdbu.dot.gov/about/feedback.

State	Recipient Organization	Amount
California	Pacific Gateway/City of Long Beach	\$130,000
California	Cypress Mandela Training Center	\$55,000
California	Center for Training and Careers	\$60,000
California	Asian Business Community Development, Inc.	\$73,217
California	Sacramento Employment and Training Agency	\$90,000
Colorado	AIMS Community College	\$250,000
Georgia	Georgia Women in Highway Construction (Goodwill Industries)	\$171,095
Kansas	Northeast Kansas Project	\$200,402
Kansas	Wichita Metro Area OJT/SS Program	\$224,600
Minnesota	Commercial Vehicle Drivers Program	\$286,812
Missouri	Construction Prep Center	\$145,000
Missouri	Columbia Builds Youth	\$190,434
Montana	Salish Kootenai College	\$342,860
Montana	Fort Peck Community College	\$334,320
Oregon	Oregon Workforce Development Program	\$880,000
Rhode Island	State OJT/SS Program	\$350,000
South Carolina	Transportation Careers Training Program	\$227,546
Tennessee	Civil Rights Office/Affirmative Action Program	\$800,000
Utah	State OJT/SS Program	\$373,890
Virginia	Wounded Veterans Internship Program	\$1.2 M
Wisconsin	WisDOT TrANS Expansion-Forward Services Corp.	\$195,148
Wisconsin	WisDOT TrANS Expansion-College of Menominee Nation	\$200,000
TOTAL		\$6,780,324

Mid-Atlantic SBTRC and United Bank of Philadelphia Host Financing Open House for DBEs

The Mid-Atlantic Small Business Transportation Resource Center (SBTRC), together with the newest lender for the STLP program, United Bank of Philadelphia, recently hosted an open house presentation in Philadelphia to an audience of approximately 55 Certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprises and others on the Short Term Loan Program. Mid-Atlantic SBTRC Executive Director Marjorie Anderson gave a complete presentation on the STLP Program and entertained questions and answers on the program and other financing resources for small businesses.

Additional speakers included, representatives from: United Bank of Philadelphia, Milligan & Co., Southeast Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA), Pennsylvania Unified Certification Program (PAUCP)/ DBE Supportive Service Center of Cheney University, and Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT).

Each of the SBTRCs works to forge connections with DBEs in their region by hosting informational events and providing written and other materials regarding financing, business planning, and other topics important to small businesses.

To learn about SBTRC events and resources in your area, visit www.osdbu.dot.gov/regional.

For more information on this program, please contact Patricia Martin at 202-366-5337 or patricia.martin@dot.gov

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Niantic, Connecticut, modernize electrical power in Chester, Pennsylvania, as well as rehabilitate train stations and improve safety across the country. They have outlaid \$14.9 million under the ARRA grant through August 24th, and will be increasing outlays over the coming months.

- DOT issued a release announcing a \$3.4 million FAA ARRA grant for Manassas Regional Airport in Virginia, and a release announcing \$4.1 million for Harry Stern Airport in North Dakota.
- On August 14, Secretary LaHood announced a \$298 million ARRA grant for the Access to the Region's Core (ARC) project. New Jersey Transit will use the funding for 12 different transit projects across New Jersey, of which \$130 million is for ARC.
- Nearly all of the \$1.1 billion in Airport grants-in-aid have been approved for over 250 airport infrastructure projects across the country.
- The Federal Transit Administration has released \$7.5 billion in formula funds to states and local transit districts, has already awarded five grants for rural areas, and will obligate most of the discretionary money to specific projects before day 200.
- The general public will be able to track the status of individual transportation projects on the Department's Recovery website. Access this site at www.dot.gov/recovery/

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The new program, managed by a cooperative agreement between the U.S. Department of Transportation and Spelman College, is part of a broader effort, led by the White House, to ensure that federal programs and policies take into account the distinct needs and concerns of women and girls. "Transportation is one of the most challenging and exciting industries in the country right now," Secretary LaHood said. "We'd love to see the women at Spelman and students at high schools, colleges, and universities around the country become our transportation leaders for the 21st century and come work at the U.S. Department of Transportation."

"I welcome Secretary LaHood Hood to the 5th Congressional District, home of the one of the busiest airports in the world. Though transportation is one of our greatest sources of pride, it also presents some of our greatest challenges," U.S. Representative John Lewis said. "I am glad that DOT is working with Spelman College to develop young women as transportation executives. We need young, innovative minds

prepared to deal with the transportation challenges of this century. I also would like to invite the Secretary back to our district at a time when he can tour the area and examine transportation issues in the Atlanta metro area firsthand."

"We are excited about launching a pilot program that will introduce women and girls to public service," Brandon Neal, U.S. DOT Director of the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization said. "It is our goal to assist as many women as possible and continue to be the training ground for future small business owners."

The partnership will create an internship and mentoring program to bring more female students into transportation-related careers and help them gain hands-on experience. It will also help small women-owned transportation companies to compete for DOT contracts, and make sure they get the technical and financial assistance they need to succeed.

The partnership supports President Obama's mission and work of the White House Council on Women and Girls.