

SJB DBE

Region A DBE Supportive Services 

June 2020 DBE Journal

\$300M small business aid package diverting federal money from local government headed to Gov. Edwards' desk.



Lawmakers created a new fund for small businesses that have been left out of prior coronavirus aid by diverting \$300 million away from local governments in the final minutes of the regular legislative session Monday, June 2. The plan is now headed to Governor John Bel Edwards' desk for final approval.

The money is part of the \$1.8 billion CARES Act package Congress sent to Louisiana. Lawmakers are using nearly half to plug the state's budget holes, and the rest would go to small businesses and local governments.

Please click on the link to get more details: [Small Business Aid Package](#)

NOW OPEN: Registration for The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development's two-year Business Development Program (BDP) which will provide tailored training and technical assistance to DBE firms who are actively seeking highway construction projects and those that exhibit the highest potential to successfully bid on these projects. **View page 2 for more details.**



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LADOTD 2 Year Business Development Program



The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development's Business Development Program (BDP) provides tailored training and technical assistance to DBE firms who are actively seeking highway construction projects and those that exhibit the highest potential to successfully bid on these projects. As the program consultant for DBE Supportive Services in Region A, SJB Group Supportive Services will administer the BDP program on behalf of the LADOTD for selected firms.

The BDP is a two-year business and workforce development program designed to assist in strengthening the business, financial, and technical capacity of DBE firms who have the highest potential to effectively bid, compete, and perform on highway construction projects. In addition, the BDP seeks to assist participating firms in expanding their ability to compete in the marketplace on projects outside of the DBE program.

Please click on the link for more details and to register: [LA DOTD Business Development Program](#)





Dear DBE Firm:

The Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program is designed to ensure that small minority and women-owned businesses are able to compete on an equal basis for contracting opportunities within the transportation industry.

Please take a few moments to complete the survey below in order to properly identify areas of concern. Your assistance will aid in creating common solutions and increase contracting opportunities for all.

Business Name: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Email: _____

Business Phone No.: _____ Specialty Areas: _____

Do you actively quote LADOTD projects? Yes No

If not, why? _____

Do you bid as a prime contractor or sub-contractor ?

Have you been awarded a LADOTD job? Yes No

Do you plan to actively pursue LADOTD work in the future? Yes No

If not, why: _____

Do you have a Business Development Plan? Yes No

If no, would you be interested in participating in our Business Development Program? Yes No

Are you interested in learning more about the DBE Supportive Services Program and what it has to offer? Yes No

Please circle the areas of assistance you are interested in being provided.

Accounting & Record Keeping

- Financial Analysis
- Accounting Software

Financial Assistance

- Cash Flow/Working Capital
- Loan & Bond Packaging

Business Management

- Business Planning
- Project Management

Marketing

- Marketing Strategies
- Marketing Plan

Contract Compliance

- Federal/State Compliance
- EEO/Affirmative Action

Job Cost Control

- Preparing Budgets
- Actual Cost Reports

Scheduling & Planning

- Plans & Specs
- Project Scheduling
- Labor/Bar Chart
- Material Delivery
- Estimating/Bidding

Legal

- Contract Negotiations
- Delay Contract
- Construction Lien Law

Contract Compliance

- Hardware/Software
- Other: _____

Please complete and return to SJB Group, LLC

Email: kenyatta.sparks@sjbgroup.com

Mail: P.O. Box 1751, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-1751

Fax: 225-769-3596

To Complete the survey on-line

Please visit: [DBE Needs Assessment](#)

WATER. REST. SHADE.

Keeping Workers Safe in the Heat

OSHA's Campaign

OSHA's Heat Illness Prevention campaign, launched in 2011, educates employers and workers on the dangers of working in the heat. Through training sessions, outreach events, informational sessions, publications, social media messaging and media appearances, millions of workers and employers have learned how to protect workers from heat. Our safety message comes down to three key words: **Water. Rest. Shade.**

Dangers of Working in the Heat

Every year, dozens of workers die and thousands more become ill while working in extreme heat or humid conditions. There are a range of heat illnesses and they can affect anyone, regardless of age or physical condition.

Employer Responsibility to Protect Workers

Under OSHA law, employers are responsible for providing workplaces free of known safety hazards. This includes protecting workers from extreme heat. An employer with workers exposed to high temperatures should establish a complete heat illness prevention program.

- ✦ Provide workers with water, rest and shade.
- ✦ Allow new or returning workers to gradually increase workloads and take more frequent breaks as they acclimatize, or build a tolerance for working in the heat.
- ✦ Plan for emergencies and train workers on prevention.

Monitor workers for signs of illness.

Resources

[OSHA's Occupational Exposure to Heat page](#) explains what employers can do to keep workers safe and what workers need to know - including factors for heat illness, adapting to working in indoor and outdoor heat, protecting workers, recognizing symptoms, and first aid training. The page also includes resources for specific industries and OSHA workplace standards. Also look for heat illness educational and training materials on our [Publications page](#).



Small Business Resources available through Louisiana Economic Development

The [Small and Emerging Business Development Program](#) provides managerial and technical training and one-on-one assistance to help small businesses sustain and grow.

The [Louisiana Contractors Accreditation Institute](#) is a six-week course that offers small and emerging construction businesses critical information about construction management and assists with preparing for the business and law portion of the contractors licensing exam.

The [Bonding Assistance Program](#) provides guarantees for bid, payment, and performance bonds at reasonable rates that mitigate risk for the surety company and help small businesses build or expand their bonding capacity.

The [Hudson Initiative](#) provides a small business certification that expands opportunities with State contracts and procurement.

The [Veteran Initiative](#) provides a veteran-owned and service-connected disabled veteran-owned small business certification that expands opportunities with State contracts and procurement.

[Economic Gardening](#) connects growth companies to a team of highly skilled research specialists that provide customized information to address a company's specific growth challenges in areas including market research, geographic information systems, and digital marketing.

[CEO Roundtables](#) bring together key decision-makers from growth companies 10 times over the course of a year for collaborative, growth-oriented roundtable sessions that support a trusting environment in which they can safely explore business and personal issues with the guidance of experienced facilitators.

[Louisiana Business Connection](#) is a portal designed to connect major business projects with disadvantaged business enterprises, minority-owned businesses, women-owned businesses, veteran-owned businesses, and the other small businesses of Louisiana to promote growth and inclusiveness in the state. – Large and small businesses operating in Louisiana may register at no cost and discover contract opportunities.

You can visit the highlighted links by pressing “Control” on your keypad and clicking on the link.

If you would like more information about each program please feel free to contact Ms. Stephanie Hartman, the LED Small Business Services Manager, at (225) 342-5677 or Stephanie.Hartman@la.gov



DBE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

**DOING BUSINESS WITH
DOTD/CONTRACTING**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24TH AT 5PM CT

Webinar ID: 814 8138 7583
or zoom.us/j/81481387583

Dial:
+1 312 626 6799



Sevetri Wilson

CEO/Founder

Solid Ground Innovations, LLC., is a strategic communications and management agency supporting SJB Group LLC and DOTD by providing technical assistance and training through its DBE Supportive Services.



Kenyatta Sparks

Program Assistant

SJB DBE Supportive
Services - Region A

This event is hosted by the SJB Group, LLC and SGI, LLC and supported by DOTD.



Gov. Edwards Announces Louisiana's Roadmap to Resilience Will Start Phase 2 on Friday, June 5

On June 1, 2020, Gov. John Bel Edwards announced that following continued improvement in Louisiana's COVID-19 outlook and a significant increase in testing capacity and contact tracing, Louisiana is ready to move to Phase 2 of the White House's reopening strategy on June 5.

Gov. Edwards will sign the official order for Phase 2 of a Resilient Louisiana by Thursday evening, with guidance being issued to individual industries and businesses via the [OpenSafely.la.gov](https://www.opensafely.la.gov) website throughout the week. In Phase 2, churches, places of worship and many more businesses will be able to operate at 50 percent capacity with social distancing, masks for public-facing employees and increased sanitation. In addition, the state strongly recommends that businesses consider offering temperature checks before a person can enter and posting the symptoms of COVID-19 outside with a request that symptomatic individuals not enter.

The Governor was advised by public health experts that Louisiana has seen decreasing reports of COVID-like illness, decreasing new case counts especially as a percentage of tests administered, and decreasing hospitalizations in almost every area of the state. A few areas of concern still exist, but through contact tracing and frequent testing, the state is able to quickly track increases and work to prevent large outbreaks.

Click [here](#) to view the data from the Office of Public Health used to make the re-opening decision.

Phase 2 in Louisiana will last at least 21 days. Because more businesses will be open to more patrons and because the CDC has clarified that the illness is most likely to spread through the air and not on surfaces, the order will strongly encourage individuals to wear masks whenever they are in public and will recommend that people who enter businesses that are not taking proper precautions consider the risk to their health and their family in doing so.

Please click on the link for more details: [Louisiana's Roadmap to Resilience -Phase 2](#)





Louisiana AGC has partnered with ATSSA to provide Traffic Control Training in Louisiana. The courses are compliant with Louisiana DOTD regulations and provide individuals with Traffic Control Technician (TCT), Traffic Control Supervisor (TCS) and Traffic Control Supervisor Refresher certificates upon successful completion.

Our upcoming schedule is as follows:

June 30 - July 2 - Monroe: Home Builders Association of Northeast Louisiana

August 4 - 6 - Baton Rouge: AGC Headquarters

September 22 - 24 - New Orleans Regional Transportation Management Center

October 27 - 29 - Alexandria - Location TBD

December 1 - 3 - Baton Rouge: AGC Headquarters

For each of the above mentioned classes the TCT Course is held on Day 1. The TCS Course is held days 2 & 3. Please be reminded that the Traffic Control Technician course is a pre-requisite to sit through the Traffic Control Supervisor course.

For information on attending a TCS Refresher Course please contact **Michael Demouy**. Per DOTD regulations individuals must complete this TCS Refresher Course every 4 years to keep their TCS Certificate valid.



Visit our website at <https://www.louisianadbe.com/>

Or visit our social media platforms [@SJBDBELouisiana](#)



Events & Workshops

For the full list of events/workshops please visit:
LSBDC Events & Workshops



DOTD Letting of 7/8/2020

For more information on lettings or to download
construction documents, visit:
LADOTD Lettings



LA DOTD DBE Program Contact Information



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FREE

SJB Group, LLC is now providing free specialized training to DBEs in Region A. For more information, please call DBE Support Services at 225-769-3400. You may call and schedule a one-on-one training session, join us at our weekly breakfast social, attend one of our training webinars or email us for any assistance you may need.