

August 2009



# INROADS

Paving the Way for Montana's Disadvantaged Business Enterprises

Montana Department of Transportation  
DBE Program  
Civil Rights Bureau  
P.O. Box 201001  
Helena, MT 59620-1001

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## DBE Goal Set for FFY 2010



The MDT DBE goal has been set for the Federal Fiscal Year 2010. The year begins on October 1, 2009. The goal has been set at (pending FHWA approval):

**4.58% Overall goal**  
**2.53% Race Neutral**  
**2.05% Race Conscious**

The definitions for Race-Conscious and Race-Neutral are below.

**RACE-CONSCIOUS** A measure or program that is focused specifically on assisting only DBEs, including women-owned DBEs.

**RACE-NEUTRAL** measure or program is one that is, or can be, used to assist all small businesses. Race-neutral includes gender-neutrality.

The **race conscious** goal reflects the level of DBE participation that will be achieved in response to an assigned project goal. At bid time, the prime bidder has two options. They may utilize a DBE company to meet the DBE goal or perform a Good Faith Effort. The Good Faith Effort requires the contractor to make every effort to contact DBE companies and document the effort. The effort can be achieved by using varying methods to include requesting a DBE Quote Request on the MDT website, advertising in the newspaper, and contacting DBEs and requesting them to submit a bid on the project. All Good Faith Efforts must be documented and submitted to be considered. Prior to award, the bid is reviewed by the Civil Rights Office to determine if the prime met the DBE goal or performed a sufficient good faith effort.

A **race-neutral** DBE goal reflects the level of DBE participation that would be expected, absent the effects of discrimination. Race-neutral DBE participation includes anytime a DBE wins a prime contract through customary competitive procedures, or is awarded a subcontract on a prime contract that does not carry a DBE goal (0%); or, even if there is a DBE goal, wins a subcontract from a prime contractor that did not consider its DBE status in making the award.

The DBE office will be working with Contract Plans to establish individual contract goals on all new FFY 2010 contracts.

## Training Opportunities

Is there something you are interested in learning that will help you grow your highway construction related business? Please contact Shannon Hahn, DBE Supportive Services Coordinator, with any ideas you have. She can be reached at 444-7287 or email her at [shahn@mt.gov](mailto:shahn@mt.gov)

Shannon is also setting up her fall training schedule and needs to know when a good time for classes is and where to have them.



# INROADS

## Bid and Contracting Opportunities

**MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**MDT holds two bid lettings each month.**

Proposed for letting September 2009

UPN/UNIT	PROJECT ID	FINANCIAL DISTRICT	PROJECT DESIGNATION	TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION	LENGTH MILES
6808 000	NH 11-1(59)34	2	SOUTH OF LIVINGSTON - SOUTH	RESURFACING – SEAL & COVER	9.7
6812 000	STPS 540-1(19)11	2	PRAY – N & S	RESURFACING – SEAL COVER	9.2
5384 000	STPHS-HSIP 25(52)	3	2002-SAFETY IMPVMT-L & C COUNTY	ROADWAY & ROADSIDE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS	
6414 000	HSIP 32-2(15)46	4	SF079 S OF SCOBAY	ROADWAY & ROADSIDE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS	
6049 000	MT 10-1(25)3	3	JCT BOOTLEGGERS TRAIL-NE	RECONSTRUCTION-WITH ADDED CAPACITY	.8
4792 000	ARRA 9012(131)	2	CLARK FORK-2 KM E WARM SPRINGS	BRIDGE REPLACEMENT WITH NO ADDED CAPACITY	
5753 000	ARRA 101-1(4)2	3	SMELTER AVE & 10 <sup>TH</sup> ST N-GTF	RECONSTRUCTION-WITH ADDED CAPACITY	
4666 000	ARRA 1013(11)	5	SHILOH ROAD CORRIDOR BILLINGS	RECONSTRUCTION-WITH ADDED CAPACITY	2.1

For further information on upcoming projects, visit MDT's website at:  
[www.mdt.mt.gov/business/contracting/upcoming\\_prj.shtml](http://www.mdt.mt.gov/business/contracting/upcoming_prj.shtml)

The State of Montana offers one stop vendor information at the following link:  
<http://svc.mt.gov/gsd/onestop/SolicitationDefault.aspx>

This website contains information from all agencies that are soliciting a contract. Check it out!

### Do you know someone who could be a DBE?

*If they are a small business owned by a minority or a woman and have less than \$750,000 in personal net worth and less than \$22.41 million in sales averaged over the last 3 years, they may qualify! Tell them to contact Wendy Stewart, DBE Program Manager at 406-444-6337 or [westewart@mt.gov](mailto:westewart@mt.gov) for an application packet.*

### Don't be fooled...

There are websites out there that want to charge you money to become a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE). No state charges to certify you, it is a **free** federal program run by each state transportation agency. The local agency is trained to assist you in becoming certified.



**MDT Awarded contracts for July and DBE participation:**

<b>Prime</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>DBE Participation</b>
SLETTEN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	2002-BIG MUDDY CR-N OF BYNUM	ARRA 3-2(33)55	3.32%
UNITED MATERIALS OF GREAT FALLS	SIDEWALK PROGRAM0GTF PHASE	ARRA 5299(81)	0.00%
HELENA SAND & GRAVEL INC	CUSTER-GRN MEADOW-MT	ARRA 5802(12)	5.58%
SCHELLINGER CONST CO INC	ST MARYS RD-N & S	ARRA 7-1(118)64	1.21%
SLETTEN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	SCOTT ST OVERPASS-MSLA	ARRA 8109(2)	0.00%
FRANZ CONSTRUCTION INC	STRUCTURES – NW OF BAKER	ARRA 9013(15)	0.38%
RIVERSIDE CONTRACTING INC – MSLA	PINEHILLS INTCH – WEST	ARRA 90-8(157)446	0.00%
SLETTEN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	D4-INTERSTATE STR REHAB	ARRA 94-3(59)88	0.00%
EDWARD T COPPS CONSTRUCTION INC	NEVERSWEAT BUTTE	BR 1801(4)	0.60%
SANDRY CONSTRUCTION CO INC	2003-SLOPE FLATTEN W OF MARION	HSIP 102(139)92	0.00%
SCHELLINGER CONST CO INC	2001-SFTY IMP-5 KM N KALISPELL	HSIP 292-1(4)3	0.00%
L S JENSEN CONSTRUCTION & RDY	2002-RAMPS-ANACONDA INTCH	HSIPO 90-4(51)208	0.00%
RIVERSIDE SAND & GRAVEL INC	LAUREL-NORTHEAST	HSIP-STPP-STPE 4-2(26)54	0.00%
BLAHNIK CONSTRUCTION & READY MIX	HAMILTON-SOUTH(PHASE II)	NH 7-1(119)44	16.49%
JIM GILMAN EXCAVATING INC	JCT MT 55-JCT MT 2	STPP 29-1(42)57	0.00%
M A DEATLEY CONSTRUCTION INC	8 KM S OF POLSON-S	STPS 354-1(11)5	0.00%
<b>Average Participation</b>			<b>1.72%</b>

**What's new with you?**

**Montana Grant Development Firm Surpasses \$9.2 Million Raised for Communities**

Nittany Grantworks announced earlier this month that they have raised over \$9.2 million in grant funding to support Montana communities. The grant development firm surpassed the \$9 million mark earlier this month when it learned it had secured a \$205,000 US COPS Hiring Recovery Program grant for Big Horn County to support the hiring of an additional Sheriff's Deputy.

Nittany Grantworks specializes in providing project development, grant writing, and grant administration services to units of government such as cities, boroughs, townships, counties, water and wastewater districts, Native American tribes, and states. Nittany Grantworks helps its clients identify, secure, and administer grant funding to support community development projects in the areas of water, wastewater, and solid waste infrastructure; transportation; housing; parks and recreation; hazard mitigation; social services; and economic development.

Nittany Grantworks was founded in 2004 by its Chief Executive Officer, Lori Benner. Based in Livingston, the firm has the technology and staff to provide comprehensive grant development services to units of government anywhere in the United States. Nittany Grantworks staff are members of the American Association of Grant Professionals and the firm is a member of Montana Association of Counties and Montana League of Cities and Towns. In April 2009 Nittany Grantworks earned certification as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise as it is recognized as a small business owned and controlled by a woman.

To learn more about Nittany Grantworks and its success with securing grant funding for community development projects visit the firm online at [www.nittanygrantworks.com](http://www.nittanygrantworks.com)

## MDT Civil Rights Bureau Directory

Wendy Stewart DBE Program Manager/Certifications	<a href="mailto:westewart@mt.gov">westewart@mt.gov</a>	(406)444-6337
Shannon Hahn DBE Supportive Services Coordinator	<a href="mailto:shahn@mt.gov">shahn@mt.gov</a>	(406)444-7287
Andy Hyatt-Marcucci Compliance Technician	<a href="mailto:ahyattmarcucci@mt.gov">ahyattmarcucci@mt.gov</a>	(406)444-6331
Alice Flesch ADA Coordinator	<a href="mailto:aflesch@mt.gov">aflesch@mt.gov</a>	(406)444-9229
Bill Anderson Title VI & EEO Compliance Specialist	<a href="mailto:bianderson@mt.gov">bianderson@mt.gov</a>	(406)444-6334
Kathy Terrio Acting EEO & Labor Compliance Specialist	<a href="mailto:kterrio@mt.gov">kterrio@mt.gov</a>	(406)444-9270
Sheila Cozzie Civil Rights Bureau Chief	<a href="mailto:scozzie@mt.gov">scozzie@mt.gov</a>	(406)444-6335

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## WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU?

*Inroads*, the Montana DBE Newsletter, is your tool to gain new ideas, meet new people, network with other businesses, blow your own horn, and move your business down the road to success.

- Have you or an associate won an award or been promoted?
- Do you have an idea for an article, or would you like to have your firm profiled in the newsletter?
- Do you want to show off your contracting handiwork?
- Do you want to hire an employee or buy/sell a business-related item?

Let us know what's new! Send questions, comments, ideas, photos, and want-ads to: Wendy Stewart at [westewart@mt.gov](mailto:westewart@mt.gov) or call (406)444-6337.

## Meetings, Workshops, and Training Opportunities

### September

**9/10** – Free Grant Writing Workshop, University of Montana-Missoula

Time: 1 -3 pm

Location: Library's Buckhous Room, Room 284

"Proposal Writing and a Little Bit More" is sponsored by the library and the Foundation Center, a national organization that works to build partnerships between the private and nonprofit sectors.

To register, e-mail Linder Schlang at

[linder.schlang@umontana.edu](mailto:linder.schlang@umontana.edu) with your name, organization, phone number and e-mail address.

**9/14- 9/15** – Montana Economic Developers Association Fall Conference, Libby, Montana

Time: 7:30 am

Location: Libby Memorial Center, 111 East Lincoln Blvd

"Energy Alternatives: A Western Montana Perspective"

Questions? Contact Gloria O'Rourke, 563-5259

### Assistance for Business Clinics

This clinic will assist NEW and ESTABLISHED employers, accountants, bookkeepers and lawyers in constructing a proactive approach to prevent unnecessary claims and/or charges by providing updated reporting of state withholding, Unemployment, minimum wage laws, overtime laws, civil rights laws and federal tax incentives.

#### 9/2 – Helena

Time: 8 am – 5 pm

Location: Red Lion Colonial

Cost: \$50, contact 447-1941

#### 9/10 - Butte

Time: 8 am – 5 pm

Location: War Bonnet Inn

Cost: \$40, contact 723-3177

#### 9/23 – Lewistown

Time: 8 am – 5 pm

Location: Harry's On the Hill

Cost: \$35, contact 538-8701

#### 9/24 – Great Falls

Time: 8 am – 5 pm

Location: CM Russell Museum

Cost: \$55, contact 761-4434

