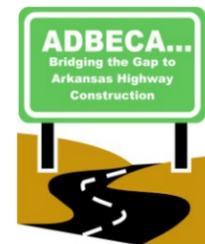




**Stay On Top!
Reed Construction Data
Now Available to DBEs**

Reed Construction Data can be used by any DBE or their representative to locate jobs, gain access to information, as well as print plans and specifications for construction jobs in Arkansas. Call ADBECA at (501) 374-4680 or email adbeka@adbeka.com and make your appointment to explore this useful construction lead database. All copies of plans and specifications are FREE to DBEs with item codes.

BRIDGING the G A P • October / November / December 2012



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Upcoming Events

2013 AHTD Bid Letting Schedule

- January 9, 2013
- February 27, 2013
- April 17, 2013
- June 5, 2013
- July 24, 2013
- September 11, 2013
- October 30, 2013
- December 11, 2013

Upcoming DBE Meeting Schedule

Join ADBECA for DBE meetings on scheduled Tuesday nights before Bid Letting Day at the Wyndham Hotel (501-371-9000) located at 2 Riverfront Place in North Little Rock, or at ADBECA conference room.

January 8, 2013: DBE Program Update
Location: 1510 South Broadway-Little Rock, AR 72202

February 26, 2013: Topic "Financing Options for DBE's and How to Apply"
Location: Wyndham Hotel

Reminders . . .

Grow Your Business with ADBECA Supportive Services

Visit www.ADBECA.com to download task reimbursement forms or to register a new supportive service consultant. For more information about this unique DBE opportunity, call ADBECA at (501) 374-4680 or email adbeka@adbeka.com.

DBE Orientation

All Newly Certified DBE's are requested to participate in the upcoming DBE Orientation. To pre-register, please contact the ADBECA office at 501-374-4680 or email Tammy Armond at tarmond@adbeka.com.

Statewide Opportunities available in Plans & Specifications Room

Copies of AHTD and other upcoming statewide bidding opportunities are available in the ADBECA Resource Room, open during normal business hours. After-hour appointments are available by advance request. For more information, call (501) 374-4680.

SPECIAL NEWSLETTER
OF ADBECA, INC.
**10-12
2012**

BRIDGING the G·A·P



Did You Know...

The first Arkansas State Highway Commission was appointed in 1913. Amendment 42 of the Constitution of Arkansas, adopted in 1952, established the present five-member State Highway Commission. Under this authority, the Commission is vested with powers and duties for administering Arkansas' State Highway System. Act 192 of 1977 created the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD), adding responsibilities for coordinating public and private transportation activities and implementing a safe and efficient intermodal transportation system.

The AHTD central office is located in Little Rock. Ten district headquarters, 85 county area maintenance headquarters, and 31 resident engineer offices are located statewide to provide consistent control over maintenance and construction activities.

For more information about AHTD, visit www.ahtd.ar.gov.

A 1/2 Penny Saved is a 1/2 Penny Earned!

Arkansas voters recently passed Issue #1!

When this temporary, 1/2¢ sales tax takes effect July 1, 2013, it will support a \$1.8 billion highway program. That program will include continued construction of four-lane highways to connect all four corners of the state, and widening existing highways to help ease congestion--all within the next ten years! Additionally, Issue Number 1 revenue will provide approximately \$700 million in turn back revenue for cities and counties and best of all, when the bonds are repaid (no later than 2023), this temporary tax will be abolished by the Constitution.

Here's what Arkansans can expect to see happen over the next ten years:

- Completion of widening I-40 to six lanes between Little Rock and Conway
- Completion of widening US Hwy 67 to six lanes from Jacksonville to Cabot
- Improvements to I-30 connecting Little Rock and North Little Rock, including widening the I-30 Arkansas River Bridge

- Continuation of widening I-630 in Little Rock from Baptist Hospital to University Avenue
- Completion of widening US Hwy 64 to four lanes between Conway and Beebe
- Continuation of widening I-30 to six lanes between Benton and Highway 70
- Widening of US Hwy 70 to four lanes between I-30 and Hot Springs
- Continuation of widening US Hwy 270 to four lanes from Hot Springs westward
- Completion of widening US Hwy 412 to four lanes between Paragould and Walnut Ridge
- Completion of widening State Hwy 18 to four lanes between Jonesboro and Blytheville (to I-55) East Arkansas
- Continuation of widening US Hwy 64 to four lanes between Marion and Wynne

...continued from page 1

Issue #1 Funds New Highway Programs

- Completion of the initial two lanes of the future four-lane Bella Vista bypass
- Beginning four-lane construction of the US Hwy 412 Springdale bypass from I-540 to the Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA) connector
- Continuation of widening US Hwy 65 to four lanes between Harrison and Clinton
- Completion of widening US Hwy 167 to four lanes between I-530 and El Dorado
- Completion of widening US Hwy 425 to four lanes from Hamburg to the Louisiana line
- Beginning the widening of US Hwy 82 to four lanes from El Dorado to Magnolia to Texarkana

Thanks to you, we're investing in ourselves and taking a big step towards making our state's highway system among the best in the nation!

Contact ADBECA for more information regarding opportunities to bid on these and other Arkansas Highway projects.

FUNDING SOLUTIONS

Arkansas DBEs if you need funding for a DOT contract consider this program!

Short-Term Lending Program (STLP)

The Short-Term Lending Program (STLP) is an integral program that OSDBU's Financial Service Division manages which helps small businesses gain access to the financing they need to participate in transportation contracts. The STLP provides certified DBE's and other certified businesses with short-term working capital at competitive interest rates for DOT or DOT-funded contracts and subcontracts. The interest rate of the loan is a variable rate tied to the Prime Rate published in the Wall Street Journal. The funds are borrowed against each invoice of the contract(s) being financed-up to 85% of the invoice total.

1. FIRMS THAT CAN PARTICIPATE IN STLP

- Firms that have received DBE certification from a state or local transportation agency (More information on DBEs is provided in Section III-D); and
- Firms that have been certified by the SBA as an 8(a), SDB, HUBZone, or SDVOSB.

2. TYPE OF WORK COVERED BY STLP

- Work involves the maintenance, rehabilitation, restructuring, improvement, or revitalization of any of the nation's modes of transportation; and
- Work is for any public or commercial provider of transportation of any federal, state, or local transportation agency.

The primary collateral for the lines of credit consist of accounts receivable arising from the contractors or subcontractors being financed. These lines of credit can be extended to both prime and subcontractors with the maximum line of credit up to \$750,000.

3. USE OF STLP FUNDS

These funds are to be used only to meet the short-term costs of performing the contract(s) being financed. The STLP cannot be used for:

- Contract mobilization;
- Equipment purchases or other long-term uses;
- Refinancing of existing debt;
- Payment of non-current taxes; or
- Distributions or other payments to stakeholders.

4. TERMS OF THE LINES OF CREDIT

Normally, the line of credit covers a one-year period. The applicant has the option of requesting one or more renewals; however, the line of credit cannot exceed five years. The PL has the option of providing the line of credit for less than one year. The line of credit amount can be increased during the term if the applicant obtains additional transportation contracts. Applicants can choose whether they want to set up a checking or savings account with the Participating Lender to access their line of credit. If you would like to learn more about this loan program or other loan programs that can help DBE contractors please contact Mr. Grover Richardson at 501-244-9170 for more information.



The AHTD Small Business Provision What It Means For Small Businesses & DBEs

The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD)

has developed a Small Business Provision (SBP), under 49 CFR Part 26.39, to promote small business participation. The intent of the SBP is to facilitate small business competition by eliminating any obstacles that may prevent their participation as prime contractors or as subcontractors.

In order to be considered as an AHTD Small Business, the business must meet the following criteria:

- Be an independent business whose viability does not depend on its relationship with

another firm or firms.

- It must be a for profit firm, which performs a commercially useful function* and is ready, willing and able to perform work on U.S. DOT assisted contracts.
- The firm must also have total gross receipts of not more than \$22.41 million (over a three year average).
- The owner(s) Personal Net Worth cannot exceed \$1.32 million.
- The firm must be an established business with sufficient assets and resources to perform the

work of their contracts.

* Note: A Commercially Useful Function means the firm must be responsible for execution of the work of the contract or a distinct element of the work by actually performing, managing and supervising the work involved.

Additional Information:

- Three to five construction projects that are \$1 million or less will be set-aside for SBP firms to bid as the prime contractor.
- You must be SBP certified and Pre-Qualified by AHTD prior to bidding on projects.
- Engineering and Architectural firms must turn in an annual FAR compliant overhead rate audit prior to receiving a contract.
- There will be a yearly Annual Update required to be filled out and submitted to AHTD in order to stay SBP certified.

For more information about the SBP and/or AHTD, call 501-569-2000, email: info@ahtd.ar.gov, or visit www.ahtd.ar.gov.

For more information about ADBECA and how to become a certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE), call 501-374-4680, email: tarmond@adbeca.com or visit www.adbeca.com. We're here to help you succeed!