

North Dakota Department of Transportation

DBE NEWSLETTER

— For the June 14, 2024, Bid Letting —



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NORTH
Dakota | Transportation
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Upcoming Bid Letting Meeting

DBE Industry Update Meeting—June 10, 2024, at 9-10 a.m. CST
for the June 14 and 21, 2024, Bid Openings

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 227 895 756 087

Passcode: bgn2rE

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Join with a video conferencing device

teams@join.nd.gov

Video Conference ID: 115 392 052 4

[Alternate VTC instructions](#)

Or call in (audio only)

+1 701-328-0950,,387165260# United States, Fargo

Phone Conference ID: 387 165 260#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

Contacts

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DBE Supportive
Services Consultant
Project Solutions, Inc.
701-214-5775
dbe@projectsolutionsinc.com

Advertisements

Newsletter advertisements are due to the Civil Rights Office 15 business days prior to each bid opening by noon CDT:

- Thursday, June 6, 2024 (for June 21, 2024)

Submit the required information online at:

<https://apps.nd.gov/dot/cr/csi/login.htm>

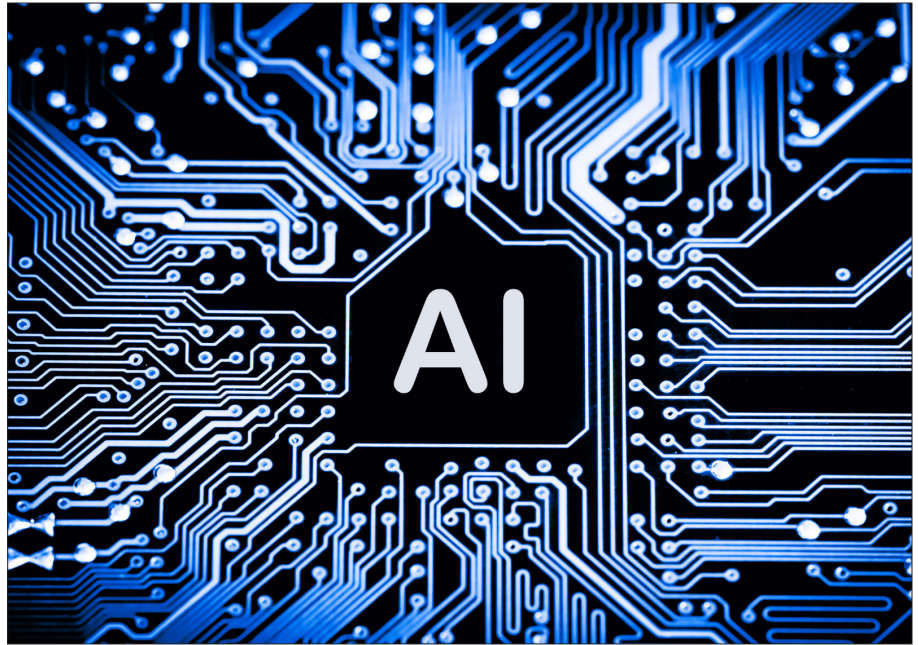
The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) will consider every request for reasonable accommodation to provide:

- An accessible meeting facility or other accommodation for people with disabilities.
- Language interpretation for people with limited English proficiency (LEP)
- Translations of written material necessary to access NDDOT programs and information.

To request accommodations, contact Heather Christianson, Civil Rights Division, NDDOT at 701-328-2978 or civilrights@nd.gov TTY users may use Relay North Dakota at 711 or 1-800-366-6888.

Integrating AI for Small Business Growth

In today's competitive landscape, small and disadvantaged businesses often find themselves facing significant hurdles when it comes to growth and sustainability. Limited resources, lack of access to cutting-edge technology, and intense competition from larger corporations can all pose formidable challenges. However, in the age of artificial intelligence (AI), there lies a tremendous opportunity for these businesses to level the playing field and thrive. By harnessing the power of AI, small and disadvantaged businesses can streamline operations, enhance decision-making processes, and unlock new avenues for innovation and growth.



At its core, AI refers to the simulation of human intelligence processes by machines, primarily through the utilization of algorithms and data. These algorithms enable machines to analyze vast amounts of data, recognize patterns, and make decisions with minimal human intervention.

Contrary to popular belief, AI is not solely the domain of tech giants. With advancements in technology and the proliferation of AI tools and platforms, businesses of all sizes can leverage AI to gain a competitive edge. From automating repetitive tasks to personalizing customer experiences, the applications of AI are diverse and far-reaching.

How AI Can Help Grow Your Business

Small and disadvantaged businesses face unique challenges that can impede their growth trajectory. These challenges include limited financial resources, a smaller customer base, and a lack of technological infrastructure. However, AI has the potential to address many of these challenges and empower these businesses to thrive. AI-powered automation can streamline repetitive tasks, allowing employees to focus on more value-added activities. Whether it's automating inventory management, scheduling appointments, or processing customer inquiries, AI can significantly enhance operational efficiency.



Small businesses, especially in construction, often operate in data-rich environments but lack the means to extract actionable insights from this data. AI algorithms can analyze vast datasets in real-time, providing valuable insights into an organization's operations. Think of how you can use AI to analyze your job costing data to help understand a project's status or generate a Work in Progress (WIP) report. By making data-driven decisions, businesses can optimize their strategies and stay ahead of the competition.

Though learning how to navigate and effectively use AI technology will take time at first, implementing AI solutions doesn't necessarily require a significant upfront investment. Many AI tools and platforms are available on a subscription basis, allowing businesses to pay only for what they need. Moreover, by automating tasks and processes, businesses can reduce labor costs and optimize resource allocation. Imagine how much time and energy opens up if certain daily processes can be automated.

In today's contracting market, innovation is key to staying ahead of the competition. The construction industry is nothing like it was 10 to 15 years ago, so using the same processes shouldn't be either. By embracing AI, small businesses can differentiate themselves from their competitors and offer unique value propositions to their customers. Whether it's through predictive analytics or market analysis, small businesses can leverage AI to carve out a niche in the market.



How Your Business Can Implement AI

While the benefits of AI are clear, implementing AI solutions can seem daunting for businesses with limited technical expertise and resources. However, there are several practical steps that businesses can take to integrate AI into their operations effectively:

Start by identifying your pain points and seek the areas where AI can make the most significant impact to your day-to-day schedule.

It may be collecting a series of data and presenting it in a way that's easier for you to understand and make decision on without too much time or effort. It may be able to help provide step-by-step instructions on how to execute a task you or your team is not completely familiar with. It may help you generate a piece of marketing to draw in more customers. Regardless of your current challenges, think creatively of areas where AI can deliver tangible benefits. Remember that implementing AI doesn't have to be an all-or-nothing endeavor. Start by experimenting with small-scale AI projects to gauge their effectiveness and feasibility. As you gain confidence and experience, you can gradually scale up your AI initiatives across different areas of your business.

While AI tools and platforms are becoming increasingly user-friendly, investing in training and education for your employees is still important. Provide opportunities for your team members to learn about AI technologies and how they can be applied to their respective roles. By fostering a culture of continuous learning, you can ensure that your workforce is equipped to harness the full potential of AI. There are ample training videos for construction or service-based companies available online.

If you lack the internal expertise to implement AI solutions, consider partnering with AI experts or consulting firms. These professionals can provide valuable insights and guidance on how to integrate AI into your business effectively. From developing custom AI algorithms to optimizing existing processes, collaborating with AI experts can accelerate your journey towards AI adoption.



Some Examples of AI Integration

Project Planning and Management: AI-powered project management tools can assist in scheduling tasks, resource allocation, and budgeting. These tools can analyze historical project data to predict potential delays or cost overruns, allowing the company to mitigate risks proactively.

Predictive Maintenance: AI algorithms can analyze sensor data from construction equipment to predict when maintenance is needed. By detecting potential equipment failures early, the company can prevent costly downtime and improve operational efficiency.

Training/Certification Tracking: AI can not only generate a code or process for developing a training or certification tracker, but it can also perform the tracking for you, alerting you to when a team member needs to undergo a renewal training.

Supply Chain Optimization: AI can analyze historical data on material usage, supplier performance, and market trends to optimize the procurement process. By predicting demand and identifying the most cost-effective suppliers, the company can reduce costs and minimize delays due to material shortages.

AI holds tremendous promise for small businesses seeking to compete and thrive in this competitive industry. This is doubly true with bidding on government contracts, which tend to have much tighter margins. By embracing AI technologies and integrating them into your operations, you can enhance efficiency, drive innovation, and unlock new opportunities for growth. While the journey towards AI adoption may seem daunting, the benefits far outweigh the challenges. Refrain from becoming someone that refuses to see the potential and learn to capitalize on AI technology (it didn't pan out well for those who approach the internet with that mentality). With careful planning, strategic investment, and a commitment to continuous learning, you can harness the full potential of AI and pave the way for a brighter and more prosperous future.

Welcome New DBEs

On Call Sweeping

Provides road and construction sweeping as well as parking lot striping services.

<http://www.oncallpavementsweeping.com> | 612-709-8578

Upcoming Events/Training

June
6

Lean 101 Workshop (Lean Tools, C4/A3 Idea Generation, Problem Solving)

Thursday, June 6, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CST

Cost: \$385/person (includes lunch and materials)

[Learn More >](#)

June 11

Doing Business with the U.S. Air Force Bases in North Dakota & South Dakota

Tuesday, June 11, 2024, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. CST | Free

[Learn More >](#)

Quoting Opportunities

June 14, 2024, Bid Opening at 9:30 a.m. CST

BITUMINOUS PAVING, INC. - PO BOX 6, ORTONVILLE, MN 56278, is seeking quotes on any and all items or materials within the scope of the project(s) on job number(s) 24220, 24329 for the June 14, 2024 NDDOT Bid Opening to be held at 09:30 AM. We will assist you in interpreting plans and specifications, preparing proposals, provide advice to obtain bonding and insurance, project scheduling, pit information (location, length of haul, type of road, etc.) method of measurement (seeding by the mile or acre, hauling by the ton-mile or by the hour, etc.), expected overtime, payment schedule, items of work included in the quote or any other project related issues. BITUMINOUS PAVING, INC. will be accepting quotes up until deadlines as specified in the DBE Special Provisions for this letting. You can email your quotes to bpi_subquotes@yahoo.com or fax your quotes to 320-273-2120. To speak to someone in our office regarding quoting please contact Bill Bajari at 320-273-2113. Any and all disadvantaged businesses are encouraged to submit a quote. BITUMINOUS PAVING, INC. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

BORDER STATES PAVING, INC. - PO BOX 2586, FARGO, ND 58108, is seeking quotes on any and all items or materials within the scope of the project(s) on job number(s) 24220, 24329 for the June 14, 2024 NDDOT Bid Opening to be held at 09:30 AM. We will assist you in interpreting plans and specifications, preparing proposals, provide advice to obtain bonding and insurance, project scheduling, pit information (location, length of haul, type of road, etc.) method of measurement (seeding by the mile or acre, hauling by the ton-mile or by the hour, etc.), expected overtime, payment schedule, items of work included in the quote or any other project related

issues. BORDER STATES PAVING, INC. will be accepting quotes up until deadlines as specified in the DBE Special Provisions for this letting. You can email your quotes to quotes@borderstatespaving.com or fax your quotes to 701-237-0233. To speak to someone in our office regarding quoting please contact Luke Wiese at 701-237-4860. Any and all disadvantaged businesses are encouraged to submit a quote. BORDER STATES PAVING, INC. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CENTRAL SPECIALTIES, INC. - 6325 COUNTY ROAD 87 SW, ALEXANDRIA, MN 56308, is seeking quotes on any and all items or materials within the scope of the project(s) on job number(s) 24220, 24227, 24329 for the June 14, 2024 NDDOT Bid Opening to be held at 09:30 AM. We will assist you in interpreting plans and specifications, preparing proposals, provide advice to obtain bonding and insurance, project scheduling, pit information (location, length of haul, type of road, etc.) method of measurement (seeding by the mile or acre, hauling by the ton-mile or by the hour, etc.), expected overtime, payment schedule, items of work included in the quote or any other project related issues. CENTRAL SPECIALTIES, INC will be accepting quotes up until deadlines as specified in the DBE Special Provisions for this letting. You can email your quotes to quotes@centralspecialties.com. To speak to someone in our office regarding quoting please contact Becci Smith at 320-762-7289. Any and all disadvantaged businesses are encouraged to submit a quote. CENTRAL SPECIALTIES, INC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

INDUSTRIAL BUILDERS, INC. - PO BOX 406, FARGO, ND 58107, is seeking quotes on any and all items or materials within the scope of the project(s) on job number(s) 23646 for the June 14, 2024 NDDOT Bid Opening to be held at 09:30 AM. We will assist you in interpreting plans and specifications, preparing proposals, provide advice to obtain bonding and insurance, project scheduling, pit information (location, length of haul, type of road, etc.) method of measurement (seeding by the mile or acre, hauling by the ton-mile or by the hour, etc.), expected overtime, payment schedule, items of work included in the quote or any other project related issues. INDUSTRIAL BUILDERS, INC will be accepting quotes up until deadlines as specified in the DBE Special Provisions for this letting. You can email your quotes to quotes@industrialbuilders.com. To speak to someone in our office regarding quoting please contact Kent Sand at 701-282-4977. Any and all disadvantaged businesses are encouraged to submit a quote. INDUSTRIAL BUILDERS, INC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

KEY CONTRACTING - 245 7TH AVE NE, WEST FARGO, ND 58078, is seeking quotes on any and all items or materials within the scope of the project(s) on job number(s) 23646 for the June 14, 2024 NDDOT Bid Opening to be held at 09:30 AM. We will assist you in interpreting plans and specifications, preparing proposals, provide advice to obtain bonding and insurance, project scheduling, pit information (location, length of haul, type of road, etc.) method of measurement (seeding by the mile or acre, hauling by the ton-mile or by the hour, etc.), expected overtime, payment schedule, items of work included in the quote or any other project related issues. KEY CONTRACTING will be accepting quotes up until deadlines as specified in the DBE Special Provisions for this letting. You can email your quotes to tmartin@keycontracting.com. To speak to someone in our office regarding quoting please contact Thomas Martin at 701-238-8192. Any and all disadvantaged businesses are encouraged to submit a quote. KEY CONTRACTING is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

KNIFE RIVER MATERIALS - PO BOX 40, BEMIDJI, MN 56619, is seeking quotes on any and all items or materials within the scope of the project(s) on job number(s) 24220, 24248, 24329 for the June 14, 2024 NDDOT Bid Opening to be held at 09:30 AM. We will assist you in interpreting plans and specifications, preparing proposals, provide advice to obtain bonding and insurance, project scheduling, pit information (location, length of haul, type of road, etc.) method of measurement (seeding by the mile or acre, hauling by the ton-mile or by the hour, etc.), expected overtime, payment schedule, items of work included in the quote or any other project related issues. KNIFE

RIVER MATERIALS will be accepting quotes up until deadlines as specified in the DBE Special Provisions for this letting. You can email your quotes to subquotes@kniferiver.com. To speak to someone in our office regarding quoting please contact Josh Weickert at 218-751-5413. Any and all disadvantaged businesses are encouraged to submit a quote. KNIFE RIVER MATERIALS is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

R.J. ZAVORAL & SONS, INC. - PO BOX 435, EAST GRAND FORKS, MN 56721, is seeking quotes on any and all items or materials within the scope of the project(s) on job number(s) 24220, 24248 for the June 14, 2024 NDDOT Bid Opening to be held at 09:30 AM. We will assist you in interpreting plans and specifications, preparing proposals, provide advice to obtain bonding and insurance, project scheduling, pit information (location, length of haul, type of road, etc.) method of measurement (seeding by the mile or acre, hauling by the ton-mile or by the hour, etc.), expected overtime, payment schedule, items of work included in the quote or any other project related issues. R.J. ZAVORAL & SONS, INC. will be accepting quotes up until deadlines as specified in the DBE Special Provisions for this letting. You can email your quotes to SUBQUOTES@RJZAVORAL.COM or fax your quotes to 218-773-6423. To speak to someone in our office regarding quoting please contact JOE ZAVORAL at 218-773-0586. Any and all disadvantaged businesses are encouraged to submit a quote. R.J. ZAVORAL & SONS, INC. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

STRATA CORPORATION - PO BOX 13500, GRAND FORKS, ND 58208, is seeking quotes on any and all items or materials within the scope of the project(s) on job number(s) 24229, 24248, 24329 for the June 14, 2024 NDDOT Bid Opening to be held at 09:30 AM. We will assist you in interpreting plans and specifications, preparing proposals, provide advice to obtain bonding and insurance, project scheduling, pit information (location, length of haul, type of road, etc.) method of measurement (seeding by the mile or acre, hauling by the ton-mile or by the hour, etc.), expected overtime, payment schedule, items of work included in the quote or any other project related issues. STRATA CORPORATION will be accepting quotes up until deadlines as specified in the DBE Special Provisions for this letting. You can email your quotes to quotes@stratacorporation.com. To speak to someone in our office regarding quoting please contact Robert Martens at 701-741-4239. Any and all disadvantaged businesses are encouraged to submit a quote. STRATA CORPORATION is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

SWINGEN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY - PO BOX 13456, GRAND FORKS, ND 58208, is seeking quotes on any and all items or materials within the scope of the project(s) on job number(s) 23646 for the June 14, 2024 NDDOT Bid Opening to be held at 09:30 AM. We will assist you in interpreting plans and specifications, preparing proposals, provide advice to obtain bonding and insurance, project scheduling, pit information (location, length of haul, type of road, etc.) method of measurement (seeding by the mile or acre, hauling by the ton-mile or by the hour, etc.), expected overtime, payment schedule, items of work included in the quote or any other project related issues. SWINGEN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY will be accepting quotes up until deadlines as specified in the DBE Special Provisions for this letting. You can email your quotes to quotes@swingenconstruction.com. To speak to someone in our office regarding quoting please contact Jason Odegard at 701-775-5359. Any and all disadvantaged businesses are encouraged to submit a quote. SWINGEN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TI-ZACK CONCRETE, INC. - 39352 221ST AVENUE, LE CENTER, MN 56057, is seeking quotes on any and all items or materials within the scope of the project(s) on job number(s) 23646 for the June 14, 2024 NDDOT Bid Opening to be held at 09:30 AM. We will assist you in interpreting plans and specifications, preparing proposals, provide advice to obtain bonding and insurance, project scheduling, pit information (location, length of haul, type of road, etc.) method of measurement (seeding by the mile or acre, hauling by the ton-mile or by the hour, etc.),

expected overtime, payment schedule, items of work included in the quote or any other project related issues. TI-ZACK CONCRETE, INC. will be accepting quotes up until deadlines as specified in the DBE Special Provisions for this letting. You can email your quotes to Estimating@TiZack.com. To speak to someone in our office regarding quoting please contact Jeremy Gibbs or Chris Hartwig at 507-412-9589. Any and all disadvantaged businesses are encouraged to submit a quote. TI-ZACK CONCRETE, INC. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.





IT TAKES MORE THAN TENACITY TO SUCCEED IN CONSTRUCTION

LEARN ABOUT

- Construction Accounting
- Construction Legal
- Contracts
- Project Management
- Surety
- Estimating
- Bonding
- Marketing
- Access to Capital
- Strategic Planning

WHAT GRADUATES HAVE TO SAY

"I got a lot out of the bonding class. I was able to listen to a whole a lot of very professional people about bonding insurance and accounting. Overall it was just a great class."

BEP GRADUATE

REGISTER AT:

www.WestCentralSBTRC.com/bonding

THE USDOT BONDING EDUCATION PROGRAM PROVIDES THE INFORMATION TO TAKE YOUR COMPANY TO THE NEXT LEVEL

What have you done to position your business for increased success? In this Building Business Capacity Program, you will hear from experts in construction accounting, construction law, estimating, project management, surety, bonding, marketing and access to capital. This program is designed to help you take your company to the next level. If you are ready for that next step, **SIGN UP TODAY.**

Stakeholders include:
Utah Department of Transportation, Utah Apex, Utah Transit Authority and Salt Lake City International Airports.

DATES:
July 9, 10, 11, 16 & 17

TIME:
8:30am - 10:30am MT each day

LOCATION
Zoom Webinar

COST:
This class is free for qualified businesses to attend