



# AGC of Texas

Highway, Heavy, Utilities & Industrial Branch

## E-BULLETIN

### QUICK LINKS:

[April 2010 CD Request Form](#)



March 12, 2010

### US Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood Awards Nearly \$10M in Grants for DBEs

In late February, U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood announced \$9.9 million in grants to provide training and other services to minority- and women-owned businesses in 33 states to help them compete for highway contracts. The "Disadvantaged Business Enterprise/Supportive Service (DBE/SS)" grants are part of an ongoing federal effort to help state departments of transportation train certified DBE firms on subjects ranging from contract and business management, to procurement assistance and how to secure bonding. Texas secured just over \$220,000.

For more information about FHWA's DBE program, visit [http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/civilrights/dbe\\_program\\_i.htm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/civilrights/dbe_program_i.htm).

### New Appointments at TxDOT

Amadeo Saenz, Executive Director of the Texas Department of Transportation, has announced the selection of Russel Lenz, P.E., as the new Construction Division Director effective March 1, 2010. Russel is currently the Corpus Christi District Engineer.

Effective March 1, 2010, Julie Brown, P.E., will serve as the interim District Engineer for the Corpus Christi District.

Carol Rawson, P.E., has been selected as the new Traffic Operations Division Director effective March 1, 2010. Carol was previously the Deputy Director of the Traffic Operations Division.

### Partnering, Hot Mix, DBE Seminars scheduled throughout mid-May

If you have not signed up for any of these conferences being held throughout the state, please check the AGC website for upcoming dates in your area. You may find information about all three by scrolling down to the bottom of the AGC website under "Events Corner."

### Pre-Excavation Checklist in Spanish and English

[English](#)

[Spanish](#)

The above documents (also linked below) are for contractors and utility damage prevention stakeholders to implement into their damage prevention and investigation programs. The documents were created by DIGCO Utility Construction, who agreed to share it with the Damage Prevention Councils of Texas.

In addition to the links above, you can find them on-line at the bottom of this web page:

<http://www.digtess.com/content/index/id/26>

### FosterQuan to Host Immigration Update Seminars

FosterQuan, LLP is pleased to present the Spring 2010 Immigration Update© Seminar which will focus on new developments in the immigration law arena, particularly in the areas of compliance and enforcement. This year's seminar will provide timely updates, strategic advice for immigration compliance, as well as the best practices critical to

all employers. The seminars will be held in Houston, Austin, or San Antonio. For more information and to register, please visit the Foster Quan website at <http://app.mobilestorm.com/cp/onlinePreview.php?t=MjE1Mnw1MDE1OHxrb2dkZW5AYWdjHgdH3JnfDQwODE1M3w0MzAxMDk0NXw2MDc2ODc>

## Chapter Scholarship Application Deadline in 2 Weeks [2010 Application](#)

The AGC of Texas Scholarship applications for 2010 are due at the Chapter Office by Friday, March 26, so we encourage you to get your applications and transcripts in as soon as possible. The scholarships will be awarded to Texas residents who are employees or dependents of employees of AGC of Texas members who are in good standing with the chapter. The scholarship is intended for undergraduate education at a college, university, or vocational institute. Selection criteria will be based on academic performance, financial need, and anticipated field of study. A strong emphasis will be placed on students who intend to pursue construction and building related degree programs.

**ALL MEMBERS** are encouraged to distribute the applications to their employees for consideration by eligible applicants. Please contact Jennifer Newton at the chapter office in Austin, 512/478-4691, with any questions or comments.

## Free ARTBA Safety Video Available at the Chapter Office

The American Road and Transportation Builders Association has made available free safety videos for your training purposes. If you would like a copy of this video, please contact Nicole Bertram at [nbertram@agctx.org](mailto:nbertram@agctx.org) with a mailing address.

## MARCH LETTING RESULTS

[MARCH 9 LOW BIDS](#)

[MARCH 10 LOW BIDS](#)

<b>March 2010 Letting Totals</b>	<b>Highway Jobs</b>	<b>Maintenance Jobs</b>
Total Low Bids	\$ 266,642,783.84	\$ 18,574,458.42
Total Second Low Bids	\$ 282,983,809.62	\$ 19,611,796.85
Amount Left on the Table	\$ 16,341,025.78	\$ 1,037,338.43
% of Low Bids Left on the Table	6.13	5.58
Average Number of Bidders per Job	5.82	5.96
Total of the Engineer's Estimate	\$ 285,123,015.61	\$ 21,737,013.81
Difference between Estimate & Low	\$ -18,480,231.77	\$ -3,162,555.39
% Above or Below Engineer's Estimate	-6.48	-14.55
Total Number of Projects	78	25

## April Local and Statewide Letting Estimates

The April letting is scheduled for **APRIL 6 and 7** and is estimated at \$354.46 million for 78 projects statewide and 84.98 million for 1 project locally let. The monthly luncheon will be held April 6 at the Four Seasons Hotel, in conjunction with the first of the Partnering Seminars. To view the approved schedule, go to <http://www.dot.state.tx.us/business/schedule.htm>. To view more information regarding the locally let projects, click on the appropriate month at the bottom of the page.

## [Reminder: Parking Lot Fish Fry in April](#) [RSVP](#)

On Monday, April 5, beginning at 5:30, please join us outside in the parking lot for our annual AGC of Texas Parking Lot Fish Fry. If you wish to attend, please fax the form, linked above, to Darlene Edge at 512.478.7936, or email her at [dedge@agctx.org](mailto:dedge@agctx.org).