

FEBRUARY 28 AND 29, 2024

ANNUAL DBE WORKSHOP & Networking Summit

2024

Kalahari Resorts and Conventions | Wisconsin Dells, WI



ZOO INTERCHANGE

Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Division of Transportation System Development
Office of Business Opportunity and Equity Compliance
4802 Sheboygan Avenue, Madison, WI 53705



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DBE WORKSHOP & Networking Summit

2024

WELCOME LETTER from WisDOT Secretary Craig Thompson

Welcome to the 38th Annual DBE Summit



WisDOT is proud to work with DBE contractors, consultants and mentors who share a drive for improvement and passion for success. We are committed to working with our partners to provide DBEs with the tools needed for building and increasing capacity of their companies.

Your success truly is our success, as we work together to build Wisconsin's transportation future.

Winter is an exciting time for the WisDOT DBE program because this is when planning starts to really ramp up for the Annual Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Workshop and Networking Summit. Please join us in Wisconsin Dells for this wonderful event.

I look forward to this event every winter. It's important that we come together in person to discuss the various opportunities available and share lessons learned, as well as to hear different perspectives on the issues we face.

This is an exciting time to work in transportation, particularly in Wisconsin. We're nearing the midpoint of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), which is adding more than \$1 billion to state programs over five years. BIL is helping us push forward with many projects in which WisDOT and prime contractors will need the skill and dedication of DBE firms to deliver impactful transportation solutions for our communities.

Together, we'll continue to face the challenges of using BIL funding to improve the accessibility, mobility and safety of our state's infrastructure system. We must continue to communicate actively about those challenges – such as workforce issues, supply chains and staying on schedule – to maximize this opportunity.

Building strong working relationships will benefit us all as the DBE program continues to achieve highly positive momentum. For the third straight year, WisDOT surpassed its goal for percentage of federal dollars going to DBEs.

And it's amazing to see the drop in approved Good Faith Effort requests. That just shows how much industry understands the importance of the DBE program.

We reached this point because of all the hard work from our all of our partners to build effective relationships. That includes our DBE stakeholder advisory group, which has really blossomed over the last few years. In addition, the series of roundtables we have hosted with external stakeholders has been very valuable.

But despite our recent gains, we know our work is far from done. There are still plenty of areas where we can improve processes and help DBEs be more successful. We know that accessing affordable capital is a constant struggle. We're also discussing ways to help address and remove the barriers faced by DBEs in Wisconsin.

WisDOT is proud to work with DBE contractors, consultants and mentors who share a drive for improvement and passion for success. We are committed to working with our partners to provide DBEs with the tools needed for building and increasing capacity of their companies.

Your success truly is our success, as we work together to build Wisconsin's transportation future.

Thank you and enjoy the summit.

Craig Thompson

Secretary

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

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GUEST SPEAKERS
NAMC-WI Panel Presentation
Breakfast Power Hour Panel

GUEST SPEAKERS



GLENN FULKERSON
FHWA Wisconsin Division
Administrator



DEREK MOSLEY, JD
Lubar Center Director
Marquette University
Law School



KRISTINA BOARDMAN
Wisconsin DOT
Deputy Secretary



DR. RICHARD KYTE
Endowed Professor and Director
D. B. Reinhart Institute for Ethics
in Leadership, Viterbo University

NAMC-WI PANEL PRESENTATION 
DBE Contracting: REAL TALK

February 28, 2024 | 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM

MODERATOR



Tim McMurtry II
Executive Director of Infrastructure
Business Development
National Association of Minority
Contractors - Wisconsin Chapter

PANELISTS



Adonica Randall
President
Abaxent, LLC



Eric Johnson
President
Southstar Trucking



Quinn Long
President
Clear Cut Solutions, LLC



Tyrone Johnson
President
Brothers' Infrastructure Group

BREAKFAST POWER HOUR PANEL
A Conversation with Jeff Parisi,
Director of Business Development, Walbec Group
February 29, 2024 | 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

MODERATOR



Joe Davis, Sr.
Director, DBE Development Initiative
Construction Business Group

PANELISTS



Jeff Parisi
Director of Business Development
Walbec Group



Taylor Tauer
Area Manager
Northeast Asphalt, Inc.
A Walbec Group Company



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Award Luncheon KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Aaron Towns, BMO Bank
Feb. 28th • 12 pm to 1:30 pm

BUILDING GENERATIONAL WEALTH



Creating a vision for tomorrow.

“What do you want to give to the next generation? What do you want your legacy to be? When we have that kind of vision and you’re bought into your ‘why’ then the rest takes care of itself.” – AARON TOWNS

Aaron Towns

Vice President, Commercial Relationship Manager
of BMO Commercial Bank

BANKERS’ PANEL Feb. 28th • 1:50 pm to 2:50 pm

Access to Capital for Small Businesses, Contractors and Consultants

Most entrepreneurs need to access capital when starting or growing a business. This panel will share their resources and programs available to small businesses, common documents to have in place, and what makes you stronger in the eyes of the lender.

BANKERS’ PANEL

FEATURING:

Eric Ness, SBA, Moderator

Aaron Towns, BMO Bank

Denisse Pachuca, BMO Bank

Terese Caro, Legacy Redevelopment (CDFI)

Micae Brown, US Bank

Tim Belter, Summit Credit Union

Michael Hetzel, WWBIC

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February 28-29, 2024
Kalahari Resorts and Conventions
Wisconsin Dells, WI

Professional Development Workshops for Credit

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KNOWING WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW

Judge Derek Mosley | Marquette University Law School
Wednesday, February 28 | 9:30 - 10:30 AM

1 PDH



BUILDING AN ETHICAL CULTURE IN YOUR ORGANIZATION

Dr. Richard Kyte | Endowed Professor at Viterbo University
Wednesday, February 28 | 10:45 - 11:45 AM

1 PDH



BURNOUT BUSTERS: ENGINEERING RESILIENCE

Monica Gunderson | Chisel ActionCOACH
Wednesday, February 28 | 1:50 - 2:50 PM

1 PDH



EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES IN HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

James Bender, PMP | Innovation & Technology Section Manager
Wednesday, February 28 | 3:00 - 4:00 PM

1 PDH



HOT TOPICS IN THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY: ACEC NATIONAL AND STATE PERSPECTIVE

John Rathke, P.E. | Mead & Hunt Inc.
Andy Kowske, P.E. | HNTB Corporation
Thursday, February 29 | 9:45 - 10:45 AM

1 PDH



AGENDA

Wednesday, February 28

ANNUAL DBE WORKSHOP & Networking Summit

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LOCATION

8 AM	REGISTRATION OPENS and Breakfast Begins	Registration #3
8:45 AM – 10:30 AM	OPENING SESSION Welcome and Summit Overview Tondra Davis, OBOEC Director Day 1 Master of Ceremony Tim McMurtry II, Executive Director, NAMC-WI US DOT Federal Highway Administration Perspective Glenn Fulkerson, FHWA Division Administrator Unconscious Bias: Knowing What You Don't Know (PDH 1) Judge Derek Mosley, Marquette University Law School	Kilimanjaro 3456
10:30 AM – 10:45 AM	NETWORKING BREAK / Exhibit Visits	
10:45 AM – 11:45 AM	DBE WORKSHOP SESSION 1 DBE Contracting: Real Talk Tim McMurtry II, Executive Director, NAMC-WI and Panel Building an Ethical Culture in Your Organization (1 PDH) Dr. Richard Kyte, Endowed Professor at Viterbo University	Kilimanjaro 8 Kilimanjaro 7
11:45 AM – 12 PM	BREAK	
12 PM – 1:30 PM	SECRETARY'S GOLDEN SHOVEL AWARDS LUNCHEON Welcome Tim McMurtry II, NAMC-WI HNTB Presentation Andy Kowske, HNTB WisDOT Deputy Secretary Introduction Rebecca Burkel, DTSD Administrator State of the DBE Program Deputy Secretary Kristina Boardman Secretary's Golden Shovel Award Presentations Tondra Davis, OBOEC Director Mentor Protégé Certificate Presentations Tondra Davis, OBOEC Director Keynote Address: Building Generational Wealth Aaron Towns, Vice President, Commercial Relationship Manager of BMO Commercial Bank	
1:30 PM – 1:50 PM	NETWORKING BREAK / Exhibit Visits	
1:50 PM – 2:50 PM	DBE WORKSHOP SESSION 2 Bankers Panel: Access to Capital for Contractors and Consultants Burnout Busters: Engineering Resilience (PDH 1) Monica Gunderson, Chisel Action COACH Industry Tools and Best Practices Matt Grove, WTBA and Panel	Kilimanjaro 8 Kilimanjaro 7 Kilimanjaro 2
2:50 PM – 3:00 PM	NETWORKING BREAK / Exhibit Visits	
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM	DBE WORKSHOP SESSION 3 How to Work the Room Denise Patton, BDP & Associates Emerging Technologies in Highway Construction (PDH 1) James Bender, PMP, WisDOT Innovation & Technology Section Manager Truck Talk Live Paul Ndon and Teresa Rademacher, WisDOT, OBOEC	Kilimanjaro 8 Kilimanjaro 7 Kilimanjaro 2
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM	NETWORKING RECEPTION US Bank Presentation	

AGENDA

Thursday, February 29

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LOCATION

8 AM	<p>REGISTRATION OPENS and Breakfast Begins</p> <p>Welcome Tondra Davis, OBOCE Director</p> <p>Day 2 Master of Ceremony Joe Davis, Sr, Construction Business Group</p> <p>Construction Business Group Partner video</p>	<i>Kilimanjaro 3456</i>
8:30 - 9:30 AM	<p>BREAKFAST POWER HOUR</p> <p>"A Conversation with Jeff Parisi, Director of Business Development, Walbec Group"</p>	
9:30 - 9:45 AM	NETWORKING BREAK / Exhibit Visits	
9:45 - 10:45 AM	<p>DBE WORKSHOP SESSION 4</p> <p>Life of A WisDOT Project from a Project Manager's Perspective</p> <p>Opportunities for DBE-certified Businesses with Non-highway Stakeholders</p> <p>Hot Topics in the Engineering Industry</p> <p>ACEC National and State Perspective and Design Build (PDH 1)</p> <p>DOT Workforce Panel</p>	<i>Kilimanjaro 8</i> <i>Kilimanjaro 7</i> <i>Mangrove</i> <i>Kilimanjaro 2</i>
10:45 - 11:00 AM	NETWORKING BREAK / Exhibit Visits	
11 AM - 12 PM	<p>Networking with HCST Graduates</p> <p>Networking with WisDOT</p>	<i>Kilimanjaro 7</i> <i>Kilimanjaro 8</i>
12:00 PM - 12:40 PM	LUNCH	
12:40 PM - 1:40 PM	<p>Networking with Prime Contractors</p> <p>Networking with Professional Consultants</p>	<i>Kilimanjaro 7</i> <i>Kilimanjaro 8</i>

LOCATIONS

Kilimanjaro 3456 - General sessions

- Breakfast
- Awards Luncheon
- Networking Reception
- Breakfast Power Hour

Kilimanjaro 8 - Breakout sessions

- DBE Contracting: Real Talk
- Bankers Panel: Access to Capital
- How to Work the Room
- Life of A WisDOT Project

Kilimanjaro 7 - Breakout sessions

- Building an Ethical Culture
- Burnout Busters
- Opportunities with Non-Highway Stakeholders
- Emerging Technologies

Kilimanjaro 2 - Breakout sessions

- Industry Tools and Best Practices
- Truck Talk Live
- DOT Workforce Panel

Mangrove - Breakout session

- Hot Topics in the Engineering Industry

Kilimanjaro 3456 - General sessions

Kilimanjaro 3456

EXHIBITORS

Kilimanjaro 3456

- APEX Consulting Engineers
- BMO Bank
- Capital Access Clinic
- Construction Business Group
- FAVORTY Brand
- Gibraltar Industries Inc
- Great Lakes Small Business
- Transportation Resource Center (SBTRC)
- HDR
- Highway Construction Skills Training (HCST)
- National Association of Minority Contractors-Wisconsin Chapter (NAMC-WI)
- Tribal Labor Advisory Committee
- True Visions Design LLC
- US Bank
- WI Supplier Diversity Program
- Wisconsin Procurement Institute
- (WPI) - Wisconsin's APEX Accelerator
- WRTP/BIG STEP
- WWBIC



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NOMINEES

A-1 Excavating Inc.
 ANASA Traffic Control Services LLC
 Brothers Infrastructure Group Construction LLC
 CORRE, Inc.
 DAAR Engineering, Inc.
 HNTB Corporation
 Hoffman Construction Company
 Jacobs
 Lakeside Engineers
 Payne+Dolan | A Walbec Group Company
 Reach Grow Exceed Engineering
 Rock Road Companies, Inc.
 Sheet Piling Services LLC
 Zignego Company Inc.



GOLDEN SHOVEL AWARD WINNERS

ANASA Traffic Control Services, LLC
 HNTB Corporation
 Hoffman Construction Company
 Jacobs
 Lakeside Engineers
 Zignego Company Inc.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

James Harris,
 Sirrah Construction LLC
 (DBE Since 2014) - *posthumously*

THANK YOU!

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