

Southwest LRT DBE and Workforce Advisory Committee

Thursday, July 21, 2022

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

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

1. **ATTENDEES** – Ashanti Payne, Jon Tao, Scott Beutel, Elaine Valadez, Gilbert Odonkor, Barb Lau, Alex Merritt, John O’Phelan, Brianna Lucio, Jon Tao, Dale Even, Christa Seaberg, Chris Gannon, John Klem, Katy Maus, Maura Brown, David Davies, Nicholas Dial, Sheila Olson, Kent Robbins, Jason Tintes, Leslie Woyee, Eli Brandenburg
2. **GREEN LINE EXTENSION PROJECT UPDATE By David Davies and Nic Dial (Slides 3-22)**
 - a. David shares progress from the Civil Contract work, and shares some photos of various areas along the project, including Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Hopkins, St. Louis Park, etc.
 - b. David shares progress updates related to the Systems contract.
3. **DBE ACHEIVEMNT REPORTING**
 - a. **DBE Progress Reports by Jon Tao (Slides 23-24)**
 - i. Jon shares the DBE achievement as of May 31, 2022. Total DBE % to date across all contracts are at 20.1% out of the 15% goal. Progress is good according to Jon regarding DBE achievement progress. All Contracts are exceeding their goal.
 - ii. Jon says that the contract with LS Black is still open due to some pay apps still coming in.
 - b. **Civil: LMJV DBE Activities by Christa Seaberg (Slides 25-28)**
 - i. Christa shares the removal of Dionne Construction from the project. Their scope of work was Landscaping and were a 2nd tier subcontractor for Hoffman & McNamara. After many issues and lack of communication Christa says LMJV were forced to remove Dionne from the contract.
 - ii. Christa says that JL Theis, another DBE firm, will be replacing Dionne and will now be working with Hoffman & McNamara.
 - iii. Christa shares their upcoming DBE activities, which include DBE/ Subcontractor Education Opportunities from August – November.
 - iv. Christa shares LMJV’s update on change orders, which was approved at \$213,352,838 as of 6/15, and DBE job-to-date participation is at 20.19%.
 - v. Comment: Gilbert asks if there has been any outreach to help Dionne on the LMJV contract to assist in any needs they had to stay on.
 1. Ashanti says that the Council has offered external resources to assist Dionne, but that the issues concerning them were beyond just this project. It was unsustainable to try and keep them on for another year. It was disappointing that the council’s efforts could not keep them on the project.
 - c. **Systems: APJV DBE Activities by Chris Gannon and Mike Toney (Slides 29-31)**

- i. Chris shares APJV's one month look ahead, which includes Maintenance of TPSS in storage at the Golden Valley Warehouse with Gunner Electric and Public Solutions.
- ii. Chris shares APJV's update on change orders, which are approved thru 5/1/22 at \$12,576,433 and DBE job-to-date participation is at 17.7%.
- iii. Comment: Barb Lau asks when the outstanding change orders for LS Black will be handled. Do they want to hear from people on a 1-to-1 basis?
 1. Ashanti says if the DBEs on that project have issues, concerns or comments please connect with him or Jon Tao.

4. WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION REPORTING

d. Workforce Participation Reports by Brianne Lucio (Slides 32-39)

- i. Brianne shares the Civil workforce participation percentages. They are sitting at 78,201 hours for the month of May, with 2,090,807 total hours. To date, women are at 8.21% and POCI are at 23.44%. Overall, 0.66% are unspecified.
- ii. Brianne shares the breakdown of workforce participation hours by ethnicity/gender for Civil.
- iii. Brianne shares the Civil Workforce Trucking Participation hours where MBE is at 27,560 hours, ZTS is at 4,482 hours, and Rock-On Trucks is at 1,808 hours.
- iv. Brianne shares the Franklin O&M participation percentage. They are sitting at 183 hours for the month of May, with a total of 112,682 Hours. To date, woman are at 8.87% for women and 23.69% for POCI. They have 4.57% unspecified.
- v. Brianne shares the breakdown of workforce participation by ethnicity/gender for Franklin O&M.
- vi. Brianne shares the Systems Workforce participation percentage. They are sitting at 243 hours for the month of May, with 3,660 total hours. To date, women are at 8.72%. and POCI are at 15.19%.
- vii. Brianne shares the breakdown of workforce participation by ethnicity/Gender for Systems.

e. Civil: LMJV Workforce Activities by Christa Seaberg (Slides 40-49)

- i. Christa shares the POCI workforce participation comparison from 2020-2022.
- ii. Christa shares the woman workforce participation comparison from 2020-2022.
- iii. Christa shares LMJV's workforce activities for the month of July. This includes assisting subcontractors with their on-boarding of the new BSC apprentices, meetings with LMJV workforce leads, EEO/Respectful workplace education training for subcontractors, meetings with union representatives, attending the carpenters, and more.
- iv. Christa shares some photos from LMJV's workforce activities.
- v. Christa shares LMJV's new hires and transfers for the month of May. This includes 11 transfers, 0 rehires, and 5 new hires.

vi. Christa shares that there were 5 layoffs: 2 white males, 2 POCI males, and 1 POCI female. She also shares that there was 1 voluntary leave, which was a white male.

vii. Question: John O'Phelan asks if LMJV can add union hall calls to the report

f. Systems: APJV Workforce Activities by Chris Gannon (Slides 50-51)

i. Mike shares System's contract workforce activities for the month of June. This includes the following to meet their workforce goal: APJV limited scopes available for craft labor through 2022 and continuing to expand their participation with Summit Academy and Building Strong Communities.

5. Committee Focus Discussion (Slide 52)

- a. Ashanti says that through this project there are ideas and issues, etc. that could benefit from the expertise that this committee could provide. While this committee has a project focus, the Council are learning from the expertise of this committee and incorporating it onto other projects. Ashanti opens for comments and discussion
- b. Question: Alex from twin Cities RISE asks how the Council wants this feedback to come?
 - i. Ashanti says from the DBE perspective, we've talked about prompt payment, the amount of time payments gets to small businesses. Individually we have worked with subcontracts on handling these concerns, however on the other hand, we have team members like Jon who is working on developing innovative ideas to address this particular issue. It is not specific to this project, but it could benefit from the input and expertise from this committee.
- c. Julie Brekke says that knowing some of the goals for diversity have been around for ten years and we still struggle to meet those goals, we need to dedicate some time to show what they are focusing on this project to show how they are being equitable going forward. There were a lot of questions coming from a non-profit on how to assist in this committee and exactly why they are here. She is dedicating two hours of her time and she wants it to be impactful and is not sure if the system is set up for that. She wants to ask questions regarding haring projections and where do you anticipate a worker shortage because that's where non-profits can partner with the contractors and the trades to determine what kind of job training programs they can create to help the construction industry. What is the puzzle piece that non-profits can bring to this?
- d. Ashanti says there are some ways that they can have a formal inclusion of committee members that they want to build in on the front-end of a project. What would be helpful to the Council are what sort of workforce development programs that are offered by the community-based orgs? What kind of services? Do they have hands-on construction component? Do they work with the unions?
- e. Ashanti says a big part of this committee is accountability, and that includes accountability of the Council. Ashanti wants to acknowledge that they are part of that piece, but it is difficult to tell members how the Council should be held accountable. That is up to the members.

6. ADJOURN

- a. Ashanti adjourns the meeting at 4:05 PM.

Next Scheduled Meeting: August 18th, 2022 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm.