



**ZOO INTERCHANGE STUDY
I-94 NORTH-SOUTH MITCHELL INTERCHANGE PROJECT
MILWAUKEE COUNTY URBAN DBE STEERING COMMITTEE
MEETING SUMMARY**

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY RESEARCH PARK-10437 W. INNOVATION DRIVE MILWAUKEE, WI
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 4TH, 2009 4:30 – 6:00P
CHAIR-DEPUTY SECRETARY RUBEN ANTHONY JR., WISDOT**

COMMITTEE:

Dept. Secretary Ruben Anthony Jr.-Committee Chair; Reggie Newson-SE Region, Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WISDOT); Donna Brown- WISDOT; Carrie Cooper- WISDOT; Patricia Reikowski-WISDOT; Bill Mohr-WISDOT; Tracy Gilliam-WISDOT; Kitty Reed- WISDOT;; Manojoy Nag-WisDOT; Crystal Dupont-WISDOT; Kimberly Stephenson-WISDOT; Roman Martinez-WISDOT; Jaya Sharma-4N Consultants Inc.; Donna Eurick-United States Department of Labor (USDOL); David Poppert-USDOL; Gloria McCutcheon-Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WISDNR); Bill Stark-Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Frieda Webb-Community Business Development Partners; Jeffrey Mantes-City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works (DPW); Leslie Jorgenson-Office of State Senator Jim Sullivan, Kay Haishuk-Department of Workforce Development

WELCOME-INTRODUCTIONS

Dept. Secretary Ruben Anthony Jr.-WisDOT welcomed everyone to the meeting and led the attendees in introductions. Ruben then provided an overview of the Milwaukee County Urban Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Steering Committee's role and responsibilities. He spoke briefly on the stimulus package being discussed in Washington D.C. as it relates to the I-94 NS Corridor and the Zoo Interchange Study.

Crystal DuPont-WisDOT: reviewed the agenda, handouts, and updates concerning the DBE Advisory Committee meetings. She then provided a review of the education phase WisDOT and partners, an overview of both Mega Projects and initial determination of barriers and opportunities relating to community inclusion on these projects.

Tracy Gilliam-Zoo Interchange Supervisor-WisDOT: reviewed results from the Public Information Meetings and refined alternatives. The Zoo Interchange study remains in progress and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is expected later in the year of 2009. Tracy also stated that the Zoo Interchange is in the investigation stage according to the Mega Transportation Flow Chart.

Bill Mohr-I-94 NS Project Manager-WisDOT: stated that the Mitchell Interchange on the I-94 NS Corridor will have traffic impacts on 27th Street beginning the week of March 22nd 2009 through the middle of July, 2009. He referred the committee to the I-94 NS Corridor Project Website, (<http://www.plan94.org/>) which features information regarding closures, news, traffic, directions, updates and construction schedules. **Ruben** mentioned that the I-94 NS Corridor project initiated a with a DBE participation goal comparable to the Marquette Interchange. He referred the committee to the DBE Contracting Update:

<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/business/engrserv/dbe-contractingupdate.htm>
for more information.

Emlynn Grisar-WisDOT: stated that WisDOT expects to provide convenient and up-to-date information regarding construction. Emlynn introduced the new I-94 NS Corridor logo to the committee and mentioned that WisDOT will continue to develop the new brand while working with outreach specialists to raise awareness of the Project in the community.

Nancy Hernandez-Abrazo: stated that her company has worked with WisDOT throughout the completion of the Marquette Interchange, providing outreach specialist services to Hispanic and other minority populations in the City of Milwaukee. Nancy stated that Abrazo has 80 different distribution points throughout the Hispanic community and that they participate in all related festivals and community events. She also mentioned that her company provides special language assistance for WisDOT and is responsive to the needs of the community.

Yolanda Santos-Adams-Racine/Kenosha Urban League: reviewed her involvement and participation with WisDOT during both the Kenosha and Racine Partnership Resource fair, which included coordination with non-profit agencies in both communities as well as the public. She also stated that she works closely with minority populations and has been involved with WisDOT since the Marquette Interchange Project. **Emlynn** stated that WisDOT is currently not expected to utilize television advertisements this year, but will continue to work with other media outlets. **Kay Haishuk** mentioned that message boards and alerts are usually free at Wisconsin Technical Colleges.

Michele Carter-Civil Rights and Compliance Manager-WisDOT: reviewed DBE handouts with the Committee. She mentioned that WisDOT also worked outside of state offices to accommodate the community. Michele stated that WisDOT has a high priority on accountability and transparency regarding their strategies in contract unbundling, outreach, and training. **Deputy Secretary Ruben Anthony, Jr.** pointed out a few key strategies on the DBE handouts to review with the Committee. He also stated that WisDOT is working to create additional TrANS classes that start earlier; and that the Driver License Recovery program is very successful in helping people get on the road to access jobs.

Elane Stephens-WisDOT: executed an exercise to illustrate possible scenarios regarding the WisDOT bidding process and contract rewards. She stated that WisDOT plans to involve local communities in the bidding process. **Michele** stated that this particular bidding process does not have DBE requirements, but have strived for DBE involvement. She also indicated bid LET's are done on the 2nd Tuesday of every month except in October. Information can be found at the following website:

(<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/business/engrserv/docs/bidding/adv20090414022.pdf>)

Raze and removal bids are held in each respective WisDOT region.

Dawn Pratt-Payne & Dolan Co.: executed an exercise to illustrate the labor selection process for construction of Mega Projects. Dawn stated that WisDOT has reasonable expectations regarding construction and their bids process. She also stated that laborers must be reliable, physically fit, prepared for harsh weather, capable of traveling, and flexible concerning working hours. Dawn stated that apprenticeship programs prepare students to succeed during construction careers and pays them at the same time. Lastly, Dawn mentioned that there are experienced people unemployed and ready to work in the construction field, however new people must be

admitted to the workforce DBE participation. **Michele** stated that government projects are neutral and that contractors may request Transportation Alliance for New Solutions, (TrANS) workers. In fact, contractors are rewarded financial benefits for TrANS workers hired.

Kimberly Stephenson-WisDOT announced logistics for the next Milwaukee County Urban DBE Steering Committee Meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Quarterly Meetings

- Wednesday June 3rd, 2009 from 4:30-6:00pm
New Location: Pettit National Ice Center, 500 South 84th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53214
Room: Hall of Fame Room (2nd Floor)