



Montana Department of Transportation
DBE Program
Civil Rights Bureau
P.O. Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001

Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program

USDA Rural Development has announced the application period for the new program entitled Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program (RMAP). The program provides low interest loans and technical assistance grants to intermediaries (including nonprofit development corporations) that will operate a revolving loan fund with the 1% loan funds and provide or improve their technical assistance capabilities with the grant funds. Microentrepreneurs are businesses that need less than \$50,000 in loan funds and have less than 10 employees.



Please note the application deadline for all 2010 funds is July 16th and for 2011 funds and beyond the application deadline will be quarterly on September 30, January 31, March 31, and June 30. The link for the applications is <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mt/rbs/rbshome.htm>

Want to save some green?

The Safety and Health Bureau is offering classes for you to develop your safety program. **You will leave the class with your safety plan in hand!** This is quick, easy and free! And...you can save up to 40% in your worker's comp premiums! Contact Shannon at 444-7287 if you are interested and she will set up a class for you!

U.S. Transportation Secretary LaHood Applauds New Kansas Primary Seat Belt Law

Kansas now eligible for more than \$11 million in federal funds

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood today applauded Kansas for enacting a new primary seat belt law that is expected to save lives, reduce serious injuries and cut medical and other economic costs by more than \$70 million.

The new Kansas law enables police officers to stop and ticket the driver of any passenger car if either the driver or front seat passenger is observed not wearing a seat belt. This law also applies to anyone under age 18. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), seat belt use is the most effective protection against serious crash injuries, reducing the risk by 50 percent.



We are pleased that Kansas has joined those states that have adopted primary seat belt laws to save lives," said Secretary LaHood. "Wearing a seat belt can make the difference between life and death in a crash, so always buckle up on every trip, every time."

NHTSA Administrator David Strickland added, "We applaud Governor Mark Parkinson and the state legislature for stepping up to the plate to make Kansas roads safer. Seat belts have saved more lives than any other piece of safety equipment in the American automobile, but they only work when you wear them."

NHTSA estimates that, with the passage of its primary belt law, Kansas will increase its belt use by approximately nine percent, cut annual fatalities in passenger cars and light trucks by eight percent and reduce serious injuries.

Traffic crashes cost the nation about \$230 billion each year in medical expenses, lost productivity, property damage and related costs. Kansas pays \$1.9 billion of these costs, \$700 for every resident of Kansas, each year.

The new law makes Kansas eligible to receive \$11 million in federal incentive funds from the Department of Transportation. Primary seat belt laws have a proven track record of increasing state seat belt use rates. In 2009, the average seat belt use rate in states with primary enforcement laws was 11 percent higher than in states with secondary enforcement laws.

With the addition of Kansas, 31 states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands have primary seat belt laws.

INROADS

Bid and Contracting Opportunities

Welcome, Recently Certified DBEs!

Marie Clore
Bozeman Environmental LLC
 Residential Lead/Abatement

Joe Tobiness
Tobiness Construction Co
 Residential Remodeling

Tracy Burland
Top Shelf Construction
 Clearing & Grubbing,
 Fencing, Trucking

Karin Boyd
Applied Geomorphology
 Environmental, Wetland
 Mitigation

Joseph Bailey
Bailey Paving Inc
 Paving

Taj Mukadem
Ahanu Construction Inc
 Water and Sewer Lines

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 MDT holds two bid lettings each month.

Proposed for letting July 2010

| UPN/UNIT | PROJECT ID | FINANCIAL DISTRICT | PROJECT DESIGNATION | TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION | LENGTH MILES |
|----------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------|
| 2038 012 | NH 15(95) | 1 | KBP-US 93 BIKEPATH CONNECTION | BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES | |
| 6956 000 | NH 1-7(40)393 | 3 | CHINOOK – WEST | RESURFACING-ASPHALT (THIN LIFT<=60.00MM) (SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE) | 3.9 |
| 6954 000 | NH 1-7(38)405 | 3,4 | CHINOOK-DODSON | RESURFACING-CRACK SLNG | 41.7 |
| 6958 000 | NH 60-2(90)82 | 3 | JCT S-227/228 – MEHMKE HILL | RESURFACING – ASPHALT (THIN LIFT<=60.00MM) (SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE) | 5.8 |
| 6955 000 | NH 1-7(42)398 | 3 | CHINOOK-EAST & WEST | RESURFACING – ASPHALT (THIN LIFT<=60.00MM) (SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE) | 6.3 |
| 4467 000 | STPS 472-1(6)1 | 1 | 2 KM N OF JCT MT 200-NORTH | MINOR REHABILITATION | 6.8 |
| 2976 000 | STPS 472-1(4)8 | 1 | BLUE SLIDE ROAD | MINOR REHABILITATION | 2.5 |
| 6977 000 | STPS 218-1(10)19 | 3 | EAST OF CONRAD – EAST | RESURFACING-ASPHALT (THIN LIFT<=60.00MM) (SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE) | 7.0 |
| 6058 000 | HSIP 416-1(14)1 | 5 | SF069-FLASHER/GUARDRAIL S BILLINGS | ROADWAY & ROADSIDE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS | |
| 6297 000 | BR-MT 9039(38) | 1 | LTL BLACKFT RVR-3 M E-GARRISON | BRIDGE REPLACEMENT WITH NO ADDED CAPACITY | |

The State of Montana offers one stop vendor information at the following link:
<http://svc.mt.gov/gsd/onestop/SolicitationDefault.aspx>

This website contains information from all agencies that are soliciting a contract. Check it out!

As part of our Statement of Work for this federal fiscal year, October 2009 to September 2010, we are able to fund MCA (Montana Contractor's Assn) dues for DBEs in order for DBEs to continue to network with prime contractors. In July, MCA offers dues at a reduced rate. So....if you want to join MCA in July, please contact Shannon in Supportive Services as this is a first-come, first-serve opportunity.

- The Montana Safety and Health Bureau offers On-Site Consultations to identify
- problems before they become accidents. Workplace hazards
- have a direct impact on your employees and your business.
- The Montana Department of Labor and Industry Safety and
- Health Bureau offers safety consultations that are either
- comprehensive or limited to your specific needs. The services
- are FREE! Contact them at 444-6401 to set up your FREE consultation.

Free!



MDT Awarded Contracts for April and May and DBE participation:

| Prime | Location | Project | DBE Participation |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Blahnik Construction & Ready Mix | Ennis-Urban Ennis – McAllister | STPP 13-1(49)49 STPP 13-1(51)49 | 12.24% |
| Frontier West | Pipe Creek – 4 M NW of Libby | BR 9027(33) | 1.9% |
| Knife River – Missoula | Stevensville-North SF089 Flshr E Stevensville | STPS 203-1(20)0 HSIP 203-1(18)1 | 3.46% |
| M K Weeden Construction Inc | SW of Savage | MT-NH 20-2(24)25 | 0.00% |
| Penhall Company Inc – MN | Glendive-East & West (EB) | IM 94-6(51)210 | .45% |
| Riverside Sand & Gravel Inc | Main St – 3 rd to 8 th | UPP-STPE 6904(3) | 2.89% |
| Tamietti Construction Co | N Fk Musselshell – N Martinsdale | BR 9030(14) | 3.15% |
| Average Participation | | | .94 % |

DOT Reminds Excavators About the Dangers Involved in Digging Underground

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood today cautioned construction workers, highway contractors, and others who perform digging activities about the hazards of underground excavation. The reminder follows two separate incidents last week involving excavation workers and high pressure energy pipelines in the State of Texas.

“Excavation damage is a serious safety threat to the general public and to workers whose jobs require them to dig underground,” Secretary LaHood said. “The Department strongly encourages people to call 811 before digging. It’s not only the law, it helps save lives.”

Dialing 811, the national three-digit “Call-Before-You Dig” number, is a free service that connects excavators anywhere in the country to One-Call centers to alert utility owners of planned digging exercises. Through its Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), the Department continues to push for the widespread use of 811 to help provide additional protections for underground facilities and excavators.

“Damage to underground pipelines resulting from digging has historically been a leading cause of serious pipeline incidents resulting in fatalities and injuries,” said PHMSA Administrator Cynthia Quarterman. “All stakeholders must recognize that safe practices underground is a shared responsibility. We must all do our part to protect lives and reduce excavation damage nationwide.”

Between 2000 and 2009, excavation damage was the leading cause of all significant pipeline incidents. These excavation damages resulted in 38 fatalities, 158 injuries, and \$196 million in property damage. On June 7, a 36-inch diameter natural gas pipeline operated by Enterprise Operating, LLC was struck by local utility crews using heavy equipment during an excavation assignment in Cleburne, Texas. The incident resulted in one death and six injuries. Additionally, on June 8, a 14-inch diameter DCP Midstream natural gas gathering pipeline was struck and ruptured by employees of a construction company attempting to extract kaliche clay near Darrouzette, Texas. The June 8 incident resulted in the deaths of two workers and serious injuries to three others. Investigations into the causes of each incident are being conducted to determine whether the State’s One Call Center was notified and the pipelines involved were properly marked.



One of the primary tools for avoiding damages to pipelines and other underground facilities is timely communication between excavators and those who operate or own buried facilities. When contacting One-Call Centers, excavators should be able to properly identify areas of planned digging activities to ensure all utilities are accounted for before work commences. The One-Call Center then contacts utility companies, which can dispatch crews to locate and mark the exact location of their utilities to avoid unintentional contact.

For more information on the Department’s efforts to reduce excavation damage to pipelines, visit the PHMSA website at: <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/DamagePrevention.htm..>

MDT Civil Rights Bureau Directory

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|--|--|---------------|
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Don't forget, if you receive outside training, you may be eligible for reimbursement up to \$650 per year and up to \$250 per year for travel. Call Shannon at 444-7287 before the funding runs out.

It doesn't matter if you enter the playing field from the front door or the back door, you just need to be on the field.

- Nan Gardetto

Meetings, Workshops, and Training Opportunities

July

July 9 Small Business Workshop
Flathead Valley Community College, Kalispell
8 am – 1 pm
Senator Tester will be in Kalispell to bring together businesses and industry leaders to discuss entrepreneurship, and access to capital
No cost, but please RSVP at
www.testersenate.gov/workshop

Sites to look at for training:

<http://www.matr.net>

<http://www.prosperabusinessnetwork.org/>

<http://sbdc.mt.gov/default.mcp>



Recovery Act Benefit

In August 2009, U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood announced \$20 million in recovery funds to create the DBE Bonding Assistance Program, an initiative that will help small and disadvantaged businesses better compete for work on transportation projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

Through this new program, which will be administered by the Department of Transportation's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU), small and disadvantaged businesses can apply to be reimbursed for bonding premiums and fees incurred when competing for, or performing on, transportation infrastructure projects funded by ARRA.



Of the \$20 million established by the Recovery Act, only \$250,000 has been paid out. This program sunsets on September 8, 2010, so if you have done any work on a recovery project and had to get a bond, you may be eligible to get the bonding fees back. For more information, go to
www.dot.gov/recovery/osst/osdbu