

March 2010



INROADS

Paving the Way for Montana's Disadvantaged Business Enterprises



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

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U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce Applauds U.S. Small Business Administration on Publication of Regulations for Women's Procurement Program

SBA takes step to bring an end to the decade of delay in implementing important women-owned small business federal contracting set-aside program

WASHINGTON, March 2 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- The U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce (USWCC) applauds President Obama, Administrator Mills and the U.S. Small Business Administration on their efforts to end the decade of delay in the implementation of the Women's Federal Procurement Program through publishing in the Federal Registry today a strong new set of regulations to bring this important set-aside program to fruition. While there remain several important steps before the process is complete, the regulations published today show a strong grasp of the issue and a viable process to implement and sustain a strong women-owned small business federal contracting set-aside program.

History

In 2000, after years of underrepresentation in federal contracting, Congress passed the "Equity in Contracting for Women Act of 2000" to allow contracts, in industries historically underrepresented, to be reserved for competition by women-owned small businesses. The bipartisan bill was signed into law on December 21, 2000. The act established a procurement program which allows federal contracting officers to restrict competition for certain contracts to small businesses owned and controlled by women. The act required the SBA Administrator to conduct a study to identify the industries in which women owned firms are underrepresented and prepare appropriate regulations to implement the program.

After the Bush Administration stalled the implementation, and then SBA Administrator Hector Barreto told USWCC leaders, "This Administration has no intention of implementing that program," the U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce brought suit against the SBA for failure to implement the laws of the United States. The Court found in favor of the USWCC even stating that the SBA, "...had sabotaged, whether intentional or not, the implementation of the procurement program..." and concluded that "a deadline is in order." The SBA continued delay tactics throughout the remaining years of the Bush Administration.

"Federal contracting officers will finally have the tool they need to bring fair access to federal contracts for women-owned small businesses," said Margot Dorfman, CEO of the U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce. "Opening the doors to opportunity will enable women-owned firms to grow their revenues, sustain their employees, create new job growth, and support our U.S. economy. I thank Administrator Mills for her strong leadership on this matter."

The SBA has provided a sixty-day comment period on the new proposed regulations. Sometime after the comment period, the SBA should publish a final set of rules bringing an end to a decade of delay. The USWCC has provided a report detailing the industry codes included with the program at www.uswcc.org/wfpp.

"This comes at an important time in Women's History Month as the USWCC is celebrating with the first annual National Women Contractors' Week, March 16 – 18, 2010 (www.uswcc.org/nwcw) including detailed agency spotlights of Health and Human Services and U.S. Army, awards and one-on-one meetings with dozens of federal agency representatives," continued Dorfman. "We will include a detailed session on the Women's Federal Procurement Program, certification and positioning to secure increased federal contracts."

The U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce(TM) is the leading advocate for women on economic and leadership issues. The USWCC creates opportunities and change for women by building a strong community voice, advocating for members, and providing programs and benefits to support the economic growth of women across America. The USWCC is a not-for-profit 501(c)6 organization founded in 2001; its headquarters offices are located in Washington, D.C. Contact the USWCC at 888-418-7922.

INROADS

Bid and Contracting Opportunities

Welcome, Recently Certified DBEs!

Tim Kuntz
Kuntz Mobile Home Transporting LTD
Mobile home/work trailer moving, trucking

Debora Jesse
Montana Medical Bill Review LLC
Professional medical bill review

Nilaree Manning
J A Manning Construction Co, Inc.
Concrete work, erosion control, general contractor, retaining walls

Tracey Baker
APEX Group Inc
Paving, seal coating, striping



Do you know someone who could be a DBE?

If they are a small business owned by a minority or a woman and have less than \$750,000 in personal net worth and less than \$22.41 million in sales averaged over the last 3 years, they may qualify! Tell them to contact Wendy Stewart, DBE Program Manager at 406-444-6337 or westewart@mt.gov for an application packet.

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

Proposed for letting April 2010

UPN/UNIT	PROJECT ID	FINANCIAL DISTRICT	PROJECT DESIGNATION	TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION	LENGTH MILES
6934 000	STPP 13-1(49)49	2	ENNIS-URBAN	RESURFACING-ASPHALT (THIN LIFT<=60.00MM) (INCLUDING SAFE. IMP.) (PAVE PRES)	0.5
6939 000	STPP 13-1(51)49	2	ENNIS-MCALLISTER	RESURFACING-SEAL&COVER	5.9
6918 000	STPS 203-1(20)0	1	STEVENSVILLE-NORTH	RESURFACING-ASPHALT (THIN LIFT<=60.00MM) (INCLUDING SAFE. IMP.) (PAVE PRES)	3.9
6979 000	STPS 314-1(19)25	5	N OF JCT S-566-NORTH	RESURFACING-SEAL&COVER	6.5
6988 000	UPP 1804(5)	2	PARK ST-EXCELSIOR TO GRANITE	RESURFACING-SEAL&COVER	0.6
6981 000	UPP 1203(3)	2	S11TH AVE-COLLEGE-MAIN (B0Z)	RESURFACING-SEAL&COVER	0.5
6987 000	UPP 1807(11)	2	CONTINENTAL-MT HIGH TO HW 2	RESURFACING-CRACK SLNG	4.0
6982 000	UPP 1213(3)	2	SOUTH CHURCH AVENUE-BOZEMAN	RESURFACING-SEAL&COVER	1.6
6980 000	UPP 0602(87)	2	AMERSTERDAM RD-THORPE	RESURFACING-ASPHALT (THIN LIFT<=60.00MM) (SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE)	1.2
6685 000	HSIP 203-1(18)1	1	SF089 FLSHR E STEVENSVILLE	TRAFFIC SIGNALS & LIGHTING	
6690 000	HSIP 90-4(63)232	2	SF089 HOMESTAKE PASS IMPV	SIGNING, PAVEMENT MARKINGS, CHEVRONS, ETC.	
6532 000	IM 94-6(51)210	4	GLENDDIVE-EAST & WEST	RESTORATION & REHAB-PCCP	7.9
6440 000	NH 24-3(36)100	3	CULVERT-NE OF ROGERS PASS	BRIDGE REPLACEMENT WITH A CULVERT WITH NOT ADDED CAPACITY	
6822 000	STPP 48-1(29)0	5	HARDIN TO JCT S-384	RESURFACING-ASPHALT (THIN LIFT<=60.00MM) (SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE)	2.9
6978 000	STPS 313-1(22)34	5	SW OF SAINT XAVIER-SW	RESURFACING-ASPHALT (THIN LIFT<=60.00MM) (INCLUDING SAFE. IMP.) (PAVE PRES)	4.3
6298 000	BR 9027(33)	1	PIPE CREEK-4 M NW OF LIBBY	BRIDGE REPLACEMENT WITH NO ADDED CAPACITY	
4976 000	BR 9030(14)	2	N FK MUSSELSHELL-N MARTINSDALE	BRIDGE REPLACEMENT WITH NO ADDED CAPACITY	
4053 001	MT-NH 20-2(24)25	4	SW OF SAVAGE - SW	RECONSTRUCTION-WITHOUT ADDED CAPACITY	4.2

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!

Remember, you must recertify every year to maintain your DBE status. You will be notified at least 4 weeks before your paperwork is due. If you do not submit the necessary paperwork by the date indicated on the letter, you risk losing your DBE certification. If you have questions regarding recertification, contact Wendy, 444-6337.

Looking for training? Contact Shannon at 444-7287.

NEWLY CERTIFIED DBE AWARDED CONTRACT

Montana Medical Bill Review LLC has been chosen by a Salem, Virginia company to provide support services for its attorney clients. Owned and operated by Debora Jesse RN BSBA of Manhattan, Montana Medical Bill Review LLC provides review and analysis of medical bills and insurance claims, detects errors and recovers any overpayments a client may have made.

Montana Medical Bill Review will be providing Medical Recovery Services, Inc., of Salem Virginia with medical record review, billing analysis and insurance reimbursement review for attorney clients of the Virginia firm. Montana Medical Bill Review is a member of Medical Billing Advocates of America, Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce, and Bozeman Area Chamber of Commerce.

Montana Medical Bill Review assists individuals and small businesses with controlling healthcare costs. For more information, please visit

www.mtmedbill.com

For more information, contact Debora Jesse at: djesse@mtmedbill.com or 406-570-0599.

MDT Awarded Contracts for January and February and DBE participation:

Prime	Location	Project	DBE Participation
KNIFE RIVER – BILLINGS	BROADVIEW – N & S	NH 53-1(28)28	0.00%
MARTIN CONSTRUCTION INC – ND	D4 – CULVERTS – PHASE III	ARRA 0002(874)	0.00%
PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE SOLUTIONS	N O FSTEV I WYE-FLORENCE	NH 7-1(121)68	0.00%
PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE SOLUTIONS	POLSON – EAST	STPP 52-1(31)0	0.00%
PRINCE INC	JCT MT 7 – SOUTH	STPS 322-1(5)0	3.70%
RIVERSIDE CONTRACTING – MSLA	SULA – N & S & LOST TRAIL PASS	NH 7-1(123)9 NH 7-1(125)0	0.00%
RIVERSIDE CONTRACTING – MSLA	N OF GREAT FALLS – N	NH 10-1(27)4	0.00%
SK CONSTRUCTION INC	LONEPINE – N & E	ARRA-MT 36-1(11)26	0.66%
SLETTEN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	MRL STRUCTURES-BOZEMAN	IM 90-6(114)307	1.41%
TAYLOR SERVICES INC	SCOUR PROTECTIONS – W OF ST REGIS	IM 90-6(174)29	0.00%
UNITED MATERIALS OF GREAT FALLS	10 TH AVE S – 26 TH TO 20 TH ST GTF, 2002 INT IMPVTS – GTF	ARRA-NH 60-2(73)92 CM 5299(55)	8.10%
WESTWAY CONSTRUCTION INC	D-3 BRIDGE DECK REPAIR	IM 15-5(116)270	11.97%
WESTWAY CONSTRUCTION INC	SUPERIOR-WEST SUPERIOR AREA STRUCTURES	IM 90-1(177)44 IM 90-1(166)45	2.64%

Average Participation

2.56 %

MDT Civil Rights Bureau Directory

Wendy Stewart DBE Program Manager/Certifications	westewart@mt.gov	(406)444-6337
Shannon Hahn DBE Supportive Services Coordinator	shahn@mt.gov	(406)444-7287
Andy Hyatt-Marcucci Compliance Technician	ahyattmarcucci@mt.gov	(406)444-6331
Alice Flesch ADA Coordinator	aflesch@mt.gov	(406)444-9229
Bill Anderson Title VI & EEO Compliance Specialist	bianderson@mt.gov	(406)444-6334
Kathy Terrio Acting EEO & Labor Compliance Specialist	kterrio@mt.gov	(406)444-9270
Sheila Cozzie Civil Rights Bureau Chief	scozzie@mt.gov	(406)444-6335

Montana Department of Transportation

2701 Prospect Avenue
P.O. Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001
Phone: (406)444-6331
Toll Free: (800)883-5811
Fax: (406)444-7685
TTY: (800)335-7592



WE NEED YOU!

We need DBEs to be a part of a newly formed DBE focus Group. The Group will meet monthly to share with the DBE program and FHWA on current issues that DBE firms are facing on a daily basis. DBE firms will also be contributing to setting the overall DBE goal. If your DBE firm would like to be a part of this focus group, please send an email to westewart@mt.gov. These meetings will be eligible for travel reimbursement and will start in April, so send your email to Wendy now!



Meetings, Workshops, and Training Opportunities

April

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|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4/1 | Learning How to Navigate Contracts
Small Business Owners learning in how to negotiate contracts
8 am – 4 pm, Gateway Center
Helena
For information: www.pbsisbtraining.com | 4/28 | Staying on Top
Workshop to assist small businesses in marketing and website basics
8:30 am – 4 pm
USDA Research Center, Sidney
For information: sbdc@gndc.org , or 406-653-2590 |
| 4/5-6 | The “Next Economy: A Statewide Public Discussion on Jobs and Innovation”
Burton K. Wheeler Spring Conference
Grantree Inn, Bozeman
For information: www.wheelercenter.org | | |
| 4/6 | City Club Missoula – Sen. Jon Tester
11:30 am, Holiday Inn Downtown at the Park, Missoula
For information: www.cityclubmissoula.org | | |
| 4/27 | Staying on Top
Workshop to assist small businesses in marketing and website basics
8:30 am – 4 pm
Glasgow, Job Service
For information: sbdc@gndc.org , or 406-653-2590 | | |

DBE Supportive Services is currently scheduling educational and training sessions for the next 6 months, please ensure that you are reading all e-mails and communications from this office so you do not miss an opportunity for FREE training in your neighborhood!

