



# DIVERSITY CONNECTION NEWSLETTER

*Fostering Inclusion and Celebrating Diversity*

February 2016

## Message from the Director

The North Texas Tollway Authority introduced its 2016-18 Relationships and Opportunities Advancing Diversity (ROAD) program participants at its monthly board meeting Jan. 20. This year's ROAD program has 10 teams.

The ROAD program provides opportunities for new and emerging disadvantaged minority/woman-owned business enterprises (D/M/WBE) to partner with established firms in a mentor/protégé program designed to enhance technical and industry knowledge to better



### **BUSINESS DIVERSITY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Consisting of business and community leaders, the NTTA Business Diversity Advisory Council helps guide NTTA in its efforts to encourage the participation of D/M/W/SBEs in NTTA contract opportunities. The group assists NTTA's Business Diversity Department with outreach activity, serves as a primary resource in identifying specific industry

compete for procurement opportunities at NTTA and similar regional entities.

As you can imagine, this provides an abundance of opportunities for these consultants. It also demonstrates NTTA's commitment to increase opportunities for diversity participation in construction and professional service procurements.



NTTA Board of Directors, Executive Director and members of NTTA's 2016 ROAD program class

This is NTTA's fourth class since the program's inception in 2009. To date, 30 teams have completed the program. One consultant who previously participated as a protégé will now serve as a mentor, the ideal path of a ROAD program participant.

For more information about NTTA diversity programs, visit [NTTA.org](http://NTTA.org).

Identifying specific minority groups to target for procurements and helps identify barriers experienced in contracting by D/M/W/SBE programs.

**John Martinez-D**  
Chairman of BDAC  
(Dallas County)

**Shannon Bettis**  
(At-Large)

**Phyllis Cole**  
(Collin County)

**Cindy Dao**  
(Collin County)

**Kerry Goree**  
(Denton County)

**Ray Martinez**  
(Denton County)

**Trelaine Mapp**  
(Tarrant County)

**Luis Galindo**  
(Tarrant County)

## VENDOR REGISTRATION

Stay apprised of NTTA opportunities by registering online at [NTTA.org](http://NTTA.org). Registering allows your firm to automatically receive emails for NTTA bid

Anthony Coleman  
Director of Business Diversity

## NTTA FEATURED AT BUSINESS EVENT

NTTA was featured at the "How to Do Business Series" hosted by the Greater Southwest Black Chamber of Commerce. Business Diversity staff spoke about the finer points of doing business with NTTA and upcoming initiatives.

This forum encourages attendees to expand corporate connections, establish new relationships, reinforce their own services and capabilities, and learn about opportunities among their peers.

## GREAT TURNOUT FOR DALLAS VENDOR OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM

Nearly 200 representatives from D/M/WBE companies joined NTTA at the latest Vendor Outreach Symposium, Jan. 27 at the Dallas Fort Worth Minority Supplier Development Council Dallas office.

The next VOS will be held in Denton County on April 28, 2016. For more information on VOS, visit [NTTA.org](http://NTTA.org)

opportunities that match your company's registered skill sets by specific commodity codes.

### UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Visit [NTTA.org](http://NTTA.org) to find upcoming opportunities for four industry-specific categories, as well as the construction letting schedule.



### CONTACT US

For questions regarding vendor outreach, email [VendorOutreach@NTTA.org](mailto:VendorOutreach@NTTA.org) or call 972-447-3333.



For questions regarding business diversity, email [BusinessDiversity@NTTA.org](mailto:BusinessDiversity@NTTA.org) or call 214-461-2007.

For questions regarding all procurements, email [bidpurchasing@NTTA.org](mailto:bidpurchasing@NTTA.org).

Visit the Business Diversity Department online at [NTTA.org](http://NTTA.org) for direct access to the NTTA's Diversity Policy, Contractors Compliance Handbook, compliance report forms and other helpful links.

## ANNUAL STATE OF BLACK BUSINESS FORUM

NTTA presented at the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce "Second Annual State of Black Business" forum at the Fairmont Dallas Hotel. Chamber members talked about trends in African American business in Dallas. Attendees discussed industry trends and potential growth opportunities.

For more about the DBCC, visit [Dallas Black Chamber](#) of Commerce.

## OUTREACH PROGRAMS



## WOMEN EMPOWERED IN BUSINESS

NTTA supported the Women Empowered in Business forum Sept. 1 in Fort Worth.

Shannon Bettis, the director of WEB and an NTTA Business Diversity Advisory Council member, organized and presented the event.

The luncheon helped WBEs connect with businesses and government entities. It benefitted One Safe Place, which provides a variety of services to victims of domestic violence in one centralized location.



**2nd Wednesday**

## 19TH ANNUAL GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT CONFERENCE

NTTA BDD staff helped attendees of Tarrant County's 19th Annual Government Procurement Conference learn about new business opportunities, connect with small business liaison officers and network with fellow business owners.

The government procurement conference is a regional event fostering business partnerships between the government and its prime contractors. A series of workshops allowed attendees to learn about procurement opportunities, joint venture, teaming and contracting.

## US PAN ASIAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - SOUTHWEST (USPAACC-SW) 14TH ANNUAL ASIAN BUSINESS EXPO

NTTA was part of the 14th Annual Asian Business EXPO Aug. 12 at the Arlington Convention Center. The U.S. Pan Asian American Chamber of Commerce sponsored the event that gives small businesses an opportunity to meet local, state and federal personnel and prime contractors.

## Business Chats

### Cooperative Inclusion Plan



*"Connecting the Dallas-Fort Worth highway transportation providers and contractor associations"*

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For more about the event, visit [USPAACC-SW](https://www.uspaacc-sw.com).

## **OPPORTUNITIES IN TRANSPORTATION SUMMIT**

NTTA participated in the U.S. Department of Transportation's Gulf Region Small Business Transportation Conference Opportunities in Transportation summit Oct. 21 at the Dallas County Schools Technology Center.



Opportunities in Transportation Summit speakers included Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation Victor Mendez and Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins

USDOT conducts briefings for small and disadvantaged-owned businesses around the state, providing information on USDOT contract opportunities.

For more about the USDOT Small Business Transportation Resource Center, contact Project Director [Tony Arps](#) or call (214) 523-3415.

## COOPERATIVE INCLUSION PLAN

NTTA and its Cooperative Inclusion Plan partners conducted a workshop Nov. 9. D/W/MBE attendees learned more about processes, opportunities and first-hand strategies for highway construction contracting through the CIP.



The CIP brings together highway builders, operators and contractor associations to increase participation of D/M/W/SBEs and HUBs in highway contracting.

For more about the CIP, [contact Denise Prather, PE.](#)

## **ROAD PROGRAM TEAM MIXERS**

NTTA Business Diversity schedules a series of ROAD Program team mixers like the most recent event with Burns & McDonnell Engineering and their consultant firm Bowman Engineering & Consulting. The mixers allow participating teams to discuss ideas as well as highlight accomplishments and successes achieved in the previous quarter.



ROAD Mixer conducted on Oct. 22 at Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company Dallas Office

**REGIONAL HISPANIC CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION  
LUNA WOMEN'S CONFERENCE AND NINTH ANNUAL**

# AWARDS



Business Diversity was an exhibitor at the 9th Annual Luna Awards & Regional Hispanic Contractors Association Women's Business Conference in October. The Luna Awards, started in 2007 by the RHCA, feature a conference and expo for women in construction, architecture and engineering. Contact the [Regional Hispanic Contractors Association](#) to find out more about their upcoming initiatives.

## ASIAN AMERICAN CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The AACATX membership meeting was held Dec. 10 in NTTA's boardroom. Assistant Business Diversity Director Pat Parrish facilitated the event and discussed building successful relationships with NTTA and upcoming initiatives like the Dallas County Vendor Outreach Symposium and the Second Wednesday Business Chat Sessions. For more information visit [AACATX](#).



AACATX President Anuj Patel speaking in NTTA boardroom

## **ATTEND A SECOND WEDNESDAY BUSINESS CHAT**

D/M/W/SBE proprietors who are interested in doing business with North Texas Tollway Authority or who wish to promote their businesses are encouraged to attend the monthly Business Chat Sessions. Business Chat Sessions will:

- Inform vendors of NTTA procurement opportunities
- Show business operators how to register as a vendor
- Introduce vendors to NTTA stakeholders
- Enable vendors to get to know the NTTA

NTTA staff will explain the bidding process and talk about upcoming procurement opportunities within various NTTA departments. The Business Chat Sessions are designed to provide an informal setting for vendors to meet with key decision-makers at NTTA and to share information about their respective companies. In addition, the Business Chat Sessions allow NTTA staff to present information to vendors in a manner that is tailored to the vendors' specific industries.

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## **CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Please visit [NTTA.org](http://NTTA.org) to find upcoming opportunities for all categories, as well as NTTA's construction letting schedule. For questions regarding all NTTA procurements, [email the Procurement Department](mailto:procurement@ntta.org).

Should you have any questions or comments, we would be delighted to hear from you. You may contact the NTTA Business Diversity Department at (214) 461-2007 or email [vendoroutreach@ntta.org](mailto:vendoroutreach@ntta.org).

NTTA's Business Diversity Team  
North Texas Tollway Authority