



Illinois Tollway 2017 Professional Services Networking Event

Q&A Session

March 14, 2017

Q: What is the status of the Elgin O'Hare railroad lawsuits?

A: The situation remains in the hands of the Surface Transportation Board. We remain hopeful that a resolution can be achieved in the near future.

Q: Can you provide update on Illinois Route 53 extension?

A: No new considerations or decisions have been made regarding the 53/120 project. At this time the project remains on hold.

Q: Is the mentor-protégé program still in place?

A: Yes. The program is now known as the Partnering for Growth (P4G) Program. Since the program launched in 2005, 85 mentoring agreements have been executed between professional engineering services firms. This includes 61 "unique" mentors making commitments totaling nearly \$54 million to 56 "unique" minority, women or veteran-owned protégé firms. The Tollway strongly encourages DBE firms that have never worked on Tollway projects before to pursue partnerships via the P4G Program as a way to build relationships with experienced prime contractors and gain key experience on Tollway projects, something that can pay off significantly over time.

Q: Can a Joint Venture partner mentor another partner?

A: Yes.

Q: Does the Tollway maintain a list of veteran-owned firms?

A: No. The Illinois Department of Central Management Systems certifies veteran-owned firms, and the Tollway relies on this list in checking the status of veteran-owned firms.

Q: Are there any upcoming Design Corridor Manager opportunities?

A: Not at this time.

Q: Would the Tollway consider spacing out the bulletins a bit to allow for better teaming conversations between firms?

A: While the Tollway appreciates the desire to have additional time to form teams, in order to maintain the schedule for the Move Illinois Program, we are unable to space out the bulletins at this time.



Q: What is the process to get into the Tollway's Partnering for Growth (P4G) Program?

A: There is no Tollway-established process for participation in the program. The prime consultant discloses the proposed P4G agreement as part of the Statement of Interest on a particular project. The agreement is executed if the Tollway selects that firm to perform the work.

Q: Are there any upcoming title insurance contracting opportunities?

A: Not at this time.

Q: How will the Tollway monitor the participation of small and disadvantaged businesses in the proposal?

A: The Tollway's Diversity Department is responsible for monitoring compliance by consultants to DBE commitment. This critical task is performed over the life of the contract, and the Tollway reports on consultant performance at project closeout. Firms that fall short of their DBE commitment must provide justification for the shortfall, and the Tollway reserves the right to take action if a shortfall is not justified.

Q: Does the prime firm on all projects need to perform a minimum of 45% of the work?

A: Section 2.14 SELF PERFORMANCE of PSB 17-2 states, "The minimum self-performance for a stand-alone prime consultant is 40%". This is the same as for a Team, as indicated in the third paragraph of page 35 of PSB 17-2.

Q: Where will the Construction Manager projects on I-88 be located?

A: Between Rochelle and Aurora, and the far-east end of I-88/I-290 and the I-88 westbound York Road Plaza.

Q: Are there any incentives for prime consultants for bringing in new DBE sub consultants into their team?

A: Not at this time.

Q: How is the premium determined for mentors in the Partnering for Growth (P4G) Program? What is the premium range?

A: The Professional Services Consultant (Mentor) will receive, by entering into a Partnering for Growth Agreement with a Protégé that has not been mentored previously on either a Tollway or Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) project, a three percent (3%) credit toward meeting the DBE participation goal or a quarter percent (0.25%) credit toward meeting the VOSB participation goal.



Q: There is an understanding that Tollway wants only new DBE firms. Can you please explain the balanced team approach?

A: The Tollway is looking for balance on project submittals when it comes to Diversity. We are looking for balance in ethnicity, in gender, and in the roles and responsibilities for diverse firms. The teaming effort to show the separation of work and how diverse firms will play a successful role in the delivery of the project. We also want to see growth opportunities for smaller firms, because this direct, hands on experience is the best way to help smaller firms improve and prepare to take the next step. There should also be a balance between firms that have performed on Tollway projects in the past and new firms seeking opportunities for Tollway work.

Q: On PSB 16-3, Item 16, can a prime consultant use a sub to meet the prequalification requirement?

A: We assume this question is actually referring to Item 16 on PSB 17-2. The answer is yes, a prime can use a sub consultant to meet the requirements. Please review PSB 17-2 Addendum No. 2 for more information.

Q: When will selection of the IL Route 53 study be done?

A: No new considerations or decisions have been made regarding the 53/120 project. At this time the project remains on hold.

Q: When is a DBE firm no longer considered a new firm? Is this based on a time frame or the number of times they have participated in the Partnering for Growth (P4G) program?

A: It is not based on a timeframe, nor is there a "formula" for determining when a firm is no longer considered new. The general rule is that being a "new" firm doesn't end after the first or even second opportunity on Tollway work. Further, if a DBE firm is providing great work, they should continue to be utilized accordingly.

Q: Where is Paul Kovacs today?

A: Paul is in Springfield presenting at the Illinois Asphalt Association meeting.

Q: Does the number of times participating in a mentor-protégé program for IDOT factor into anything the Tollway looks at in terms of new firms?

A: Yes, the Tollway takes into consideration whether a firm has participated in a mentor-protégé relationship on an IDOT project completed within the past five years.

###