



OBEO NETWORK

Office of Business & Economic Opportunity (OBEO)

OBEO Mission: Promote equal opportunity in Caltrans programs, services, and activities

OBEO Vision: A reliable partner that consistently provides excellent customer service and quality products through an innovative workforce

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Malcolm Dougherty
Caltrans Director

Angela Shell
Assistant Director, OBEO

OUTREACH EVENTS:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/bep/calendar2.htm>

Learn about upcoming Caltrans and partner hosted small business event throughout the state.

Events such as:

- Small Business Council Meetings
- Mandatory Pre-Bids
- Pre-Bid Conferences
- Free Workshops and Networking opportunities and much more.

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Getting to Know Angela Shell

By Michele Hoffman

In June 2014, Angela Shell was appointed as the new Assistant Director of the OBEO.

Angela has a 20 year state service career with 16 of those at Caltrans in the areas of contract compliance and enforcement. In 1998, Angela started her Caltrans career in North Region Construction monitoring contracts for prevailing wage and Small Business (SB)/Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE)/Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) and Title VI compliance. In 2004, she moved to the Headquarters' Labor Compliance program office as the Department's specialist on enforcement of public works requirements. In 2007, Angela became the Department's Labor Compliance program manager responsible for operation of all facets of the compliance program including developing statewide policy for DVBE/DBE, Title VI, and external EEO, building and maintaining

successful partnerships with internal and external stakeholders, and working to resolve issues with the small business community through the Caltrans Small Business Council.

Angela further added to her management expertise when she became the Chief of the Division of Construction, Office of Construction Support in 2011. Her responsibilities included managing the division's administration and publications functions, as well as her Labor Compliance program manager role.

In addition to her Caltrans experience, Angela has also worked for the Contractors State License Board and the Department of Insurance.

Angela brings her hands-on knowledge of how OBEO's services and programs apply to operations within Caltrans and affect and enhance California's economy and livability outside



Angela Shell

of Caltrans. In addition to her expertise, Angela's successful working relationships with stakeholders, including the construction industry, the small business community and state and federal regulatory agencies, help facilitate continued transparency and accountability within OBEO. We at OBEO are fortunate to have her leading our team.

Please send all SB, DVBE, and DBE program inquiries to smallbusinessadvocate@dot.ca.gov. Please visit the OBEO main web page for further program details at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/bep/>

Helpful Resource #1:

Caltrans Office Engineer – Contractor's Corner: Find General Information, Advertisements, Bidders Inquiries and Addenda, Bid Opening, Awards, Construction Standards, SB/DVBE/DBE, Minor B Information, A&E:

http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/oe/contractor_info/

A MESSAGE FROM ANGELA SHELL:

Over the course of the last year, OBEO has been adapting to a major organizational change that came about as a result of a value analysis study. The study identified key areas for improved efficiency and effectiveness. OBEO staff has remained steadfast in their dedication to providing excellent customer service and being accountable to our partners both within and outside of Caltrans. OBEO's mission should result in greater participation of small businesses (to include DVBEs/DBEs), which should ultimately allow these entities to have an increased contribution to California's economic success. Angela's vision for OBEO is to be effective and efficient in our efforts to support the Caltrans mission, visions, goals, and to be a leader in providing equal opportunity to those desiring to participate in Caltrans' Programs.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Commitments Soar

By Angela Frank

Twice a year, the Office of Business and Economic Opportunity's (OBEO) Policy and Reports Branch provides information to the Federal Highway Administration on Caltrans' Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) commitment achieved on federal-aid contracts. These semi-annual reports, required by federal regulation, are known as the *Uniform Report of DBE Commitments/Awards and Payments*.

Since federal fiscal year (FFY) 2012, Caltrans has seen its DBE commitment total increase from 6.89 percent to 11.89 percent in FFY 2014. OBEO attributes

some of this increase to educating stakeholders about the DBE program to increase DBE participation and partnering with Caltrans divisions and district offices for collecting and reporting accurate data.

One example of this partnership is between the Policy and Reports Branch and Caltrans district offices. The Policy and Reports Branch works with Caltrans district staff to monitor the status of awarded and closed contracts; as well as collect subcontracting request forms (CEM-1201) and DBE final utilization forms (CEM-2402F) for every major

construction contract. This data is used to supplement DBE commitment data collected at the time of contract award.

Helpful Resource #2:

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Data Reports: Please visit the OBEO's web page DBE data reports containing the following: Monthly Contract Award, District Contracts Awarded, Commitment at Award and DBEs Used in Contracts.

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/bep/reports.htm>

Together We're Better

By Alicia Sequeira Smith

Did you know the Caltrans, Office of Business & Economic Opportunity (OBEO) has a branch solely responsible for outreach and training related to the Small Business (SB), Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) programs? The Outreach & Training Branch (OTB) within OBEO participates in and conducts a large number of outreach events, networking opportunities, trainings and workshops, both internally and externally. OTB covers topics such as, How to Become a Certified Firm (external workshop) and Resident Engineer Annual Meetings/Academies (internal training) which covers how to report SB/DVBE/DBE participation on state and federal contracts.

In 2006, OBEO established a District Small Business Liaison (DSBL) in each of the twelve districts. DSBLs were tasked to conduct outreach, report data, provide

technical support, certification assistance, as well as host SB, DVBE, and DBE workshops/events to raise program awareness and support, both internally and externally. With the guidance and support of the OTB, Statewide Small Business Outreach Specialists have assisted Caltrans efforts through workshops, networking events, and internal Caltrans staff training which has increased the SB/DVBE/DBE goal attainment. For example, in State Fiscal Year 2012/2013 Caltrans fell short of the State's SB 25% and 3% DVBE annual goals, reporting 21.62% SB and 1.96% DVBE participation. However, this past 2013/2014 fiscal year Caltrans exceeded the State mandated goals and reported 28.24% SB participation and 3.79% DVBE participation. Streamlined reporting and combined outreach efforts with Caltrans Districts and Divisions attributed to this recent improvement.

Curious as to who the DSBL is in your District is, visit <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/bep/> to find out or

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Caltrans District Small Business Liaisons & OBEO Staff

FIND RECENTLY CERTIFIED DBE FIRMS HERE

The following are recently certified DBE firms in either Construction or Architectural & Engineering/Consulting Services

CONSTRUCTION (Supplier & Trucking)—AYUS & CO, E L Engineering Services Inc., Five-O Electric, King Equipment LLC., PLB Innovations Inc., QTEC LLC., Vega Concrete., Capitol Traffic Services Inc., BDS Transportation Inc.

ARCHITECTURAL & ENGINEERING (Consulting)—Central Multi-Trade Services, Cityworks People + Places Inc., Crystalline Resources LLC., Empowerfull.com, Monroy-Lopez Engineering, Reyes Engineering Inc., Spec Translations Inc., Words By Malliris

Find more DBE Certified firms here http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/bep/find_certified.htm