

**National Work Zone Awareness Week
April 8-12
ROADWAYS KEEP AMERICA MOVING.
DRIVE SAFELY IN WORK ZONES.**

In 2000, Work Zone fatalities were 1,093 (with 3 fatalities in Montana) compared to 868 in 1999. Over 40,000 people per year are injured as a result of motor vehicle crashes in work zones. In 2000, 1,093 fatalities resulted from motor vehicle crashes in work zones of which 264 resulted from large truck crashes.



MONTANA DBE PROGRAM

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On April 10th there will be a joint press conference between MDT and MCA and Governor Martz to unveil the "I Slow Down in Construction Work Zones" bumper sticker campaign.

Safety Tips To Live By

STAY ALERT! Dedicate your full attention to the roadway.

PAY CLOSE ATTENTION! Signs and work zone flaggers save lives.

TURN ON YOUR HEADLIGHTS! Workers and other motorists must see you.

DON'T TAILGATE!

DON'T SPEED! Note the posted speed limits in and around the work zone.

KEEP UP WITH THE TRAFFIC FLOW

DON'T CHANGE LANES!

MINIMIZE DISTRACTIONS! Avoid changing radio stations and using mobile phone while driving in the work zone.

EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED! Keep an eye out for workers and their equipment.

BE PATIENT! Remember the work zone crew members are working to improve your future ride.

Check out free safety videos from MDT Library (over 100 videos available). Go to MDT Civil Rights web

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DBE COMPANY MONTHLY UPDATE

Newly Certified DBE Companies

Traffic Research & Analysis, Susan Medland, Phoenix, AZ, Traffic data collection, video logging of roads, signing & striping inventory, pedestrian, license plate and speed surveys, distance measuring, and data analysis.

Eclipse Traffic Control & Flagging, Inc., Janette L. Jerauld, Kingston, ID Traffic control and pilot car services.

Re-Certified DBE Companies

B&W Roofing, General Contracting & Construction, George Wippert, Browning, MT Roofing

Redd's Prints & Signs, Inc., Donna Szillat, Billings, MT Manufacture and supply highway and other signs, and specialty prints.

Jares Fence Company, Bonnie Jares, Billings, MT Fencing.

Mountain States Title Services, Jamie Canfield Harwell, Helena, MT Title work, title research, right of way negotiation, historical research, and preparation of title legal documents.

**DBE Quarterly Activity Report
Due April 30th, 2002
Form is attached.**



Milling Equipment, Poteet Construction, Missoula, MT

PROMPT PAYMENT, RETAINAGE PAYMENT

Under 49 CFR 26.29, MDT is required as part of the DBE program to establish a prompt payment provision which includes the prompt return of retainage payments. This information is in the DBE Program Booklet.

It reads as: The prime contractor shall pay the subcontractor within three (3) working days of receipt of payment from MDT as provided by 28-2-2103 MCA. Upon receipt of payment from MDT, the prime contractor shall pay each subcontractor the full amount due in accordance with the subcontract for work satisfactorily performed or materials provided in accordance with that subcontract.

The requirements of the statute, the CFRs, and this Program apply to all subcontractors and suppliers, not merely those that are DBEs.

It is the DBE's responsibility to inform MDT CRB DBE staff of any violation of the prompt payment provisions, and no threats may be made or retaliation may be taken by a prime against a DBE that makes an accurate report of such violations.

Retainage: All prime contractors will return retainage payments to subcontractors upon satisfactory completion of work performed in accordance with MDT and contract specifications. This provision applies to all tiers of subcontracting. When a subcontractor has satisfactorily completed all work items within their subcontract (work performed according to specifications, provide all payroll, and material certifications, etc.), it is the subcontractor's responsibility to provide the prime contractor with proof of completion. Once proof of completion has been received, the prime contractor must provide for the prompt return of retainage to the subcontractor within 30 days of the request.



LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Bidding and Estimating Workshop, Billings, MT, April 12, 2002, Big Sky Economic Development Authority offices, co-sponsored by DBE Supportive Services. No Fee. 5-hour class on how to prepare bid proposals, looking up contract opportunities, learn about bid match, calculate Davis-bacon wage rates, and complete certified payrolls. Contact Rebecca Johnson for more information.

Financial Management & Activity-Based Cost Accounting, Montana Manufacturers, Want a better understanding of business principles that can help improve your bottom line? May 16-17, 2002, Kalispell, call Montana Manufacturing Extension Center at 406-994-3812 or 406-758-2801. \$295 for both days.

Element K On-Line Learning. Go to www.elementk.com for class listings or contact Rebecca. Discounted rates available. Deadline for registration is May 15th to start classes on June 1st. Contact Rebecca to sign up.

Writing a Business Plan Workshop, April 23rd, 4:30-6:30pm, Business Resource Center, 347 N. Last Chance Gulch, 443-0800.

Assistance for Business Clinic, Government Reporting Requirements, Employee Independent Contractor Issues, Overtime Pay, Insurance Tax Laws, Safety Requirements, May 29th, Wingate Inn, 8:00am-5:00pm, call Jennifer at the Helena Chamber of Commerce 447-1941 for more information.

Human Resource Issues in Montana, June 6th, Helena, \$269, Lorman Education Services, Integrated Human Resource Program, Personnel Policies, Wage and Hour Issues, Employee Benefit Review, www.lorman.com for more information or to register for this workshop.

Business Writing & Grammar Skills, June 3-4 Billings; June 10-11 Helena; June 12-13 Missoula, \$295; Technical Writing Workshop June 5 Billings, June 12 Helena, and June 14 Missoula and cost is \$195. To register go to www.natsem.com National Seminars Group

“In Business” Business Workshops, April 16, Butte, With Jack Reece with the Small Business Institute at the University of Montana will talk about what happens after a business is running, but then the wheels fall off, Tom Eaglehoff of smalltownmarketing.com of Bozeman will speak on how to market a small business as well as other workshops. Call 723-3177 for more information.

Highways to the Future: Transportation Dollars and Economic Development in Montana, April 16, Holiday Inn, 10th Avenue South, Great Falls, \$15, Wheeler Center's Spring Business Roundtable. To register or get more information go to <http://www.montana.edu/wheeler/> or call 994-0336.

SBA Calendar <http://www.sba.gov/calendar/>

Montana Business Connections web site is: <http://www.mbc.umt.edu/>

ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY DATE FOR CERTIFICATION

Effective April 1, 2002, all certified DBEs have an anniversary date of October 31, 2002. This anniversary date will be used for companies to submit their annual affidavits rather than having various companies submit each month.

For companies whose anniversary date is between April 1, 2002 and October 31, 2002, you do not need to submit your annual update until October 2002.

If your anniversary date was before April 1, 2002 then you should have already submitted your annual affidavit and it has either been reviewed or is pending additional information. If your certification is pending additional information, your file will remain open until all matters of eligibility are cleared. However, you will be required to submit another annual affidavit before October 31, 2002.

In any case, all annual affidavits must be received, and date stamped, by 5:00PM, October 31, 2002. If your affidavit is not submitted prior to the deadline, then your certification will have lapsed and you will have to reapply for a new certification.

If you have any questions regarding the annual affidavit process, or need any other information, please contact: Darren Kaihlanen, 444-9229; Debra Riemann, 444-6337; Rebecca Johnson, 444-7287

MARCH HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT BID OPENING

This past Thursday was the bid opening for March 2002. The apparent low bidders (not awarded) are:

Project	Apparent Low	Bid
NH 1-7(32) 429 Fort Belknap - East	Riverside Contracting, Inc.	\$ 3,975,012
NH 1-9(41)544 Glasgow - East	Century Companies, Inc.	\$ 1,062,712
NH 7-1(95)47 Signal Upgrade - Hamilton	Montana Lines, Inc.	\$ 85,871
IM 15-1(91)17 Lima - Red Rock	JTL Group, Inc. - Highway	\$ 5,165,344
IM 15-5(99)277 Gore Hill Interchange - Great Falls	Northern Lines Layers, Inc.	\$ 1,138,297
NH 24-1(55)16 Potomac - East	Montana Materials DBA LS Jensen	\$ 2,797,999
IM 90-8(151)463 Prior Creek - Big Horn County Line	JTL Group, Inc. - Highway	\$ 3,680,205
STPS 213-1(11)7 Jct 214 - Northeast	Schellinger Construction Co.	\$ 1,263,321
BR 234-1(9)11 Beaver Creek	Tamietti Construction Co., Inc.	\$ 696,138
STPS 253-1(8)0 Terry - North	JTL Group, Inc. - Highway	\$ 1,648,429
SFCS 432-1(4)10 West of Big Sandy - West	Century Companies, Inc.	\$ 907,774
BR 9022(22) Boulder River East of Basin	Frontier-West, LLC	\$ 567,376

The complete reports of Meeting Minutes are available to you. Please send your request to Rebecca.

Minutes from MDT District Administrator's Mtg of 3/06/02: Traffic Control - One issue to come to agreement on in the Process Review Committee was that it is in everyone's best interest until we come to a resolution, that contractors are going to be allowed to bid on traffic devices. The industry interpreted the move on our part as circumvention of the review committee. It wasn't, it was a business decision that we made. We will continue to use lump sum as a measure of payment on jobs that are, for example, off-systems bridges, short duration project or static in nature. We are going forward with this traffic control training at the district level. We are going to have some train-the-trainer sessions so we can reach more people than just from Helena. Dave Galt is committed to working with the contracting community. He is concerned with traffic control change orders.

Traffic Control Process Committee Mtg, 3/26/02: Mark Wissinger explained the department's recent traffic control rate schedule changes. Rate schedule change was in response to unbalanced bidding of items on the schedule of items, namely the flagging and pilot car items. Mark mentioned that FHWA has agreed to permit addenda as late as 48 hours before the letting to help make corrections before the letting. The department has developed a traffic control estimating system that is tracking traffic control use, and will become more useful in estimating traffic control quantities for projects. MDT headquarters should provide support such as estimate system to the districts. If a bid is determined to be materially unbalanced it will be rejected. MDT is receptive to the flex start concept in general and will be used on Federal-Aid projects in the near future to help expedite construction of State funded contracts. It was agreed to increase the percentage to 115% of plan quantity before the price became fixed at \$0.80 on bid device units. On the issue on how to adjust lump sum traffic control bids when the contract is modified and requires more traffic control. For the contractor who has bid both quantify and price, should the quantity begin to overrun the bid quantity, the price paid for the devices would follow a declining scale. The sliding scale would have to be defined and agreed to. Different project size, complexity, and nature warrant different pay methods for traffic control. MDT and FHWA are going to conduct a process review on contract time.

ICM OPEN HOUSE

ICM Equipment (formerly Great Northern Equipment) is having an open house to see new products, meet the staff and the first annual ICM Garage Sale with special blowout pricing on many items. April 11-13 Belgrade 194 Arden Drive 388-2308, April 18-20 Billings 100 Steffes Road 800-766-3428.



Ann Clancy, Clancy Consultants, Billings, MT

Davis Bacon Wage Determinations

Web site provides current wage determinations issued by the US Dept of Labor to be paid on federally funded or assisted construction projects.

www.access.gpo.gov/davisbacon/

Montana State Prevailing (Little Davis Bacon) Wage Rates

Web site provides current wage rates for state public works projects

<http://rad.dli.state.mt.us/wage/PWHOME.HTM>

Contractor Web Sites

<http://www.1contractorssolutions.com>

Contractors can list their surplus equipment free on this web site and find used equipment to buy.

www.mtcontractors.com

Contractors and Suppliers can list their company on this web site free. Also bid requests can be posted to the web site.

SOW THE SEEDS....

Recently, we have been inundated with calls from prime contractors looking for certified DBEs that can perform highway seeding. Our DBE directory lists those companies that have been certified as being able to seed; however, some of those companies either choose not to seed or seed only in very small quantities.

This presents an excellent opportunity for a DBE that is looking to expand into a different type of work or even start up a new company. If you are interested in becoming certified to perform highway seeding, contact Rebecca as soon as possible.



Roger and Linda Cummings, Kirkness Roofing, Billings MT

WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK CONT....

The ATSSA National Work Zone Memorial will be dedicated April 9, 2002. The memorial will be moved to sites nationwide to promote work zone safety to the public. Over 700 names appear on the Memorial. Visit this web site to see the memorial

http://www.atssa.com/pubinfo/nwz_memorial.htm

Federal National Work Safety Program web site is at <http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/workzone.htm>

Workzone Safety Information Clearinghouse is to provide information and referrals concerning the safe and effective operation of traffic work zones. Go to

<http://wzsafety.tamu.edu/>

The [Second International Conference on Roadway Work Zone Safety](#) is scheduled for December 3 - 6, 2002 at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort in Orlando.

Quote of the Month

"It is not necessary to change. Survival is not mandatory."

MDT Highway Construction Projects Invitation for Bids

For the quickest and most complete notification information of these projects as they are advertised for bid, go to the web site <http://mdt.state.mt.us/cntrct/contract.htm> and click on Invitation for Bids. While the newsletter has notices posted, do not rely on this information alone. If you do not have Internet access, please contact Rebecca to get on a monthly mailing distribution list for a printed copy of the Invitation for Bids. Please note that for this bidding letting, the DBE contract goals are 0% for all projects listed below.

Invitation for Bids, Letting of April 25, 2002

Sealed bids on the following projects will be received by the Montana State Department of Transportation-Highways Division, Contract Plans Section, Room 101, 2701 Prospect, Helena, MT until 9:00am on April 25, 2002. The bids being publicly opened and read thereafter at 10:00am in the Department's auditorium. Bids proposals, plans, cross-sections, dirt runs if available, and full instructions to bidders are on file for examination, and may be obtained from the Contract Plans Section or go to web site <ftp://ftp.mdt.state.mt.us/contract/orderform.pdf> for order form. These documents may be requested by FAX (406) 444-7236, by mail or by calling (406) 444-6216, 6212 or 6215.

MDT Highway Construction Projects Invitation for Bids

1. **Federal Aid Project Nos. IM 0002(574) –D5 Interstate Fencing**
145,820 meters of fencing and cattle guard improvements at 24 locations in Sweet Grass, Stillwater, Yellowstone, Treasure and Big Horn Counties. Mandatory PreBid Conference April 8th, Crow TERO Office.
2. **Federal Aid Project No. NH5-2(117)61, STPP 33-1(32)0, STPP 33-1(33)10, STPP 36-1(20)16, STPP 52-1(24)3, STPS 424-1(6)0, SFCS 548-1(7)0 – Polson North, California St.-Libby Dam-North & South, Hot Springs-North & South, 5km East of Polson-East, Kalispell-North & West Reserve Dr.-Kalispell** Plant mix overlay and seal & cover.
3. **Federal Aid Project SFCP 6-1(93)69, STPP 6-1(96)51, STPP 6-1(97)91 & SFCS 559-1(1)0** Plant mix overlay, leveling and seal & cover on Weeksville-E project on State Route 200 in Sanders County; seal & cover on the Thompson Falls-E project on State Route 200; seal & cover on the Perma, -East & West project on State Route 200; plant mix overlay and seal & cover on the Jct. US 93-East project on Secondary 559 in Lake County.
4. **Federal Aid Project No. NH 12-1(7) 9, NH 12-1(11)0 & NH 12-1(12)9** Grading, gravel, portland cement concrete pavement, signals and intersection improvements US 20/US 191 Intersection-West Yellowstone; seal & cover on 13.9 km of the Targhee-West Yellowstone project on US 20; plant mix overlay and seal & cover on 1.0 km of US 20 West.
5. **Federal Aid Project No. BR 14-5(23)155 Drainage 13 km NE of Lavina** Grading, gravel, plant mix surfacing and seal & cover approaches and a new concrete box culvert 13 km NE of Lavina project on US 12.
6. **Federal Aid Project Nos. STPP 19-1(24)1 & IM 90-4(46)206 Junction 1-90 to Anaconda & Opportunity-Nissler.** Seal and cover on Jct I-90 on State Route 1; and cold milling, plant mix overlay, seal & cover, slope flattening, bridge deck repairs on the Opportunity-Nissler project in Deer Lodge and Silver Bow counties.
7. **Federal Aid Project No. BH 24-1(52)6 Blackfoot River – 6 km East of Bonner** Bridge rehabilitation on two structures over the Blackfoot River east of Bonner on MT 200 in Missoula County.
8. **Federal Aid Project No. STPP 42-1(4)0 Junction MT 200-North** Plant mix overlay, seal & cover on 31.7 kilometers of the Junction MT 200- North road on MT 24 in Garfield and McCone Counties.
9. **Federal Aid Project No. STPP 44-1(11)0 Valier-West** Grading, gravel, plant mix bituminous surfacing and construction of two prestressed concrete beam Type M72 bridges over Soberup Creek and Dupuyer Creek.
10. **Federal Aid Project No. STPP 49-1(18)2 & STPP 89-1(10)1 Dillon-North & Atlantic Street-Dillon** Seal and cover on 11.6 km of Dillon-N on MT 41 and 1.7 km of the Atlantic Street-Dillon project in Beaverhead County.
11. **Federal Aid Project Nos. STPP 54-1(7)9 2 km North of Biddle-North** Plant mix overlay, leveling, seal and cover on 16.7 kilometers of 2 kilometers North of Biddle-North road on MT 59 in Power River County.
12. **Federal Aid Project No. BR 9022(22) Boulder River-6 km E of Basin A** 47-meter prestressed beam structure with plant mix approaches on the Boulder River – 6 km East of Basin project in Jefferson county.
13. **Federal Aid Project No. IM 90-8(150)427 & STPS 532-1(8)0 Park City-Mossmain & Laurel-North** Mill, hot recycle, PMS overlay, seal and cover on 16.783 km of Park City-Mossmain project; pavement pulverization, top course, PMS overlay, seal and cover on 9.561 km of the Laurel-N project in Yellowstone County.
14. **Federal Aid Project No. SFCS 220-1(5)0 & SFCS 358-1(4)0 Choteau-North & Valier-NW** Plant mix overlay, leveling and seal & cover on the Choteau-N project on Secondary 220 in Teton County. Plant mix overlay, leveling and seal & cover on the Valier-NW project on Secondary 358 in Pondera County.
15. **Federal Aid Project No. SFCS 278-1(18)0 & SFCS 222-1(4)0 Jackson Interchange-W Dillon Jackson-S & Barretts Frontage Road** Seal and cover on 48.364 km of the Jackson Interchange-W project; seal and cover on 5.699 km of the Dillon-Jackson Interchange project; seal and cover on 8.565 km of the Jackson Interchange-S project and seal and cover on 6.085 km of the Barretts Frontage Road in Beaverhead County.
16. **Federal Aid Project No. STPS 323-1(18)0 Ekalaka-South** Leveling, plant mix overlay and seal & cover on 34.7 km of the Ekalaka-South project on Secondary 323 in Carter County.
17. **Federal Aid Project No. CM 7199(13) Brassey/Casino Cr.-Lewistown** Seal and cover, PMS Overlay, pavement markings on the Brassey/Casino Creek-Lewistown project in Fergus County.
18. **Federal Aid Project No. BR 9002 (30) Fly Creek-25km West of Hardin** Bridge replacement and approach roadway work on the Fly Creek – 25 km West of Hardin project in Big Horn County.
19. **Federal Aid Project No. BR 9008 (19) Shonkin Creek-5 km SE of Fort Benton** A new 21.0 meter composite steel and concrete girder bridge and gravel approaches on the Shonkin Creek – 5 km SE of Fort Benton project in Choteau County.