



2023 Fall Small Business Symposium

SYMPOSIUM INFORMATION

Held at the Comfort Inn & Suites: 2424 S. Mission St., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

You can contact the hotel at 989-772-4000 and mention the **MDOT DBE Symposium** to receive the special room rate of \$85.00 per night, or simply click on the following link to make your reservation:

<https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/KE24V6>

The deadline to reserve your hotel room at the special rate is **Sunday, October 1st, 2023.**

Please click on the following link to register for the conference:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-fall-small-business-symposium-tickets-714703145347>

****There is no fee to register for this conference****

Accommodations can be made of persons with disabilities and limited English-speaking ability. Large print materials, auxiliary aids or the services of interpreters, signers, or readers are available upon request. Please call 517-241-7462 to request at least seven days before the symposium.

If you have any questions, please call the Office of Business Development (OBD) at 517-335-1713.

Sunday, October 15, 2023

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Early Bird Registration
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	DBE Small Business Networking Dinner

Monday, October 16, 2023

8:00 a.m.	Registration Opens
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.	Welcome & OBD Update
9:20 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.	MDOT Update
9:40 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	FHWA Update: PaHoua Schroeder, Civil Rights Specialist, Michigan Division
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	OJT Summit: For On-the-Job Trainees Only

<p>Concurrent Workshops</p> <p>10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p>OBD Update Session: Come and learn about all of the innovative new ways in which MDOT is supporting DBE and Small businesses. Topics will include: MDOT DBE trucking updates, updates to the Good Faith Efforts (GFE) process, the new Office of Business Development DBE Portal, and updates on the Small Business Mentor Protégé Program for consultants.</p>
	<p>Construction Field Services Update – Chris Roe, Bryan Kay, and Stuart Laakso: This session will provide information and updates regarding MDOT’s new OneSpan Digital Signature Process, ProjectWise, Prevailing Wage, Prompt Payment, Subcontract Compliance, and the LCP Tracker process.</p>
	<p>MDOT Project Estimating 101 - John Otto, LS Engineering, Inc.: This session will provide an overview of practices, procedures, and strategies for successfully quoting MDOT projects.</p>
	<p>Marketing and Networking in Transportation: This session will cover basics of networking including tools to identify locations to meet people to help your firm; social media, website development, recruiting options, and some tips to get noticed in the transportation industry.</p>
<p>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Lunch</p> <p>Keynote Address: <i>To Be Announced</i></p>
<p>1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.</p>	<p>Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) and MDOT Prequalification: Learn about the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program, and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Prequalification program. Topics include; what are these certifications used for, what the qualifications for receiving them are, what firms will need to do to maintain their certifications, and how to apply for them.</p>
	<p>DBE Stakeholder Meeting: Please join us for our semi-annual DBE Program Stakeholder meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to engage in discussion and develop actionable recommendations as we focus on the current and future state of the Michigan DBE program. This meeting is by invitation only.</p>
	<p>Opportunities Session: To share information on how to access resources for contractors doing business with MDOT/APEX Accelerators/SBA & DTMB.</p>
	<p>Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association (MITA) Session – Real Talk with the Primes: Come, listen, and learn about MITA. Hear real talk from prime contractor members on how they engage and solicit Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) firms subcontracting opportunities on MDOT projects. Presented by: Rachelle Vandeventer, MITA.</p>
<p>3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Networking Fair: Take some time to connect with contractors, associations, MDOT staff, presenters, and conference attendees that you have missed throughout the event.</p>