

# NEW THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS MEMORIAL BRIDGE



## COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2018

### CONSTRUCTION CREWS BEGIN PILE DRIVING TO SET BRIDGE FOUNDATION

With the arrival of spring, construction of the new Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge is in full swing. Following Mayor Muriel Bowser's Groundbreaking Ceremony on February 13th, construction crews have begun:

- ✓ Construction safety training for project support teams
- ✓ Preparing schedules for traffic advisory notices
- ✓ Hosting job fairs as well as Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) contracting events
- ✓ Collecting prospective employee and contractor credentials
- ✓ Scheduling interviews with prospective employees and local businesses

Construction crews are ramping up pile driving activities, a critical step in laying the foundation of the new bridge. Pile driving involves a mechanical device used to drive piles into the ground along strategic points to set the foundation. Some piles are for the temporary trestle bridges which will be assembled throughout the construction area. These supportive frames or platforms will be positioned along the new bridge's footprint to hold equipment needed to construct the new bridge. Others will help form the bridge's permanent foundation.

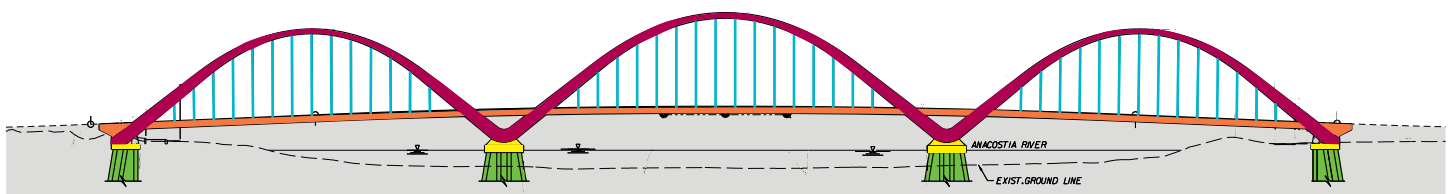
Throughout this process, project managers monitor ground noise vibrations as a result of pile installations using seismographs.

So far, the vibrations are well below levels of concerns.

To limit disturbance to local residents and businesses, DDOT is also closely monitoring pile driving activities, and putting restrictions on days and times when pile driving can occur.

Currently, pile driving has started on the west abutment and is expected in the main bridge area through the summer. Further pile driving will begin on I-295 Suitland Parkway Ramp "A" later this year.

To learn more about construction in progress or sign up for project updates, visit [www.newfrederickdouglassbridge.com](http://www.newfrederickdouglassbridge.com).



WEST ABUTMENT

V-PIER 1

V-PIER 2

EAST ABUTMENT

Stage 1 - Piles
  Stage 2 - Piers/Foundation
  Stage 3 - Arches
  Stage 4 - Hanger System
  Stage 5 - Bridge Deck



## SOUTH CAPITOL BRIDGEBUILDERS (SCB) OPEN HOUSE CONNECTS DBEs TO CONTRACTING OPPORTUNITIES

With the New Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge Project underway, there are a multitude of contracting opportunities for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs). Design-build contractor, South Capitol Bridgebuilders (SCB) hosted its second DBE Contracting Opportunities Open House at Matthews Memorial Baptist Church in February.

The event was organized to connect DBEs to various project engineers according to specialization as well as to educate DBEs on the details of SCB's procurement process.

According to SCB Senior Project Manager, Eric Hayes, the new bridge's design is about 60% complete. Thirty-eight DBE firms have already been awarded contracts totaling approximately \$59M. There is still an estimated \$28M in DBE contract opportunities the project team is actively working to award.

"That's something we're proud of and hopefully something the community is proud of as well," Hayes said. "There's a lot of opportunity out there."

Because of the Project Labor Agreement (PLA) in place, all of the bridge project's workforce – with the exception

of delivery drivers, surveyors and inspectors – must be union members, including contractor apprentices and trainees. DDOT partnered with Community Hub for Opportunities in Construction Employment (C.H.O.I.C.E.), Edgewood/Brookland Family Support Collaborative, and Collaborative Solutions for Communities to implement the requirements of the PLA agreement.

SCB finds DBE contractors by tapping into various local and state business directories throughout the region. Hayes explained that in order to work on the project, contractors must be a certified DBE with DDOT. Those companies active in another state or local directory can apply for DDOT certification but should plan to complete the process in about 90 days.

SCB calls firms listed in the DDOT directory to verify that they are still actively looking for contracting opportunities and willing to work according to the terms of the PLA.

Speaking candidly to the audience, Hayes advised, "Make sure your contact information is listed correctly."

Once SCB has identified a potential contractor, an in-person meeting is then

scheduled. The RFP is provided so the contractor can prepare a quote and respond to questions.

The detailed RFP asks for information about pricing, how the contractor will perform the work and whether there are any inclusions and exclusions. After the proposal is submitted, it is then evaluated, and contract negotiations begin.

For more information about DBE Contracting Opportunities and upcoming events, visit [SouthCapBridgeProject.com](http://SouthCapBridgeProject.com) or email [CRCM@walshgroup.com](mailto:CRCM@walshgroup.com).

### DBE TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

- ✓ Complete process for registration in the DDOT DBE Directory
- ✓ Explore benefits of working with union members
- ✓ Contact [CRCM@walshgroup.com](mailto:CRCM@walshgroup.com)



# CONSTRUCTION TRADES JOB FAIR OFFERS LOCAL RESIDENTS MULTIPLE PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

South Capitol Bridgebuilders (SCB), the design-build contractor for the New Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge Project, hosted a construction trades job fair to inform local residents of employment opportunities created by the project. SCB was joined by representatives from Community Hub for Opportunities in Construction Employment (C.H.O.I.C.E.), an umbrella organization that streamlines the hiring process for union projects and helps those interested in a career in construction by providing training and access to hiring managers.

The event was held in Ward 8 at Matthews Memorial Baptist Church on February 27th and was attended by over 300 local residents. "I'm hoping to get on this project," said one hopeful job applicant. "It would be my first major job opportunity in the city."

A C.H.O.I.C.E. representative opened the fair with a presentation about the

project and the different trades sought for hire, including electricians, ironworkers and carpenters.

After the presentation, attendees visited trade union exhibits where they learned about union membership and other construction project opportunities available to union members.

"This job fair opened the door to unions for those of us not just interested in working on the bridge project, but other jobs as well," said a local resident who attended the fair.

Other resources were available to assist job seekers with related skill requirements and testing including representatives from the new DC Infrastructure Academy (DCIA) which provides construction job related resources, project partners Edgewood/Brookland Family Support Collaborative, Collaborative Solutions for Communities as well as the AFL-CIO, the largest federation of unions in the U.S.

## CONSTRUCTION JOB READINESS CONTACTS:

DC Infrastructure Academy  
(202) 899-6040

Edgewood/Brookland Family  
Support Collaborative  
(202) 832-9400 x134

Collaborative Solutions for Communities  
(202) 518-6737

## JOB TRAINING AND UNION MEMBERSHIP CONTACTS:

Mid-Atlantic Carpenters' Training Centers  
(301) 736-1696

Iron Workers Local #5 Training Center  
(301) 599-0940

Electrical Workers Local #26  
Training Center  
(301) 429-2575

To learn more about specific  
positions, visit

[www.SouthCapBridgeProject.com](http://www.SouthCapBridgeProject.com).

# DDOT HOSTS QUARTERLY STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE MEETINGS



More than a dozen community leaders gathered on Monday, April 2nd for the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge Project Quarterly Communications Committee (QCC) meeting, the second since the start of construction.

Both committee meetings were well attended by community leaders ranging from public safety officials, to representatives from community-based organizations and Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners.

The kick-off meeting on February 13th, began with introductions of committee and project team members from both DDOT and South Capitol Bridgebuilders (SCB), the design-build contractor. After

a presentation detailing project elements and objectives, the meeting transitioned to Q&A followed by an engaging and thoughtful open discussion.

Committee members were particularly interested in ensuring that members of the broader community have ample opportunity to be informed about and engaged with the project. Topics raised by QCC members ranged from the potential for increased traffic congestion following soccer and baseball games, to adequate bike lanes and pedestrian walkways during construction to sufficient community notice prior to the demolition of the existing bridge structure.

During the April 2nd meeting, committee members delved deeper into specific concerns and requested management plans for general traffic disruption and dust that could be released into the air following demolition of buildings in the area. Additional topics of concern included strategies to attract

the targeted number of qualified DBEs for the construction and design phases of the project, how best to recruit and train qualified District residents for employment opportunities and how to ensure sound resolutions to any issues that arise during construction.

Committee members offered suggestions including additional outlets for outreach and communication such as door-to-door canvassing with flyers and refrigerator magnets, neighborhood listservs, community Facebook pages, District Cable Television PSAs and community tours. The group's consensus was that the QCC is a great start to the continuing effort to enhance information flow between the project team and the larger community throughout the duration of the project.

## FDMB PROJECT OFFERS LOCAL DBE OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE SKILLS

Wayne Ma founded DMY Engineering Consultants Inc. over eight years ago in his garage. Truly an American success story, today the company has grown to over 50 employees. Founded with the goal of exceeding expectations in the DBE space, DMY has been involved in several of the region's most important projects including the Metro Silver Line, I-66 Traffic Management System, DC Streetcar, and Maryland's Purple Line, to name a few.

On the new Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge Project, DMY is providing quality assurance and geotechnical drilling. Ma is excited to support the largest infrastructure project in the District Department of

Transportation's history. In doing so, the company is also building relationships with larger firms that work on other major projects not only in the District, but also in Maryland and Virginia.

Ma notes that the "project allows us to demonstrate capabilities that we are confident will lead to our involvement in similar projects in the future." He adds, "DMY isn't just a DBE firm. We are a firm that performs quality work, that just happens to be a DBE."

As a DBE, DMY is smaller, more flexible and is accustomed to providing services under strict deadlines and tight budgets. Ma notes, "DBE firms are vital vehicles for entrepreneurship and economic



expansion. The DBE goals on projects in the area encourage individuals to start businesses which leads to more hiring and greater economic activity."

## CONSTRUCTION JOB OPPORTUNITIES CREATE NEW PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS



The new Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge Project will create hundreds of new employment opportunities for District residents. For one District resident, Denise Covington-Lewis, working on this project gave her an opportunity to be part of something significant that benefits her community. "It means a lot to me because not only am I a part of this project, I'm a product of this community."

As a resident of the Anacostia neighborhood her entire life, Denise feels a sense of pride going to work every day knowing that her work is making an impact for her fellow neighbors. She talks to engineers and project managers daily about employment opportunities being created and feeds that information back to her community. Citing Frederick Douglass as one of her heroes she stated,

"I've studied his struggle so I went after this project and I made it happen."

A South Capitol Bridgebuilders (SCB) employee, Denise, was hired as an Accounting Administrative Assistant where she is able to apply her clerical and administrative experience. Since her hiring in January she has already seen a significant improvement in her life. "Financially, this job has helped me grow by leaps and bounds. The income I am earning is helping me pay off student loans for me and my daughter (a recent college graduate), give back to my church in a more impactful way, and I'm now saving money towards purchasing a vehicle."

To learn more about specific positions, visit [www.SouthCapBridgeProject.com](http://www.SouthCapBridgeProject.com).



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