

The Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program

Increasing the participation of women and minority owned businesses in federally assisted contracts

Construction of the METRO Green Line Extension (Southwest LRT) and METRO Blue Line Extension (Bottineau LRT) light rail transit projects will create many contracting opportunities. The prime contractors for these projects will subcontract for many types of goods and services.

These projects are partly funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation, which requires agencies receiving funding to have a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program to encourage participation by women-owned and minority-owned businesses. The Metropolitan Council sets goals for the participation of DBE-certified firms.

Small businesses that are eligible for DBE certification are encouraged to participate in the Minnesota Unified Certification Program (MNUCP) in order to take advantage of these contracting opportunities.

Additional information and program applications are available on the web at MNUCP.org.

LEARN MORE

On the web: metro council.org/DBE

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Susan Park Rani, business owner

“The Metropolitan Council’s commitment to the DBE program, together with the prime contractor’s initiative to include our firm as a key project partner, was pivotal for Rani Engineering capacity building in land surveying, civil engineering and rail signaling; and grow from two people in 1996 to more than 50 employees today.”

Susan Park Rani, Rani Engineering

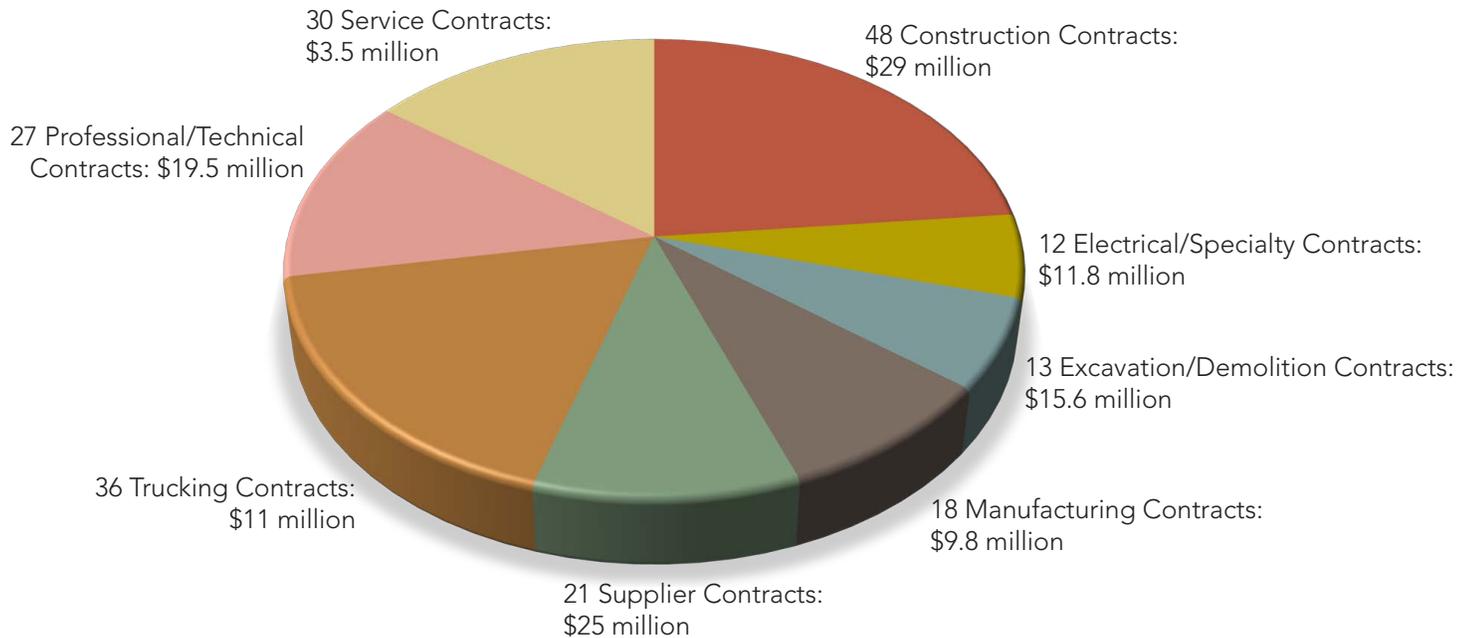
“The DBE Program has allowed Big G Tech Support to have access and obtain opportunities it otherwise simply would not have had. The DBE program creates a framework but special emphasis is placed on work; this is not a handout or entitlement but an opportunity.”

Gerald Ben-Ami, Big G Tech Support, LLC



DBE IN ACTION: Central Corridor LRT (METRO Green Line) Project

More than **135 DBE-certified firms** performed over **\$125 million** in work during construction of the METRO Green Line, completed in 2014.



ABOUT THE PROPOSED NEW LIGHT RAIL PROJECTS



The **METRO Green Line Extension (Southwest LRT)** Project will construct a 14.5-mile light rail transit line from downtown Minneapolis through St. Louis Park, Hopkins, Minnetonka and Eden Prairie. The line will have 15 new stations as well as several park-and-ride facilities. The project will extend the METRO Green Line, which was completed in 2014 and runs between Union Depot in downtown St. Paul and Target Field in downtown Minneapolis.

Construction on the Green Line Extension is scheduled to begin in 2017, with passenger service beginning in 2020.

www.SWLRT.org



The **METRO Blue Line Extension (Bottineau LRT)** Project will construct a 13-mile light rail transit line from downtown Minneapolis through north Minneapolis, Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal and Brooklyn Park. The line will have up to 11 new stations as well as several park-and-ride facilities. The project will extend the METRO Blue Line, which was completed in 2004 and runs between the Mall of America in Bloomington and Target Field in downtown Minneapolis.

Construction on the Blue Line Extension is scheduled to begin in 2018, with passenger service beginning in 2021.

www.BlueLineExt.org