



Rock County Stakeholder Advisory Committee

Thursday; August 13, 2015

Community Action Inc.

Meeting Summary

Attendees (11):

Michele Carter, DBE Program Chief, WisDOT (Teleconference)
Vincent Fisher, OBOEC, Equal Opportunity Specialist, WisDOT
Alicia Griffin, I-39/90 DBE Outreach Coordinator – Rock County, Serendipity Communications
Tracy Jallah, Apprenticeship Training Representative - Madison South, DWD (Teleconference)
Lynn Jones, Deputy Director, Community Action Inc.
Jennifer Koleske, OBOEC, Labor Development Specialist, WisDOT
Jennifer Marks, Forward Service Corporation/TrANS Provider (Teleconference)
Erika Rebout, Rock Road Companies, Inc. Benefits Manager/EEO Coordinator
Kim Schauder, I-39/90 Project Supervisor, WisDOT
Bill Stark, FHWA, Civil Rights Program Manager (Teleconference)
Randy Terronez, Assistant to County Administrator, Rock County

Agenda Item: Welcome and Introductions

Presenter: Vincent Fisher, WisDOT, OBOEC, Equal Opportunity Specialist

Action: Distribute an electronic report of TrANS activities.

Discussion:

Vincent distributed the June 4th RCSC Meeting Summary for review.

Agenda Item: Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Apprenticeship Report Statistics

Presenters: Tracy Jallah, Apprenticeship Training Representative - Madison South, DWD
Vincent Fisher, WisDOT, OBOEC, Equal Opportunity Specialist

Actions:

1. Develop and distribute a baseline report of the labor participation of minorities and women to get an idea and determine a trend.
2. Include Walworth County data in future reports.



Discussion:

Report: Southwest Area Construction Apprentice Snapshot (Rock County) as of 8/1/2015.

Tracy Jallah provided the following summary:

- In August 2015, there were 6 female apprentices. In comparison to June 2015 where there were 3 female apprentices and 5 in May 2015.
- Carpenter Construction: Out of the 17 apprentices, there was one minority apprentice.
- Cement Masons: Out of 6 apprentices, there were 2 minority apprentices.
- Construction Craft Laborer: There was 1 minority apprentice out of a total 19 apprentices.
- Construction Electrician: There were 2 minority apprentices out of a total of 77.
- Ironworkers / Operating Engineers – Bridges: There was 1 minority apprentice out of a total of 3 apprentices.

Report: Southwest Area Construction Apprentice Snapshot (Green County) as of 8/1/2015

- There were 2 minority apprentices
- There was 1 female Iron Worker apprentice

Vincent Fisher shared the average number of women and minorities in the labor pool on the I-39/90 Project from March – May 2015 and August 2015.

- There was an overall average of 171 apprentices.
- The overall average of minorities is 3.1 or 1.81% of 171.

Lynn Jones reminded the group that during the last meeting, Sheila DeForest asked for a baseline of labor participation of minorities and women in order to get an idea of the differences so a trend could be determined.

Agenda Item: WisDOT I-39/90 Mega Project Overview

- Review of Let Schedule
- The 2015 – 2017 Budget's Impact on the I-39/90 Project

Presenter: Kim Schauder, WisDOT, I-39/90 Project Supervisor

Action: None

Discussion:

- The County A and Edgerton Road bridges over I-39/90 (north of Edgerton) will be replaced starting in late August/early September. The bridges will be out until they reopen to traffic in mid-December 2015. The bridges are being lengthened to accommodate for the Interstate expansion, between Beloit and Madison.
- The WIS 11 (Avalon Road) interchange was LET on Tuesday, August 11. This project is moving forward as planned with construction anticipated to start in September 2015 and continue until November 2016.



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- This interchange will be the first Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) in Wisconsin; more DDI information on the project website under the Resources tab.
- All construction projects already underway are not impacted by the 2015-2017 state budget (i.e., County G, County S interchange, US 14 and US 51 improvements, etc.).
- Project staff continue to evaluate and determine alternatives to successfully deliver the project within the allocated program funds.
- Reductions in the State Highway Rehabilitation and Major Highway programs will result in some project delays. The department's approach to scheduling projects will emphasize:
 - Prioritizing projects that address critical safety issues.
 - Avoiding disruption to Major Highway Projects already in late stages of project construction.
 - Preserving the higher-functioning backbone state highway system - the approximately 1,600 miles of Interstates, freeways and expressways that connect major economic areas of the state.
 - Selecting treatments that add the most additional life to the highway and bridge network - doing the appropriate work at the optimal time.
- The budget provides up to \$350 million in bonding authority over the next two years that is contingent on approval from the Legislature's Joint Finance Committee. Those funds, if approved, could be used to increase funding in state highway rehabilitation and major highway development.

Agenda Item: Workforce Utilization SW Region

- Review Workforce Utilization for Active Contracts
- Workers with Rock County Zip Codes
- Demographics of current SW Region Workforce

Presenter: Jenna Koleske, OBOEC, Labor Development Specialist, WisDOT

Action: Obtain Department of Labor goals for minorities in Rock County.

Discussion:

Handout: Geographic Analysis Report – Zip (Head Count) – All Southwest Region Projects: 10/1/2013 – 8/10/2015

- 3.09% females (e.g., 15 females) employed with a Rock County zip code home address.
- 9.8% (e.g., 48 minorities) employed with a Rock County zip code home address.
- Rock County is above the average percentage for all Counties in the Southwest which is 9.5%.

Handout: Mega Project Workforce Utilization Report Head Count (I-39-90 Rock County – Illinois SL-Madison): 10/1/2013 – 8/10/2015

- There were 9 (Out of 70 – 12.86%) Heavy Equipment Operator Apprentices identifying as minority.
- There were 5 (Out of 70 – 7.14%) Heavy Equipment Operator Apprentices identifying as female.
- There was a total of 39 (Out of 530 – 7.36%) of Heavy Equipment Operator Journeymen identifying as minority.



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- There was a total of 15 (out of 530 – 2.83%) of Heavy Equipment Operator Journeymen/Journeywomen identifying as female.
- There were 122 (Out of 736 – 16.58%) of Laborer Journeymen identifying as minority.

Overall totals in the Construction Group Classification for 10/1/2013 – 8/10/2015:

- 11.02% minorities in the apprentice category
- 9.32% females in the apprentice category
- 2.96% females in the journeyman/journeywoman category
- 10.58% minorities in the journeyman category
- The total females is 3.31%
- The total minorities is 10.6%

The Department of Labor Goal for females is 6.9%.

The Department of Labor Goal for minorities is different per county. Jenna will look into getting that information to the Stakeholders.

Michele Carter shared that the connection between the apprenticeship numbers shared by Tracy and what's on the I-39/90 project represent people that might be at different stages of training.

Apprentices get indentured contracts (e.g., working with a company to master a skill set). They then go to another contractor to pick up the 2nd or 3rd skill in the indentured contract. The Department of Labor numbers and the WisDOT don't need to match up. The Department of Workforce Development reflects new people working with a contractor while the WisDOT numbers are indicative of people working with our contractors.

Agenda Item: TrANS Program Update

- Review Monthly TrANS Program Report
- Rock County – County Recruitment Efforts & Sources
- Placement Statistics

Presenter: Jennifer Marks, Forward Service Corporation/TrANS Provider

Action: Report on how we're doing overall in training and placement.

Discussion:

Handout: TrANS SW Report – 2015

The following are the overall statistics of Forward Service providing TrANS training in Southwestern Wisconsin:

- Three (3) TrANS classes: 2 in Beloit and 1 in Madison
- A total of 53 graduates
- 27 construction placements, (e.g., 51%)
- Placement companies included:
 - Carma Construction
 - Combs & Associates



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- Connery Construction
- Integrity Grading
- Parisi Construction
- Payne and Dolan
- Rock Road

Topic: Calendar Items

- Relevant Let Dates
- TRAC (Transportation and Civil Engineering)

Presenters: Vincent Fisher, WisDOT Committee Facilitator
Jenna Koleske, OBOEC, Labor Development Specialist, WisDOT

Action: Obtain information on WRTP/Big Step's partnership with Milwaukee County to prepare it's trainees for jobs and providing CDL wheel time.

Discussion:

Relevant Let Dates

Vincent Fisher distributed reports showing projects for both the July 14, 2015 and the August 11, 2015 Let dates. The August 11th Let date included one project on the I-39/90 Project (e.g., Project 1003-10-72, Rock County, IH 39 (Illinois State Line – Madison, WI, STH 11 Avalon Road Interchange)

WisDOT Project Lets are located at the following link (<http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/doing-bus/contractors/hcci/bid-let-2015.aspx>) under the Doing Business section of the WisDOT website.

TRAC (Transportation and Civil Engineering)

- AASHTO's (American Association of State Highways and Transportation Officials) TRAC educational program promotes STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education with a special emphasis on civil engineering.
- Michael Baker, an engineering firm, is the sponsor for the State of Wisconsin
- TRAC targets students in grades 7-12. WisDOT is looking to implement a pilot program in one school in each of the following three Wisconsin communities: the School District of Beloit, the City of Milwaukee and the City of Madison.
- WisDOT has the support of the Department of Public Instruction.
- WisDOT has made initial contact with the Career and Technical Education Directors in each of the three school districts to obtain feelers about their willingness to participate.
- As sponsors of the program, WisDOT buys a kit (e.g., projects on Magnetic Levitation, Building a bridge, Roadway Design & Construction) for teachers to add on to their existing curriculum
- There is no cost to teachers. There is no cost to school districts.
- TRAC provides great opportunities for WisDOT engineers to visit classroom to promote student/engineer interaction, to provide technical support to instructors and to serve as mentors.



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- WisDOT is looking to promote TRAC in school districts with students that are located in socially and economically disadvantaged communities.

Lynn Jones shared that Community Action's Beloit Fresh Start Program is in partnership with the School District of Beloit. It works with young people that have dropped out of school who are re-enrolled in school.

Bill Stark shared that the Department of Transportation always had dollars to be spent on children's program through 504(e) funding. These dollars are available to states, however, states needs to apply for this money. Bill indicated that he's not sure if this money is an option for this year.

Jenna Koleske shared that WisDOT will be pulling OJT federal dollars; however, the State decides if they will participate in this.

CDL Wheel Time

Lynn Jones and Randy Terronez wanted to know how to get behind the wheel time for TrANS participants. CDL is an expectation in TrANS, yet obtaining behind the wheel time is challenging. Rock County, Community Action and several area employers have expressed a like need.

Jenna Koleske shared that WRTP/Big Step in Milwaukee is in partnership with Milwaukee County to prepare it's trainees for jobs. She will look into what they're doing to see if it can be of use to Rock County.

Meeting concluded at 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting

October 1, 2015, 4 – 5:30 p.m.

Community Action, Inc.; 20 Eclipse Center; Beloit, WI (GPS Address: 600 Henry Avenue)

Teleconference Number: **888-557-8511** / Access Code: **4253910**