



Modernization Project's SBE Program

Wins MAASTO Award



On August 29, the Mid-American Association of State Transportation Officials (MAASTO) announced the I-94 Modernization Project's Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Program the winner for the award in "Quality of Life/Community Development" category. The presentation was made at MAASTO Annual Meeting held in Traverse City, Michigan.

The I-94 Advanced Bridges SBE Program was created to allow small businesses the

opportunity to gain valuable MDOT prequalification experience under the guidance from established design firms. This collaboration promotes business growth by allowing small businesses to showcase their technical capabilities, gain real contract experience, and leveraging this experience to meet prequalification standards for future MDOT design and construction contracts.

The initial SBE program focused on eight small engineering consulting design firms in Metro Detroit to work together on the I-94 Modernization Advanced Bridges. Working together in the project office environment, these eight firms received hands on training over a 12-month design schedule in an effort to increase the number of prequalified firms by improving their technical experience and enhance their business acumen.

The program allowed SBE firms to focus on areas of final design including maintaining traffic plans, traffic signal and municipal utility design, street and freeway lighting, geotechnical, signing and pavement markings.

Congratulations to the I-94 Modernization Team for making a difference in our community!