

**WTBA – CE Conference – January 2022**

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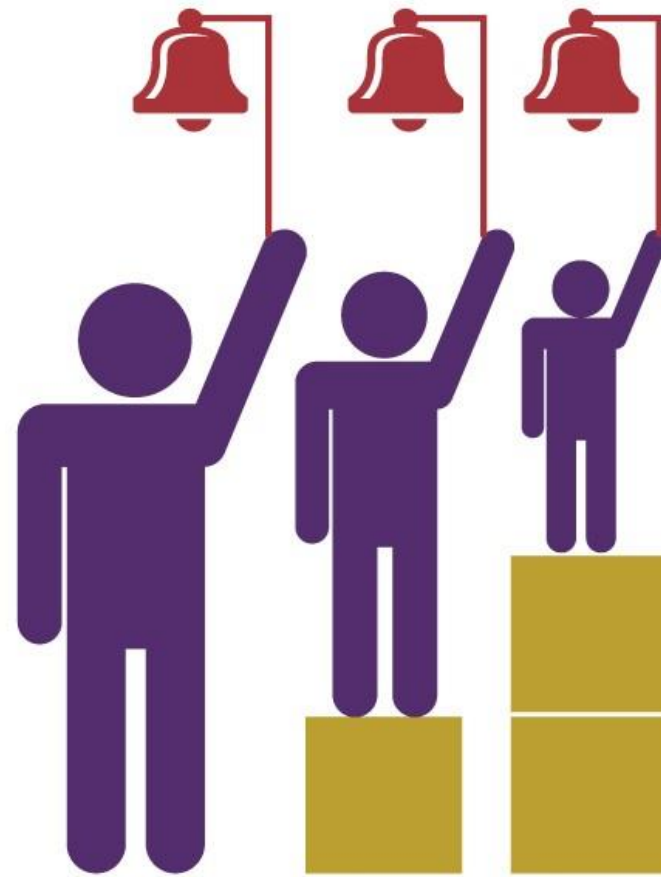
# Disadvantaged Enterprise Program (DBE) Why???

- It's the law
  - 49 CFR Part 26 + supporting statutes
- Industry benefits
  - More qualified small businesses to participate
- The State benefits
  - We are all safer driving on roads that are well-maintained
  - More dollars in our local communities



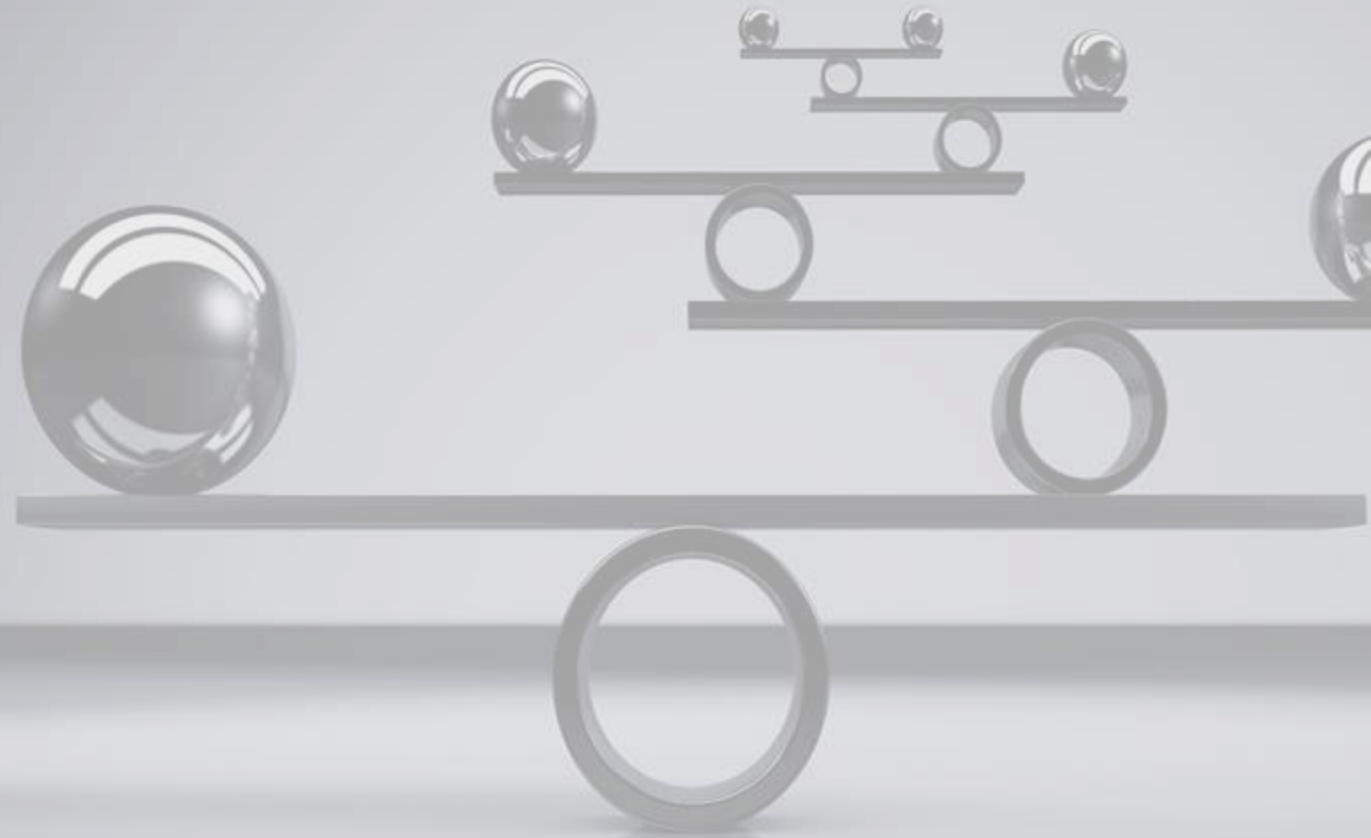


**EQUALITY**






**EQUITY**

- Equity in the DBE Program means leveling the playing field by:
  - Engaging DBEs in the bid letting process
  - Providing **fair and continuous** opportunities for DBEs to compete for federally funded transportation contracts
- Equity in the DBE Program means everyone has a chance to contribute and benefit



# DBE Program Insights – FFY 2021 Commitments

- \$132,152,955 total commitments to DBEs – 14.57% of federal funds
  -  \$42 million from FFY 2020
- Commitment break out-
  - Minority Men and Women - \$52,063,843
  - Non-Minority Men and Women - \$89,189,984
- Compared to FFY 2020
  - Asian Pacific and Hispanic Americans 
  - Subcontinent Asian Americans 
  - Non-minority, Black, Native Americans remained steady
  - \$20 million + commitments after contract execution!

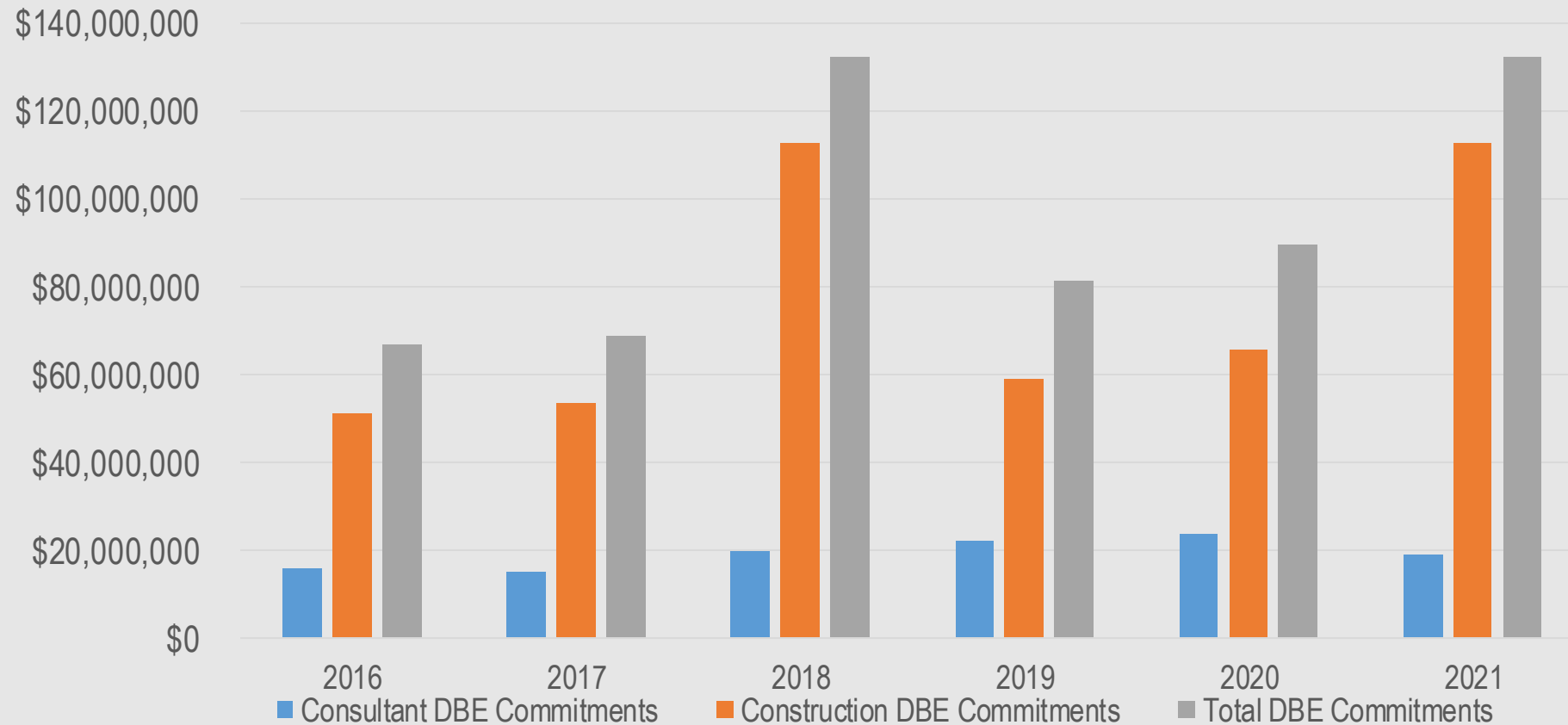


# DBE Program Insights – FFY 2021 - Payments

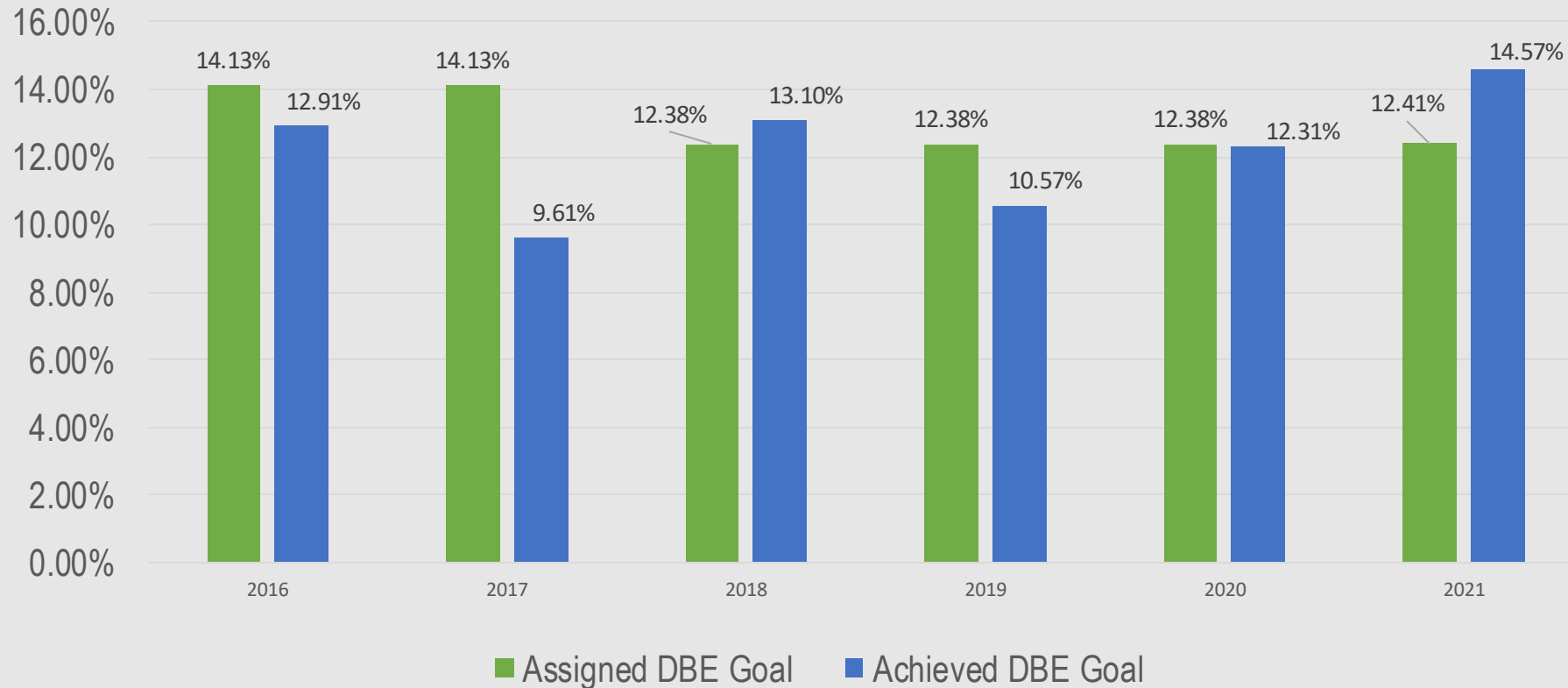
- Payments to DBEs – Ongoing projects
  - FFY 2020
    - \$90.9 million
    - 128 DBE firms paid
  - FFY 2021
    - \$96.3 million
    - 190 DBE firms paid
- Payments to DBEs – Closed projects FFY 2020 & FFY 2021
  - \$100 million + paid in contracts closed annually



# DBE Commitments FFY 2016 - 2021

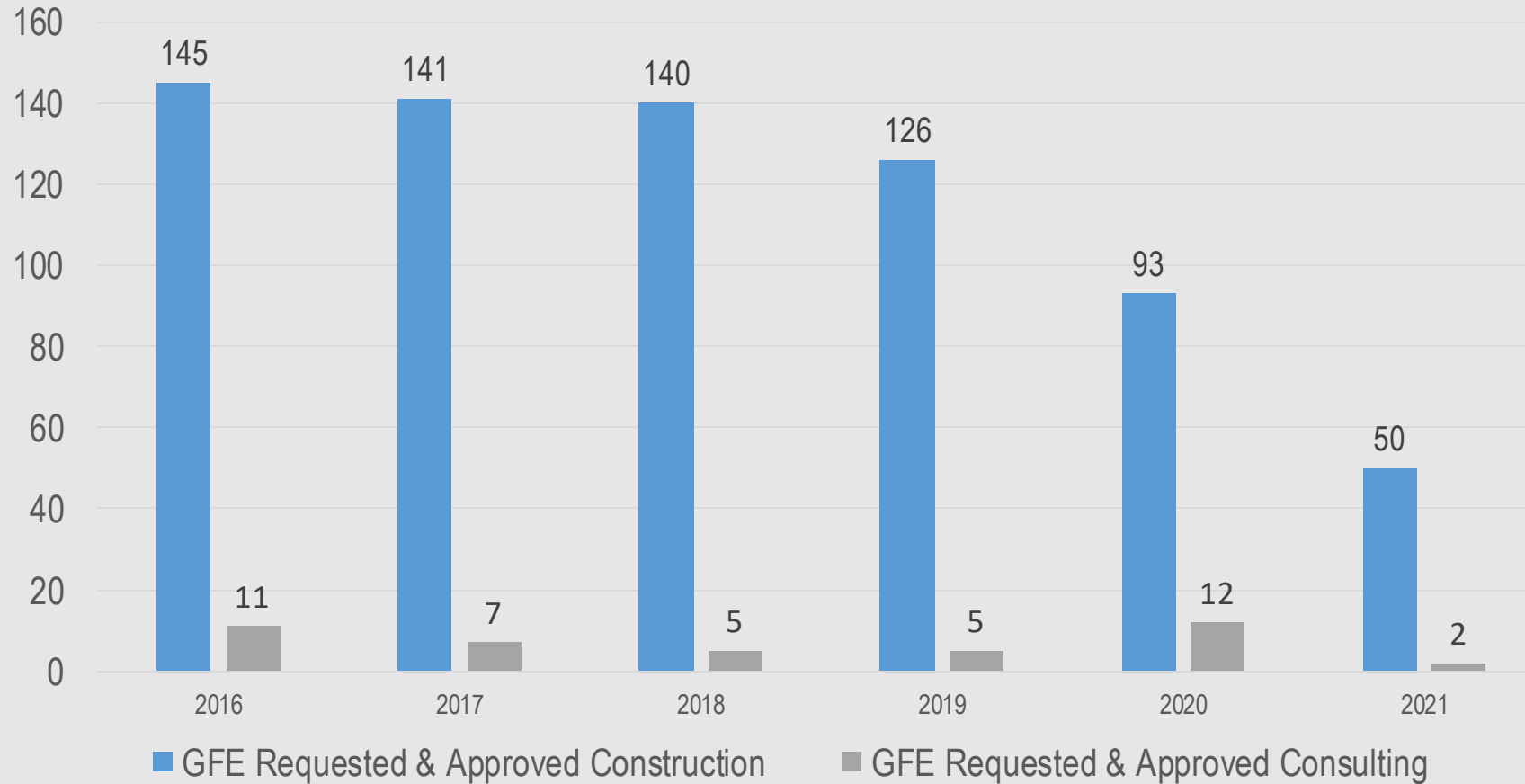


# DBE Overall Goal Achievement FFY 2016 - 2021





# GFE Requests FFY 2016 - 2021



# Strategies for Increasing DBE Participation

- Outreach to DBE firms
  - Phone calls to all DBEs with highway work types
    - Are they interested in WisDOT work?
    - Successes working with WisDOT?
    - Barriers to working with WisDOT?
- Increased Support to DBE firms
  - Coaching
  - Mobilization Loan
  - Website updates with additional tools and resources
- Expansion and Recruitment
  - Identify areas for expansion for existing firms
  - Recruit new firms – focus on Northern Regions



# Strategies for Increasing DBE Participation

- DBE Program Study – UWM – January 2022 – The 18-month study will focus on:
  - Identifying specific barriers Wisconsin DBEs face and methods to remove the barriers
  - Promoting the use of DBEs in WisDOT contracting
  - Recommending methods to develop successful DBE firms
  - Identifying flexibility and opportunities for DBEs
  - Examining the award process and promoting transparency
  - Surveying State DOTs to identify best practices to apply at WisDOT



# Strategies for Diversifying Consultant Contracts

- Consultant Contracts – pilot with SE Region
  - Small Purchase Contracts – optimize small business participation
  - Create smaller packages for select design projects
  - Diverse participants on WisDOT selection panels
  - Recommend region select one new firm to work with each solicitation
  - Apply what we learned from this pilot to other regions



# What can you do?

- Keep attending information sessions and conferences
- Provide input
- Visit DBE website frequently – [www.wisconsindot.gov/dbecontracting](http://www.wisconsindot.gov/dbecontracting)
- Participate in the Mentor-Protégé program
- Primes talk to DBEs – DBEs talk to Primes
- Spread the word about the DBE program
- Let us know how we can improve



# General Program Updates

- Neutral Participation Tracking- Trucking
- Offsite Hauling – CUF monitoring
- Commodity & Bulk Supply Purchases



# Bid Letting Update

- Beginning with the February letting, the following procedures will be in effect:
  - All bidders submit DBE Commitment with bid Tuesday – pdf or BidX entry (no change)
  - Attachments A OR quotes from all DBEs included in the Commitment submitted with bid (no change)  
**OR**
  - **NEW** - Within one-hour following bid submittal by all bidders via eSubmit on Tuesday
  - Assigned DBE goal was not met- submit GFE documentation by 11:00:00 Wednesday (no change) via eSubmit – make sure to get registered for eSubmit
  - Attachments A not submitted Tuesday – submit by 11:00:00 Wednesday (no change) via eSubmit
  - **NEW** - The DBE Office will no longer reach out to contractors during the letting to inform you of remaining documents to submit. Make sure you are clear on DBE documentation requirements.



March 3 and 4, 2022

ANNUAL **DBE WORKSHOP & Networking Summit** 2022

THE INGLESIDE HOTEL, PEWAUKEE, WI  
<https://www.accelevents.com/e/widbesummit>

Full Conference - \$125

Early Bird - \$99 (Ends 1/31/22)

Virtual Workshops only - \$45 (March 3)

# BUILD BACK STRONG

## DAY 1 VIRTUAL SESSIONS

- Accessing Business Loans and Credit
- Autonomous Vehicles: Roadway Design Considerations, E-vehicles, Charging lanes
- Basic Plan Reading
- Business Capacity Building Technical Assistance
- Design Build: Alternative Contracting Method
- Ethics & Professional Practice
- Labor Challenges & Solutions
- Navigating DOT Highway Construction (HCCI) website
- Post Contract Award
- WisDOT Good Faith Effort Process

## DAY 2 NETWORKING SESSIONS

- Innovation and Technology Breakfast
- Networking Sessions
- Awards Luncheon
- Opportunity Panel Presentations

### INDUSTRY PARTNERS



### COMMUNITY PARTNERS



WRTP | BIG STEP





# Resources

- Contracting with DBEs
  - <https://wisconsindot.gov/dbecontracting>
- Interactive DBE Directory Map
  - <https://wisdot.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=c7bfb3407c7d4e9dadbf0ccdf1d1cce4>



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