PEOPLE, PLACES & /

PROGRESS

THE NEW FREDERICK DOUGLASS MEMORIAL BRIDGE

d.

JUNE 2018 | SPECIAL EDITION

REMAKING THE BRIDGE BETWEEN CULTURES, COMMUNITIES, AND PEOPLE

MEET THE TEAM

Exclusive interviews with the men and women behind the District's largest public infrastructure project in history.





U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration



DCMURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR



Age in years of current Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge



Total cost to rebuild it

2021

Estimated year of completion

THIS IS WHO ITTAKES

TO (RE)MAKE THE BRIDGE BETWEEN CULTURES, COMMUNITIES, AND PEOPLE. LEARN THEIR ROLES, DISCOVER THEIR PASSION, SEE THEIR IMPACT.

"I didn't go into civil engineering to make money; I got into this industry to be a servant."

LYTLE

THE WATCHTOWER AKA "THE DECK"

Delmar Lytle's official title is the South Capitol Street Program Manager. In this role, he ensures the overall project runs smoothly and ultimately the citizens of the District of Columbia get the infrastructure investment that has been entrusted to the contractor to deliver. He sees his role as essentially the person who sits in the watchtower and oversees all the work on the project.

Delmar joined DDOT in September 2014 as program manager for the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative, where he was responsible for overseeing and shepherding the Riverwalk Trail, the South Capitol Trail, Barney Circle the Pennsylvania Avenue – Potomac Avenue intersection and the infancy stages of the new Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge. He was then tasked in May 2015 with solely focusing on bringing the bridge to fruition.

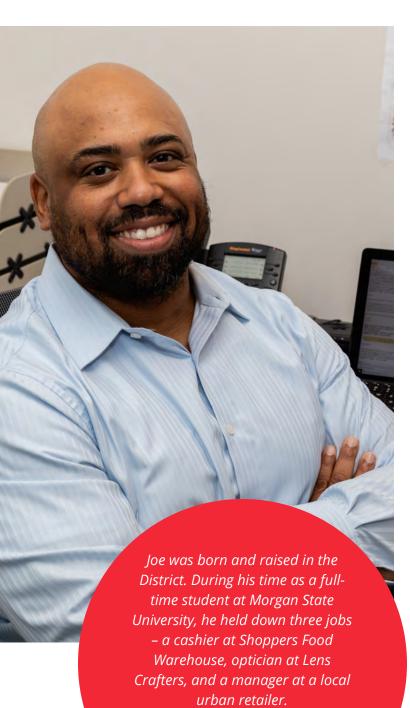
When you ask him what it means to him personally to work on a project of this magnitude, he states, "I didnt go into civil engineering to make money; I got into this industry to be a servant. Civil engineers deliver what's necessary for society to survive – bridges, facilities, roadways, storm water and waste water management – the things we often take for granted that many developing countries dont have. Once the bridge is complete it will bring satisfaction to actually see motorists traveling safely across the bridge."

> Delmar moved to the District in 2009 from his hometown in Southern Illinois. He is not from North Carolina like everyone assumes.

JOSEPH DORSEY

THE TRESTLE

"I am honored by this opportunity to work on a bridge that connects two parts of the city that are within viewshed of the nation's most powerful structure - the U.S. Capitol. It's symbolic of the whole corridor."



Joseph "Joe" Dorsey serves as one of the key project engineers where he oversees design, compliance and administrative functions of the project including public information. As a project engineer, he works with the design team and the program manager to identify issues and concerns and coordinates with the appropriate subject matter experts to find the answers. He essentially helps the team find solutions.

As the head of public information, Joe also oversees the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE), On-the-Job (OTJ) Training, SEP 14 (local hiring preference) Compliance and the construction management contract, which includes engineers, inspection staff, and community outreach personnel. In this respect, he helps the team avoid hurdles by shepherding them through the correct procedures and protocol and aligning them with the appropriate people to engage.

Joe was involved in the early stages of the project where he managed the NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) environmental assessment, which is required before the design phase. He also contributed to some of the initial phases of the design. He has been with DDOT for 10 years, and most recently served as the supervisory maintenance and operations planner for the Asset Management Division where he oversaw the annual work plans for the maintenance of road work, sidewalks, paving, bridges and alleys. Excited to return to the project, he sees the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge as a signature bridge for the city.

Joe studied civil engineering at Morgan State University in Baltimore, MD.

WILLIAMS THE PILE

"I was drawn to the historic nature of this project. It will be a significant accomplishment simply because of who this bridge was named after."

As project engineer, Errol Williams oversees all of the construction work for the bridge. His responsibilities include utility coordination (making sure all the utilities are relocated properly), trestle and pile installation, review of the construction schedule to keep activities on schedule, maintenance of traffic designs and ensuring essentially that the contractor is following the technical provisions that are outlined in the contract.

His day to day activities mostly involve interagency coordination between such entities as the D.C. Department of Energy and Environment, D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, the Federal Highway Administration, the US Coastguard, the US Army Corps of Engineers, the National Park Service to name a few. Prior to joining DDOT, Errol was the project engineer for the D.C. Streetcar project where he helped to install streetcar lines along the H Street NE corridor and build a streetcar maintenance facility to maintain the streetcar fleet on Benning Road. He also has construction railroad experience, which allowed him to play an integral role in construction. He sees his role on the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge as the next level of his desire to work on large, challenging projects. "I was drawn to the historic nature of this project. It will be a significant accomplishment simply because of who this bridge was named after; he (Frederick Douglass) went through so much personally. Working on a large infrastructure project comes with its own set of challenges, but its going to be a huge success story to see it unfold from its design and inception to the physical." Errol studied civil engineering and technology at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, FL.

In his former life, circa 2003, Errol was a Dallas High School Basketball legend. If you do a simple Google search, you might be able to find an infamous behind the back pass on the Dallas morning news sports highlight!



ERROL WILLIAMS

IT WILL BE A SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENT SIMPLY BECAUSE OF WHO THIS BRIDGE WAS NAMED AFTER.

PROJECT ENGINEER, DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



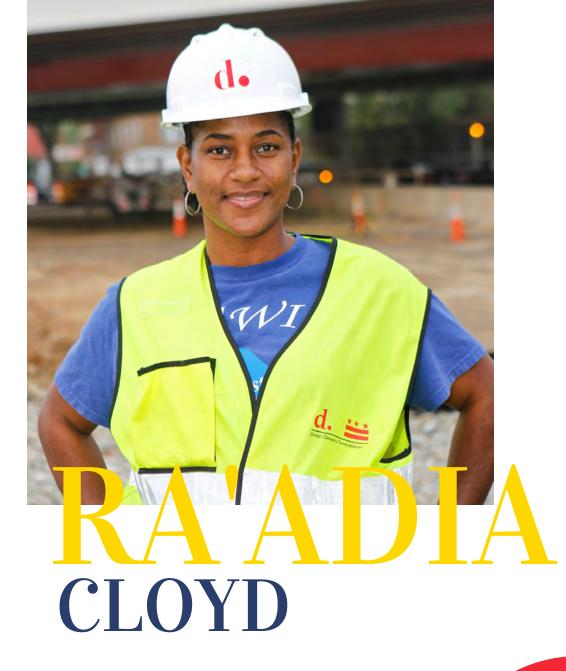
MEET THE ABUTMENTS!

EVERY STRUCTURE NEEDS A SUPPORT SYSTEM, WHICH IF LEFT WITHOUT THE STRUCTURE WOULD NOT EXIST. THE SUPPORT TEAM OF THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS MEMORIAL BRIDGE IS COMPRISED OF RA'ADIA DONNELL, LACRECIA FIELDS AND CLIFFORD LOWERY. EACH OF THEM HAS VERY DIFFERENT ROLES, BUT THEY WORK TOGETHER TO FORM ONE POWERFUL SUPPORT SYSTEM.

"[This project] is an opportunity to gain experience, knowledge and growth."

Raadia Cloyd, who serves as the Office Engineer, is responsible for document control of the project. In this role she is responsible for managing the project library of internal documents and updating materials that will be used in the field, which include permits. Raadia saw this opportunity to work on the bridge as a chance to transition "from the field to the piles".

Prior to joining the team for the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge she conducted field inspections for the 11th Street bridge. She sees this as an opportunity to gain experience, knowledge and growth. She started off her career in engineering as a draftsperson creating engineering drawings and she sees this as her new challenge. She loves to conquer new challenges for each of her birthdays. Before her last birthday she spent the year learning how to swim. She's now in pursuit of archery before her next birthday.



"A native Washingtonian, she's excited to have a hand in building this historic bridge in her city."

> Lacrecia Fields is a project inspector and auditor who is responsible for making sure that the work in the field is being performed properly to meet D.C. specifications. The work she inspects can range from pile driving and concrete placement to utility and roadway work.

FIELDS

Lacrecia began her career in construction at DDOT nearly 20 years ago when she joined an apprenticeship training program established by the Federal Highway Administration and the D.C. Department of Public Works (DPW) to engage women in nontraditional work. Under this program, NEW – nontraditional employment for women, she spent one year in training with 12 other women and the next year she was the only woman hired to work on the Q Street/Dumbarton Bridge. As a native Washingtonian, Lacrecia is excited to have a hand in building this historic bridge in her city.

She's a self-proclaimed comedian because she loves to keep people laughing. She believes laughter is the best medicine.

LOWERY "It's an amazing thing to

As a civil engineer technician, Clifford Lowery is responsible for performing the testing of quality assurance and guality control in the field. It is his role to ensure the contractor is testing the materials on the job ranging from soil base, to concrete to asphalt per the contract specifications. Prior to joining the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge team, Clifford served for 15 years as the president of his union, the AFGE Local 1975 for DOT employees.

He began his government career in 1987 where he worked as a plant inspector for an asphalt and concrete plant through DPW. Clifford states, "Being a lifelong D.C. resident, its an honor and privilege to be a part of such a historic infrastructure undertaking that will virtually transform that entire part of town. It's an amazing thing to watch my city transform the way it has."

watch my city transform."

He is the co-host on an internet politics talk radio show every Wednesday night, which he's currently working to get syndicated to other stations. Many of his friends are journalists and politicians on the Hill, to many people's surprise.

An old man going a lone highway,

Came, at the evening cold and gray, To a chasm vast and deep and wide. Through which was flowing a sullen tide The old man crossed in the twilight dim, The sullen stream had no fear for him; But he turned when safe on the other side And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near, "You are wasting your strength with building here; Your journey will end with the ending day, You never again will pass this way; You've crossed the chasm, deep and wide, Why build this bridge at evening tide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head; "Good friend, in the path I have come," he said, "There followed after me to-day A youth whose feet must pass this way. This chasm that has been as naught to me To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be; He, too, must cross in the twilight dim; GOOD FRIEND, I AM BUILDING THIS BRIDGE FOR HIM!

-The Bridge Builder by WILL ALLEN DROMGOOLE

Good friend, I am building this bridge for him!

JUNE 2018

(RE) MAKING THE BRIDGE

Between cultures, communities, and people.

SPECIAL EDITION ISSUE





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