

Equal Access Update

State Funded Projects
March 2017

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By the Numbers – FY 17

DBEs are participating in the State funded project process

- 26% of the registered bidders in the system are identified as DBEs,
- DBEs and small businesses are winning contracts in the following areas:
 1. Vegetation Removal,
 2. Mowing,
 3. Pavement Preservation,
 4. Quick Response contracts

By the Numbers – FY 17

DBEs are participating in the State funded project process

- Increased participation is being driven by internal policy mandates for inclusion.
- The quick response contracts, which are typically operational improvement type projects, cannot exceed \$199,999.99,
- Bids are solicited from a minimum of three contractors and the lowest bidder is selected,
- By Commissioner mandate, at least one of the notified firms must be a DBE,
- Since enacting the notification requirement, more than 11% of awarded projects have been to DBE firms.

Resources Available – Business Resource Center

DBEs and small businesses are being supported in their State funded project interest through our Business Resource Help Center. The Center exists to assist eligible businesses in identifying and responding to business opportunities funded by State dollars.

- Visitors to the Center are able to seek one on one assistance or participate in small workshop settings,
- Since opening in August 2016, more than 180 firms have utilized the Center's services,
- Specifically identified firms with NAICS codes that match our maintenance project work codes have been notified for specific assistance,
- Every visitor is given an Intake form to record their visit and the reason for same,
- A Satisfaction Survey is provided once the visit is concluded,



Resources Available – Business Resource Center

- Primary reasons for visiting the Center are:
 1. general information on routine maintenance projects,
 2. match making events,
 3. information on DOAS and appropriate NIGP codes for the registration process,
 4. assistance with submission of the RFQC application,
- Of the identified new RFQC vendors, nineteen (19) of them have utilized the Center for assistance in submitting their qualified contractor applications,
- Those newly qualified vendors represent expertise in ten (10) of the thirteen (13) routine maintenance work categories,
- Contracts have been awarded to these firms as follows:
 1. Mowing,
 2. Landscaping,
 3. Rapid & Quick Response,
 4. Pavement Preservation





Business Resource Center staff has not limited their assistance to the Center's location-

- Outreach events in the districts have added to the number of firms able to learn more about State project opportunity,
- Events have been held around the State,
- More events, identified as the March Madness Workshop series are scheduled for this month and will include sessions on Understanding the Routine Maintenance application and Responding to ITBs
- Visitors to the Center have characterized their experience as:
 1. Overall service is excellent,
 2. Responsive and knowledgeable staff,
 3. Quick Turn around,
 4. Helped to navigate the RFQC process smoothly,
 5. Staff patiently walked us through the process,
 6. Received approval of my application after review with Center staff

- An SVDDBE (Small, Veterans, DBE) Special Provision has been implemented to communicate to the Agency and Contractors the expectations for participation on State funded contracts,
- A goal setting process has been adapted and is applied to Capital Construction Projects as well as Engineering and Design projects, utilizing State funds,
- Thus far, five (5) projects, valued at approximately \$18.1 million, have been reviewed for goal attachment,
- The project types are:
 1. Bridge,
 2. Operational Improvements,
 3. Widening,
- Goals between 8 and 11% have been set on these projects,
- GDOT has worked with the Industry and included Prime Contractors in communicating expectations for goal setting and attainment on State funded projects,
- A recent Industry Forum at which EEO's DBE staff appeared, prompted a number of questions and robust discussion regarding the State funded project participation expectations.

For More Information

- The GDOT Business Resource Help Center is open to eligible GDOT certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs), GDOT Registered Small Businesses, and veteran owned small businesses.
- Visit www.gdotstateprojects.com
- Call Business Resource Help Center at 678-420-5500

Questions?

