

Central Corridor Green Line
DBE and Workforce Executive Summary
June 2014
Laying Tracks, Connecting Communities



This is a story about communities.

Our communities are diverse and ready to thrive. Building the Central Corridor Green Line was an experience that welcomed participation of everyone who was passionate about opportunities to help build the largest transit project to date. Transparency, collaboration and equity – that was the mantra the Metropolitan Council and its partners lived by. Working together, the tracks were laid to bridge our communities! This is the story of how a large public agency successfully engaged Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, people of color and female workers in the building of the Central Corridor Green Line.

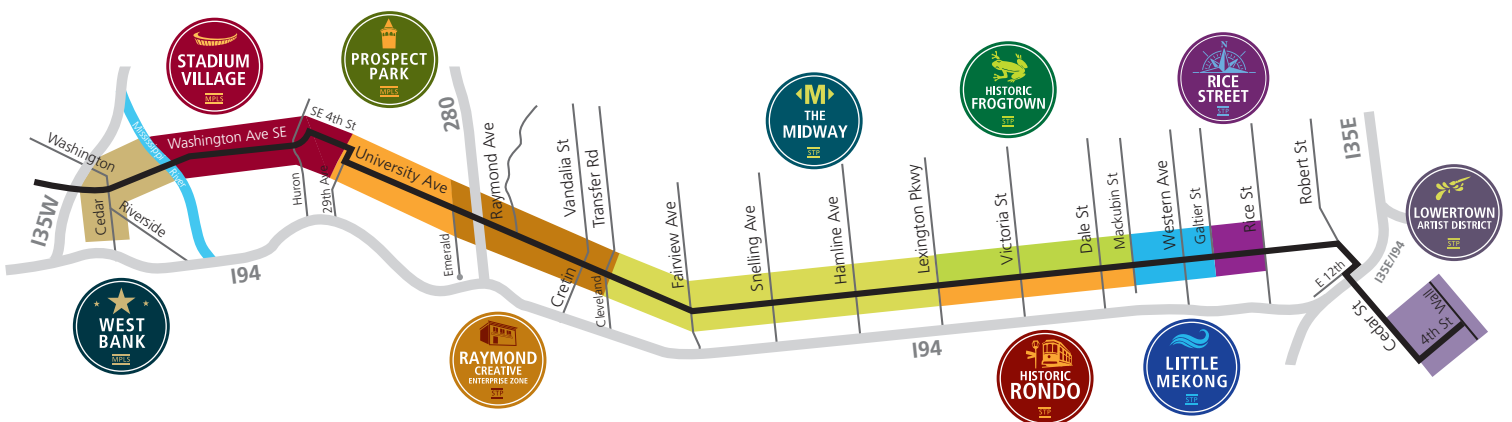
How We Did It!

To develop long-term inclusive partnerships for large scale public construction projects, agencies must go beyond the compliance guidelines of business and workforce inclusion programs. Engagement, open agendas, innovations, rigorous and sustained partnerships with community residents and organizations are key to building relationships. These relationships can be carried from project to project.

This is how we did it and the results we achieved.

Project Facts

Length	11 miles
Trains	47 new light rail transit vehicles
Stations	18 new stations; 5 shared stations with Blue Line
Service	40 minutes between the two downtown stations Every 10 minutes during peak travel periods 24 hours a day, seven days a week
Ridership	Projected 40,000+ weekday ridership by 2030
Cost	\$957 million
Jobs/Payroll	Delivery of the Green Line LRT created an estimated 150 design, engineering and management jobs and over 5,000 construction jobs resulting in a \$252 million payroll. Created 200 operations and maintenance jobs



DBE Success

Built relationships. Increased capacity. Delivered quality.



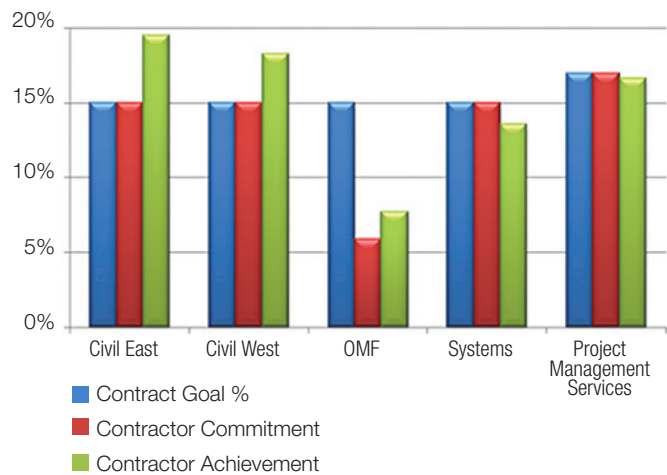
Courtesy Steve Glischinski TRAINS Magazine

The DBE achievement on the Central Corridor Green Line project is both an illustration of the current capacity of the local DBE community and a blueprint for future DBE success on major public projects. Central Corridor Green Line DBEs were involved in all construction scopes and represented nearly 20% of the construction and design activity on the project.

Money

\$115 Million+
Paid to Minnesota based Central Corridor Green Line DBEs

DBE Achievement on Core Contracts

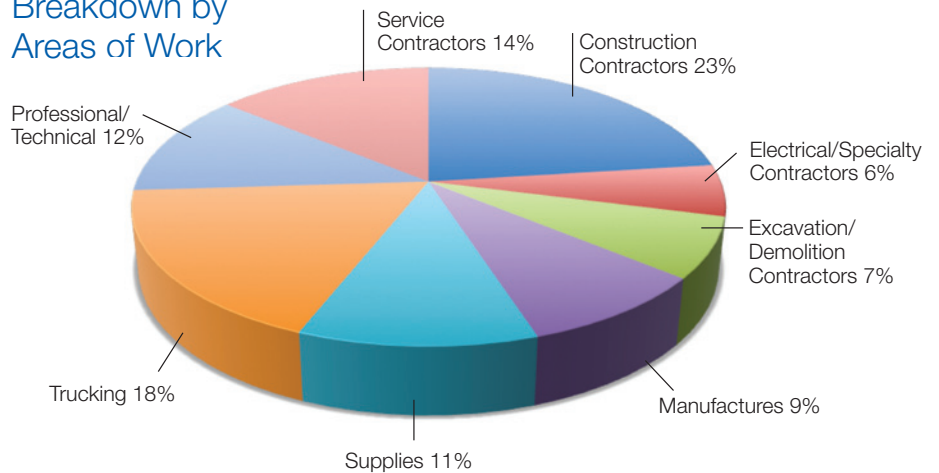


DBE achievement verified as of May 2014. Systems and project management services contract will be completed by December 2014.

135+ DBEs

Worked on the Green Line

DBE Participation Breakdown by Areas of Work



Workforce Inclusion Success

Increased construction careers. Trained workforce.
Fostered partnerships.

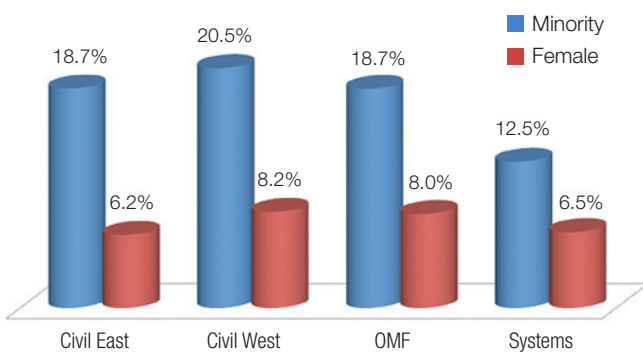


“To create a diverse workplace equity must be more than just a policy. Equity must be a core value. We worked hard to create employment opportunities for people regardless of race, color, or gender. With equity in our hearts and opportunity on our minds we achieved success.”

Leo Jackson – Metropolitan Council Workforce Specialist

Created over 5,000+ construction jobs!

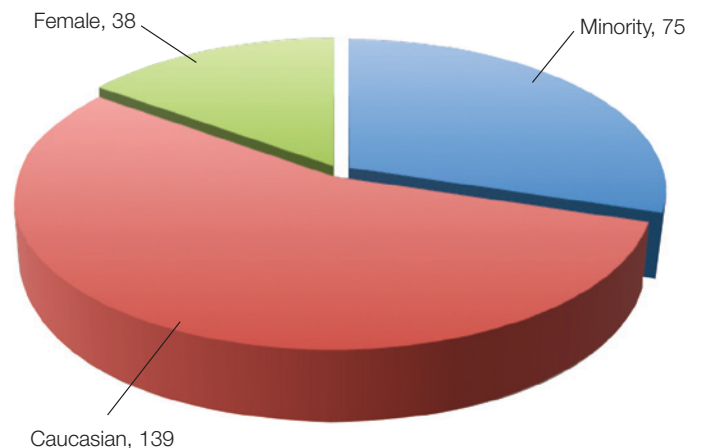
Workforce Inclusion Achievement on Core Construction



Goals are expressed in percentages of hours.
Workforce inclusion achievement verified as of March 2014.

Workforce Inclusion Goals: 18% minority, 6% female

Apprentice Workforce Inclusion (Number of workers, Civil West Contract)



Experience gained on this project provided a platform for a career in the construction industry. These apprentices will contribute to a more diverse workforce on future projects.

Innovations – How we did it!

Collaborative. Equitable. Transparent.



Joint Oversight Committee

This Committee co-chaired by Metropolitan Council and Minnesota Department of Human Rights provided a forum to ensure a transparent process in reporting requirements, monitoring, enforcement, and contractor compliance.

Key Values

- Held monthly
- Open agenda
- Full support from agency leadership
- Encouraged creative tensions
- Created community ambassadors
- Transparent decision making
- Fostered relationships

Great Minds

“Great Minds” was a full day retreat, held prior to construction, convening community residents and organizations, government agencies, labor trades, construction training organizations, construction firms, construction workers, and DBEs to discuss and develop strategies surrounding the most important issues for Central Corridor Green Line DBE and workforce achievement.

Key Values

- Everyone was informed about federal requirements
- Retreat established a foundation for project-long collaboration
- Jointly developed strategies for DBE and workforce inclusion
- All voices were valued and heard

Meet and Greet Events

Relationships matter. Networking matters. Information matters. Meet and Greets create an environment in which business owners and job seekers learn about opportunities and interact face to face with potential firms interested in doing work on the Central Corridor Green Line.

Key Values

- Held in the communities
- Build relationships face to face
- Educate community members about project facts
- Define contracting opportunities and job opportunities

LRTWorks.org

The Metropolitan Council, with a grant from the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative, partnered with Ramsey County Workforce Solutions, Minnesota Department of Human Rights, Joint Oversight Committee and local unions in the development of this tool.

Key Values

- Provides information on jobs, training, unions and construction projects.
- Assisted contractors by creating a searchable database of over 1,000 construction workers.
- Provided compliance reporting.



Youth Engagement

Throughout the project, annual youth career events were held highlighting careers in the transit and construction industry. More than 400 youth participated. Local unions, light rail contractors, and community members worked together to create the ultimate learning opportunity for students in the Twin Cities.



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Conclusion

This Green Line DBE and Workforce story highlights the value of collaboration, leadership and commitment to inclusion when building transit infrastructure. This successful Green Line strategy has set a precedent and expectation for future major public projects.

For more information, visit: www.metrocouncil.org

The Metropolitan Council would like to thank the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative for its support of our work with residents and community partners to ensure the inclusion of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, women and people of color in the building of the Central Corridor Green Line.

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