



# DBE CONTRACTING UPDATE

*News for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise firms and stakeholders  
June/July 2007*

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## **I-94 Labor Development Committee welcomes new co-chair**

State Representative Cory Mason (D-Racine) has joined the Labor Development Committee for the I-94 North-South Corridor, serving as co-chair with State Representative Robert Turner (D-Racine). The committee is examining programs and methods to provide job opportunities for local residents on the I-94 North-South Corridor when construction begins in Kenosha and Racine counties in 2009.

Representative Mason earned election to the Wisconsin State Assembly in 2006 and represents the 62nd District. He is a native of Racine, graduating from J.I. Case High School. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from UW-Madison and has served on several boards and commissions, including the Racine Redevelopment Authority.

The Labor Development Committee includes a wide range of participants from local and state agencies in the public and private sector, including community-based and faith-based organizations. The team is examining such issues as modelling prospective new hires for the freeway project, federal goals for minority and women labor participation, and a program that could help local residents reinstate a valid driver's license (a key qualification for most highway construction jobs). The I-94 North-South Corridor is also served by a DBE Business Development Committee that is examining issues related to business capacity and DBE contracting opportunities.

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## **“Investing in the Future” camp introduces kids to transportation careers**

Wisconsin children have a unique opportunity to participate in a one-week residential camp, July 22 – 27, that introduces kids to transportation related careers in all modes of transportation. The camp, co-sponsored by WisDOT, the Federal Highway Administration and members of the transportation industry, teaches the educational and physical aptitudes needed to access transportation-related careers and disciplines.

Initiated in 1999, the program's mission is to expose an ethnically diverse group of students to careers in the transportation and construction trades. Simulations, interactions with industry professionals, and site visits augment standard curriculum activities. The core curriculum activities includes four tracks:

- **Transportation Modes: Air, Rail, Road and Water** ... develop awareness of the various transportation systems and planning involved to implement each system.
- **Form & Function: Industry Design Concepts** ... introduction to the architectural, engineering, and material manufacturing in the transportation industry.
- **Technology & Science: Industry Tools and Machinery** ... an opportunity to observe and use industry tools and machinery.
- **Careers & Apprenticeship Trades: Employment and Training** ... interaction with industry professionals and site visits to training facilities.

“Investing in the Future, Career Awareness Project” is open to all Wisconsin students in the 5th through 8th grades who have at least a 2.0 grade point average. Students should enjoy group projects, building and investigating, and problem solving, math, science or language arts. Applications are available online at [www.careerinprogress.org](http://www.careerinprogress.org), or by contacting Corey Jackson at (414) 336-3430. Full scholarships are available.

## Kenosha Partnership Event slated for August 18

WisDOT and the I-94 North-South Corridor support committees will participate in a Kenosha Partnership Event later this summer. The purpose of the event is to bring community-based and faith-based organizations together to learn more about the I-94 project and potential job and job training opportunities.

What: Kenosha Partnership Event

When: Saturday, August 18, 2007  
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Where: Gateway Technical College  
Madrigrano Auditorium  
3520 30th Avenue  
Kenosha

More than two dozen partner agencies will participate, including educational groups, community stakeholders and faith-based organizations.

The format will feature informal, walk-through displays for each agency to talk with participants about their services. WisDOT will make a formal presentation to partner agencies. WisDOT will also share information about the I-94 North-South Corridor study and discuss labor development efforts for the corridor.

There is no registration required for the event and participants may come at any time between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm. For more information about the event, contact Crystal DuPont at (262) 548-5693 or by e-mail at [crystal.dupont@dot.state.wi.us](mailto:crystal.dupont@dot.state.wi.us).

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## Help beat the postage rate increase

While three-quarters of DBE Contracting Update readers receive the newsletter via e-mail, there are still many who receive their copy via U.S. Mail. E-mail subscribers get the benefit of faster delivery, color photos and ease of handling, while WisDOT saves on printing and postage, especially with rates recently on the rise.

If you are still receiving a U.S. Mail newsletter, please consider switching to e-mail. Just drop a note to [daniel.yeh@dot.state.wi.us](mailto:daniel.yeh@dot.state.wi.us).

## M-TrANS sets next graduation

The Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership and Big Step Center of Excellence announced that the next graduation for the M-TrANS labor training program will take place on Wednesday, July 11. The event will begin at 5:00 pm.

WRTP / Big Step conducts a six-week highway construction training course for laborers with funding provided through WisDOT. Many M-TrANS workers have gone on to find work on the Marquette Interchange Project or other area construction projects.

The graduation will take place at the WRTP / Big Step facility at 3841 W Wisconsin Avenue in Milwaukee. Contact Carrie Hersh at (414) 937-3605 for more information. Visit WRTP on the Web at [www.wrtf.org](http://www.wrtf.org).



*A previous M-TrANS class graduating gathers for a group photo with Deputy Secretary Ruben Anthony (center)*

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

*Newsletter content & issues:*  
Daniel Yeh  
WisDOT Office of Policy, Budget & Finance  
PO Box 7910  
Madison, WI 53707-7910  
(608) 266-2753  
[daniel.yeh@dot.state.wi.us](mailto:daniel.yeh@dot.state.wi.us)

*WisDOT DBE Support Services:*  
Michele Carter  
WisDOT DBE Support Services Office  
6150 W Fond du Lac Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53218  
(414) 438-4583  
[michele.carter@dot.state.wi.us](mailto:michele.carter@dot.state.wi.us)

*On the Web:*  
[www.dot.wisconsin.gov/news/newsletters.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/news/newsletters.htm)

# Stats line - a look at the numbers on key projects

The *DBE Contracting Update* continues to track DBE contracting and labor data from several high profile projects. Projects may be added or removed from this feature over time as they progress from planning to completion.

Marquette Interchange project  
Milwaukee County  
[www.mchange.org](http://www.mchange.org)



Contracted dollars  
Total - \$609.0 million  
DBE - \$115.2 million  
DBE share - 18.9%

Dollars expended  
Total - \$484.4 million  
DBE - \$86.9 million  
DBE share - 18.0%

Labor hours worked  
Total - 1,711,405 hours  
Minority - 374,095 hours  
Minority share - 21.9%  
Women - 53,936  
Women share - 3.2%

Notes:

- All data current through April 30, 2007.
- Data for contracted and expended dollars includes design consultant, construction and construction administration activities.
- Labor hours worked is for construction only.

I-94 North/South Corridor study  
Kenosha, Racine & Milwaukee counties  
[www.seffreeways.org](http://www.seffreeways.org)



Contracted dollars  
Total - \$13.0 million  
DBE - \$3.7 million  
DBE share - 28.2%

Dollars expended  
Total - \$7.2 million  
DBE - \$1.9 million  
DBE share - 26.2%

Notes:

- All data current through April 30, 2007.
- Data includes consultant work for design and environmental study activities.

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Milwaukee Intermodal Station  
Milwaukee County  
[www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/state/amtrak-term.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/state/amtrak-term.htm)



Contracted dollars  
Total - \$12.6 million  
DBE - \$3.3 million  
DBE share - 26.0%

Dollars expended  
Total - \$4.1 million  
DBE - \$1.5 million  
DBE share - 37.7%

Labor hours worked  
Total - 28,960 hours  
Minority - 3,533 hours  
Minority share - 12.2%  
Women - 203  
Women share - 0.7%

Notes:

- All data current through May 31, 2007
- Data for contracted and expended dollars includes construction and construction management activities.
- Labor hours worked is for construction only.

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US 41 expansion projects  
Brown & Winnebago counties  
[www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/us41expansion/index.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/us41expansion/index.htm)  
[www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/us41expansion/brown-index.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/us41expansion/brown-index.htm)



Contracted dollars  
Total - \$13.3 million  
DBE - \$2.7 million  
DBE share - 20.3%

Dollars expended  
Total - \$7.5 million  
DBE - \$1.0 million  
DBE share - 13.8%

Notes:

- All data current through April 30, 2007
- Data includes consultant work for design activities.

DBE Contracting Update newsletter  
WisDOT Office of Policy, Budget & Finance  
PO Box 7910  
Madison, WI 53707-7910

## DBE CONTRACTING UPDATE

### Upcoming events

#### **July 22-27**

Career Awareness Project camp  
Tommy G Thompson Youth Center, West Allis  
[www.careerinprogress.org](http://www.careerinprogress.org)

#### **August 18**

I-94 North-South Kenosha Partnership Event  
Gateway Technical College, Kenosha  
[crystal.dupont@dot.state.wi.us](mailto:crystal.dupont@dot.state.wi.us)

### Useful WisDOT Web sites

Highway Construction Contract Information  
[www.dot.wisconsin.gov/business/engrserv/bid-letting-information.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/business/engrserv/bid-letting-information.htm)

WisDOT DBE program  
[www.dot.wisconsin.gov/business/engrserv/dbe-main.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/business/engrserv/dbe-main.htm)

WisDOT MBE program  
[www.dot.wisconsin.gov/business/mbel/index.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/business/mbel/index.htm)

