

# The Bowa Group Inc.

Nosa Ehimwenman, MBA, President and CEO

MOVE  
ILLINOIS

The Illinois Tollway  
DRIVING  
THE FUTURE

The \$766,000 contract for roof repairs at toll plazas and maintenance sites along the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) was the first major Illinois Tollway contract Nosa Ehimwenman secured since taking leadership of Bowa Construction, a division of The Bowa Group Inc.

He chose to name the business "Bowa" because it means "build your future" in the native language of Benin, a city in Nigeria.

Prior to Bowa, Nosa worked his way through the ranks of Gilbane Building Company, starting as an intern in 2002 while attending The Ohio State University on an athletic scholarship. He left Gilbane in 2013 as a senior project manager responsible for managing projects in various markets ranging from \$1 million to \$200 million.

The contract awarded to The Bowa Group to perform work on Tollway buildings has the distinction of being the first *Move Illinois* contract made possible by assistance from the Small Contractor Bridge Program.

The program, administered by the Illinois Finance Authority and the Chicago Community Loan Fund, helps small and diverse firms obtain surety bonding and get preapproved for working capital loans to help them compete for public works projects. The Tollway began participating in the program in May 2013.

Nosa says he's pleased to be the first Tollway contractor to take advantage of the Small Contractor Bridge Program and hopes to inspire other firms near his Chicago South Side business to leverage the program to gain access to the resources they need to help grow their businesses.

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*"Move Illinois allows us to blaze a trail in our community. It's an opportunity to build a relationship with the Tollway and continue to grow so that we can prove we are a great construction management company."*

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Nosa Ehimwenman (center, standing) and his team at The Bowa Group.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE TOLLWAY'S *MOVE ILLINOIS* PROGRAM,  
VISIT [WWW.ILLINOISTOLLWAY.COM](http://WWW.ILLINOISTOLLWAY.COM).