



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

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ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AWARDS \$8.8 MILLION CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION IN AUGUST

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors today approved one new construction contract at its August Board meeting. The \$8.8 million contract awarded to Foundation Mechanics, LLC, Chicago, IL, is for improvements at the Halsted Street Toll Plaza on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and is the first prime contract awarded to the firm following its graduation from the Tollway’s Small Business Initiative.

“We are thrilled when a small business rises and is able to confidently compete for more work and larger contracts with the Illinois Tollway,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Cassaundra Rouse. “Foundation Mechanics has used both our Technical Assistance Program and our Small Business Initiative to grow its business making today’s contract award a success story for the Illinois Tollway as well.”

The Illinois Tollway Small Business Initiative is intended to increase opportunities for small construction companies with gross revenues of \$14 million or less annually to participate on Tollway construction contracts. Once a firm exceeds the \$14 million threshold, they are no longer able to bid as a prime or perform as a sub on any Small Business Initiative contracts.

The Small Business Initiative puts small businesses in a position to succeed and grow by identifying select construction contracts, generally with values of approximately \$5 million or less, specifically for small businesses to perform as prime contractors and subcontractors; by establishing diversity goals for select construction contracts on a project-by-project basis; and by providing liability coverage for on-site activities for contractors and subcontractors through the Rolling Owner-Controlled Insurance Program.

The contract approved today includes two certified disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) firms, as well as two certified veteran-owned firms. Commitments for D/M/WBE participation is 32.66 percent and commitments for veteran participation is 3.14 percent for this contract.

Construction contracts for Illinois Tollway projects are competitively bid under the rules of the Illinois Procurement Code. All contracts are presented to the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors for review and approval. The Illinois Tollway broadcasts all public meetings on the Tollway’s website at www.illinoistollway.com. This includes all board meetings and public bid openings. Also provided is detailed information about current Tollway construction and professional engineering services contracts in the Construction Contract Tracker.

About Move Illinois

The Illinois Tollway’s 16-year, \$15 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, is improving mobility, relieving congestion, reducing pollution, creating as many as 165,220 jobs and linking economies throughout the region.

The first 12 years of Move Illinois are on schedule and within budget, delivering the new Illinois Route 390 Tollway and a rebuilt and widened Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) with its new SmartRoad

corridor, as well as opening a new interchange connecting the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to I-57. Progress continues on projects addressing the remaining needs of the existing Tollway system, delivering the new I-490 Tollway Project and reconstruction of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294).

About the Illinois Tollway

The Illinois Tollway is a user-fee system that receives no state or federal funds for maintenance and operations. The agency maintains and operates 294 miles of roadways in 12 counties in Northern Illinois, including the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88), the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355), the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90), the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) and the Illinois Route 390 Tollway.

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