



State of Illinois
Pat Quinn, Governor



Illinois Department of Transportation
Erica J. Borggren, Acting Secretary

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IDOT Advancing Diversity on Projects in Metro East Area

Minority-Owned Firms Encouraged to Bid on Projects on November Letting

COLLINSVILLE - The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) announced today that multiple Metro East area projects on its upcoming letting are available for bidding exclusively by qualified minority-owned firms. Made possible by the agency's Target Market Program, these projects on the Nov. 21 letting are part of Governor Pat Quinn's commitment to increasing diversity on all transportation projects throughout Illinois.

"The Target Market Program is an ideal opportunity to join in our commitment to building a 21st century transportation system for Illinois," Acting Transportation Secretary Erica Borggren said. "We are prepared to offer our assistance and guidance so we can make our projects even more inclusive."

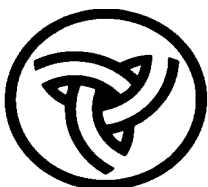
IDOT's Office of Business and Workforce Diversity, in conjunction with the Division of Highways, will host a Target Market informational meeting/video conference on Wednesday, Nov. 5 to provide more information about the Target Market Program. The video conference will be held from 10:30 a.m. – noon at IDOT District 8 Headquarters, 1102 Eastport Plaza Drive, Collinsville, IL.

For more information about the projects and the steps required for qualified contractors to become eligible to bid on them Nov. 21, please contact Jim Layden at jim.layden@illinois.gov.

Under Governor Quinn's leadership, IDOT initiated the Target Market Program in 2011. The program, overseen by IDOT's Office of Business and Workforce Diversity, in conjunction with the Division of Highways, is designed to increase participation in the state's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program.

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In IDOT's District 8, which includes Bond, Calhoun, Clinton, Greene, Jersey, Madison, Marion, Monroe, Randolph, St. Clair and Washington counties, roughly \$1.7 million in projects has been awarded to minority-owned firms through the program.

For information about the Target Market Program, visit goo.gl/ybtXAE. Learn more about IDOT's diversity initiatives on the "Diversity Matters" website at diversity.dot.illinois.gov.

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