

2023 AK DBE Conference "Becoming a DBE Prime" (March 3 @10:15 a.m.)

Presented by:

Amie Sommer, Tutka, LLC

Shawn Trasky, Crouse Environmental Compliance

### Becoming a DBE Prime

### From This...



SDC Haz-Waste Cleanup, 2003



### To This!



Anchor River Bridge Replacement Project, 2021-2022

### Be a Responsive Bidder

Have your annual Bidders Registration form filed with DOT (Form 25D-6).

Letting ID: CDRER01026 Letting Date & Time: 10/19/2022 2:00 PM STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

#### **Bid Schedule - Advertisement**

Section 1 - Basic Bid

| Prop<br>Line# | Item Number   | Item Description                | Quantity     | Unit           | Unit Bid Price | Amount Bid  |
|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| 10            | 640.0001.0000 | Mobilization and Demobilization | All Required | Lump Sum       | Lump Sum       |             |
| 20            | 643.0002.0000 | Traffic Maintenance             | All Required | Lump Sum       | Lump Sum       | 5           |
| 30            | 643.0023.0000 | Traffic Price Adjustment        | All Required | Contingent Sum | Contingent Sum | \$0.00      |
| 40            | 643.0025.0000 | Traffic Control                 | All Required | Contingent Sum | Contingent Sum | \$50,000.00 |
| 50            | 643.0032.0000 | Flagging                        | All Required | Contingent Sum | Contingent Sum | \$25,000.00 |
| 60            | 699.2001.0000 | Overcrossing Girder Replacement | All Required | Lump Sum       | Lump Sum       |             |

Send out bids to the listed primes prior to bid due (usually same day to avoid bid-shopping). Don't wait for them to ask you. Have your DOT Cert number on the top of the quote and include that you are a DBE/WBE and in what work categories.

Read the solicitations thoroughly to know what the DBE/WBE goals are and what services your firm can provide. Avoid "pass-throughs" and only bid/accept jobs that your firm will be performing a substantial amount of the work.

Submit your bids according to the appropriate bid schedule by the Prime's bid items- so the prime doesn't have to ask for clarification or bids. List any and all terms, exceptions, exclusions, inclusions, special payment terms, etc. on your bid.

Follow-up with the "Apparent Low Bidder." Find out why they DID or DID NOT use your number. Request copies of their DBE GFE forms from the CO.

Total Bid:

Proposal ID: CDRER01026

### Build your corporate team.

Bonding Agent (your jobs are only as big as your bonding capacity). How to increase your bonding?

Banker- How will you finance your jobs? How will you manage cash-flow? Capital purchases.

Insurance Agent- What insurance do you need? Did you include any special project specific requirements (AKRR jobs). How to minimize exposure and risk?

Internal Resources (labor, equipment, administrative help, bookkeeping).

## Start small, gradually get bigger and better!



### I'm the "Prime" now what?

Solicit sub-bids prior to bid day. Don't expect to just receive them on bid day.

Good Faith Efforts and how to comply.

Bid smaller projects as a prime, then build over time based on resources, capacity and capabilities.

Perform well (even if you are losing money).

It's 100% all on you! Are you ready?

### How can the DBE Program help you?

The primary remedial goal and objective of the DBE program is to level the playing field by providing small businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals a fair opportunity to compete for federally funded transportation contracts.



# How the DBE program has helped us.

We are busy performing our jobs/work and often don't have extra resources to handle all the red tape.

- Annual renewals
- Submitting reimbursements

DBE Reimbursements DBE Bidder Preference (build prime-sub relationships)

Non/Late Payment Enforcement & Assistance

### Networking Opportunities