



## Southwest LRT DBE and Workforce Advisory Committee

Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

### [\[Handouts\]](#) [\[Presentation\]](#)

1. **ATTENDEES** – Barry Davies, Gilbert Odonkor, Sheila Olson, Marvin Smith, Julie Brekke, Alex Merritt, Tony O’Brien, Maura Brown, Mel Reeves, Leslie Woyee, John O-Phalen, Mary Schmidt, Barb Lau, Kendra Kron, Dale Even, Katy Maus, Mike Toney, Elaine Valadez, Salima Khakoo, Sam O’Connell, Ashanti Payne, Mahad Omar, Jon Tao, Nicholas Dial, Monica Robinson, Brian Leitch, Ronald Brandenburg, Tim O’Neill
2. **BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITIES UPDATE By Barry Davies (slides 4-5)**
  - a. Barry shares the September update for BSC apprenticeship placements to date. They currently have: 2 carpenters, 1 cement Mason, 1 Iron Worker, 6 Laborers, 3 Operating Engineers, 1 Plumber, and 1 Sheet Metal Worker. 47% of participants are women, 53% of total participants are POCI.
  - b. Barry mentions that the MN Building and Construction Trades passed a resolution to make Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council home to BSC.
  - c. BSC will become a statewide program funded by the Building Trades.
3. **SWLRT PROJECT UPDATE By Sam O’Connell (Slides 7-9)**
  - a. Sam shares a project update with Senator Tina Smith, FTA Administrator Nuria Fernandez, and Regional Administrator Kelly Brookings visiting the SWLRT.
4. **DBE ACHEIVEMNT REPORTING**
  - a. **DBE Progress Reports by Jon Tao (Slides 11-17)**
    - i. Jon shares the DBE achievement as of July 31, 2021. Total DBE% to date across all construction contracts are at 19.9% out of the 15% goal. Progress is good according to Jon regarding DBE achievement progress. Jon says some of the projects are experiencing drops in DBE participation as they wrap up work and the contract nears completion
    - ii. Jon shares the disaggregated data regarding SWLRT construction contracts.
    - iii. Jon shares that the DBE’s receiving most of the money from the contracts resided within Minnesota.
    - iv. Jon Shares that LS Black requested to remove Hydro-Vac as a DBE on the Franklin Project. OEO approved the removal with ongoing GFE. LS Black was able to bring Hydro-Vac to assist in a change order this week.
  - b. **Civil: LMJV DBE Activities by Dale Evans (Slides 19-22)**
    - i. Dale shares LMJV’s list of DBE participation for the month of September.
    - ii. Dale shares their DBE Highlight of the month, which was Safety Signs. They are providing traffic control and signage.

- iii. Dale shares LMJV's update on change orders, which was approved at \$151,007,153 and DBE job-to-date participation is at 20.5%.

**c. Systems: APJV DBE Activities by Chris Gannon (Slides 24-25)**

- i. Chris shares APJV's one month look ahead, which includes West 21<sup>st</sup> Street Station using Gunnar Communication Work, and TPSS Foundations using other DBE firms.
- ii. Chris shares APJV's update on change orders, which are approved thru 8/1 at \$9,217,000 and DBE job-to-date participation is at 15.3%.

**d. Franklin O&M: LS Black DBE Activities by Brian Leitch (Slides 27-28)**

- i. Brian shares that LS Blacks update on change orders, which are approved thru 7/31 at \$39,387,423 and DBE job-to-date participation is at 19%
- ii. Brian shares update on DBE activity. This includes firms such as GoFetsch mechanical, Nakasone Painting, Always Stone & Tile, Am-Tec Designs, Wissota Supply Co, and Dzeidzic Caulking

**5. WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION REPORTING**

**e. Workforce Participation Reports by Elaine Valadez and Brianne Lucio (Slides 30-41)**

- i. Elaine shares the Civil workforce participation percentages. They are sitting at 86,847 hours for the month of July, with 1,439,587 total hours. To date, women are at 8.29% and POCI are at 22.30%.
- ii. Elaine shares the breakdown of workforce participation hours by ethnicity for Civil.
- iii. Elaine shares the Civil Workforce Participation Cumulative for women, which is 119,299 hours and a cumulative percentage of 8.29%.
- iv. Elaine shares the cumulative participation of POCI, which is 321,063 hours, and a cumulative percentage of 22.3%.
- v. Elaine shares the Civil workforce trucking participation hours. MBE is at 23,852 hours, ZTS is at 4,164 hours, and Rock-On Trucks is at 709 hours.
- vi. Brianne Lucio shares the disaggregated percentages for workforce participation.
- vii. Elaine shares the systems workforce participation percentage. They are sitting at 248 hours for the month of July, with a total of 635 hours. To date, they are at 17.48% for women, and 27.56% for POCI.
- viii. Elaine shares the Franklin &M Workforce participation percentage. They are sitting at 5.097 hours for the month of July, with 83,901 total hours. To date, women are at 8.21%. and POCI are at 23.79%
- ix. Elaine shares the breakdown of workforce participation by ethnicity for Franklin O&M
- x. Elaine shares the cumulative participation for Franklin P&M

**f. Civil: LMJV Workforce Activities by Dale Evan (Slides 43-45)**

- i. Dale shares LMJV's workforce activities for the month of August. This includes monthly SWLRT meetings, continual update meetings with LMJV

representatives & Lunda field operations on upcoming hiring needs, and much more.

- ii. LMJV has upcoming stand out workforce activities for the month of September. This includes outreach planning meeting with Civil, Systems and Facilities, monthly LMJV Workforce/ Hiring review, continuation of workforce education meetings with SWLRT and Dunwoody, and a monthly review meeting with representatives of BSC.
- iii. Dale shares that there is a potential SWLRT booth/ exhibit at upcoming Construct Tomorrow event.
- iv. Dale shares LMJV's new hires/transfers for the month of July. They have 5 new hires (3 white males and 2 POCI males), and 26 new transfers (19 white males, 1 white female, 5 POCI males, and 1 POCI Female). 4 are apprentices, 18 are journeymen, and 9 are foremen.
- v. Question: Elaine asks if there was another hire who was female.
  - 1. Dale believes a female foreman was hired, putting the total to 6 new hires and 1 White female.

**g. Systems: APJV Workforce Activities by Mike Toney (Slides 47)**

- i. Mike shares System's contract workforce activities. This includes the following to meet their workforce goal: APJV limited scopes available for craft labor through the remainder of 2021, APJV has been granted access to TPSS Station 303 beginning September 13, scheduled meeting with SWLRT primes and subcontractors, participated in mock interviews at Summit Academy OIC.
- ii. Mike shares APJV will have a site visit at Summit Academy OIC.

**h. Franklin O&M: LS Black Workforce Activities by Brian Leitch (Slides 49)**

- i. Brian Leitch shares Franklin's contract workforce activities. This includes monthly GFE meetings with MDHR, reminder emails to trade partner teams about participation and plans to increase workforce as necessary, continuing to track LCP participation goals as well as communicate with our sub teams on improvement opportunities, and On-site meeting with the MDHR on 8/16/21 for interviews and feedback craft teams.

**6. Construction Workforce and Economic Data by DEED (Slides 50 – 67)**

- a. Comment: John O-Phalen points out about where contractors go to find workers, and how many are not utilizing all resources such as technical colleges.
- b. Question: Mary Schmidt asks about the size of the construction contractors and the employers who both are laying off and hiring workers over the last year. She is curious in seeing the size of those establishments and where this is happening.
  - i. Timothy says he will find this information and relay it to her.
- c. Question: Mary also asks if the maintenance workers at MNDOT are showing up under construction or highway heavy employment rather than government.



- i. Timothy believes they are assigned as government but will verify and Mary know.

**7. PUBLIC INVITATION (Slides 71-72)**

- a. Invitation to interested people to address the advisory committee – please pre-register for virtual meetings. Each speaker is limited to a three-minute presentation. To pre-register, email [public.info@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:public.info@metc.state.mn.us) in advance of the meeting.

**8. ADJOURN**

**Next Scheduled Meeting:** October 21, 2021 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm