

Notice to Contractor Groups and Business Owners

The Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council, hereinafter referred to as COIC, has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. COIC has received federal financial assistance for the Bend UZA from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, COIC signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26.

It is the policy of COIC to ensure that DBEs as defined in Part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT–assisted contracts. It is also our policy:

1. To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT – assisted contracts;
2. To create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts;
3. To ensure that the DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
4. To ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
5. To help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT assisted contracts;
6. To assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE Program.

The Governor’s Office of Economic and Business Equity is responsible for assisting in the certification of eligible businesses as a DBE, to help remove barriers to the participation of DBE’s in DOT assisted contracts. The Governor’s Office of Economic and Business Equity serves Oregon’s disadvantaged, minority-owned, woman-owned and emerging small business (D/MWESB). The focus is on Access, Opportunity and Connection; elements designed to take your business to the next level. From contracting opportunities, tools/resources and key relationships, the office is oriented toward providing useful and relevant information. We invite and strongly encourage for you to peruse the website <http://www.oregon.gov/gov/MWESB/Pages/index.aspx> for numerous links relevant to your business needs.

Under Governor Kitzhaber’s leadership, we continue our strong support of Oregon entrepreneurs, mindful of his belief that Oregon’s “continued economic recovery is dependent on businesses large and small having ample and fair opportunities to be successful.” We recognize small, independent businesses are creating jobs, spearheading entrepreneurialism, and helping provide a bridge to a more prosperous future for our entire state.

If you are small business owner and want access to information, assistance, training, and seek contracting opportunities from larger businesses, corporations and public sector agencies, then you need to attend this great event! As a small business owner you will have the opportunity to connect and build relationships with larger businesses, government organizations and other local agencies that could lead to potential business opportunities.

Please join Capitol Connections every last Tuesday of each month from 7:30 to 9:00am at the same location. This is a FREE event open to the public! NEXT EVENT Date & Time: November 25, 7:30am to 9:00am, Location: Chemeketa Center for Business & Industry, 626 High Street NE, 1st Floor, Salem OR Contact: Marin Arreola at advancedecon@aol.com

If have information about the effects of discrimination on opportunities for DBE’s or wish to assist identifying efforts that establish a level playing field for the participation of DBE’s in Central Oregon, please contact Karen Friend (541) 548-9543 or kfriend@coic.org.