



MAKING CONNECTIONS

TEAM PLANS MEETINGS WITH DBES, CONTRACTORS

The Mississippi River Bridge team is planning to offer Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) an opportunity to network with possible primary contractors for the bridge during two networking forums in early August.

These meetings will give Illinois and Missouri DBEs the chance to talk one-on-one with various contractors and explain their unique capabilities, said Greg Horn, P.E., Mississippi River Bridge project director.

These meetings will be similar to one hosted by the Southern Illinois Builder's Association (SIBA), which hosted its fifth Celebrate Diversity Reception in Collinsville, Ill on June 8. This reception was "reinstated prior to the start of the new Mississippi River Bridge Project in an effort to reacquaint the region's DBE firms with prime contractors and Illinois

NETWORKING FORUMS

August 5, 2009
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Friends: A Meeting Place
716 N Compton Ave
St Louis, MO

August 6, 2009
9 a.m. to noon
Casino Queen
200 S. Front Street
East St. Louis, Ill



Illinois State Senator James F. Clayborne Jr. speaks at a diversity program hosted by the Southern Illinois Builder's Association.

Department of Transportation (IDOT) officials," said Tim Garvey of SIBA. Featured speakers included Illinois State Senator James F. Clayborne, Jr., State Representative Tom Holbrook, and IDOT Secretary Gary Hannig.

"I appreciate the importance of construction industry marketing and this was a great opportunity," said Victor Wicks of Wicks Construction Services in Illinois. Wicks said SIBA's Mixer "emphasized minority contractor diversity as a priority for the New Mississippi River Bridge Project by Federal Highway, IDOT, the Missouri Department of Transportation and the commitment of prime contractors to diversity."

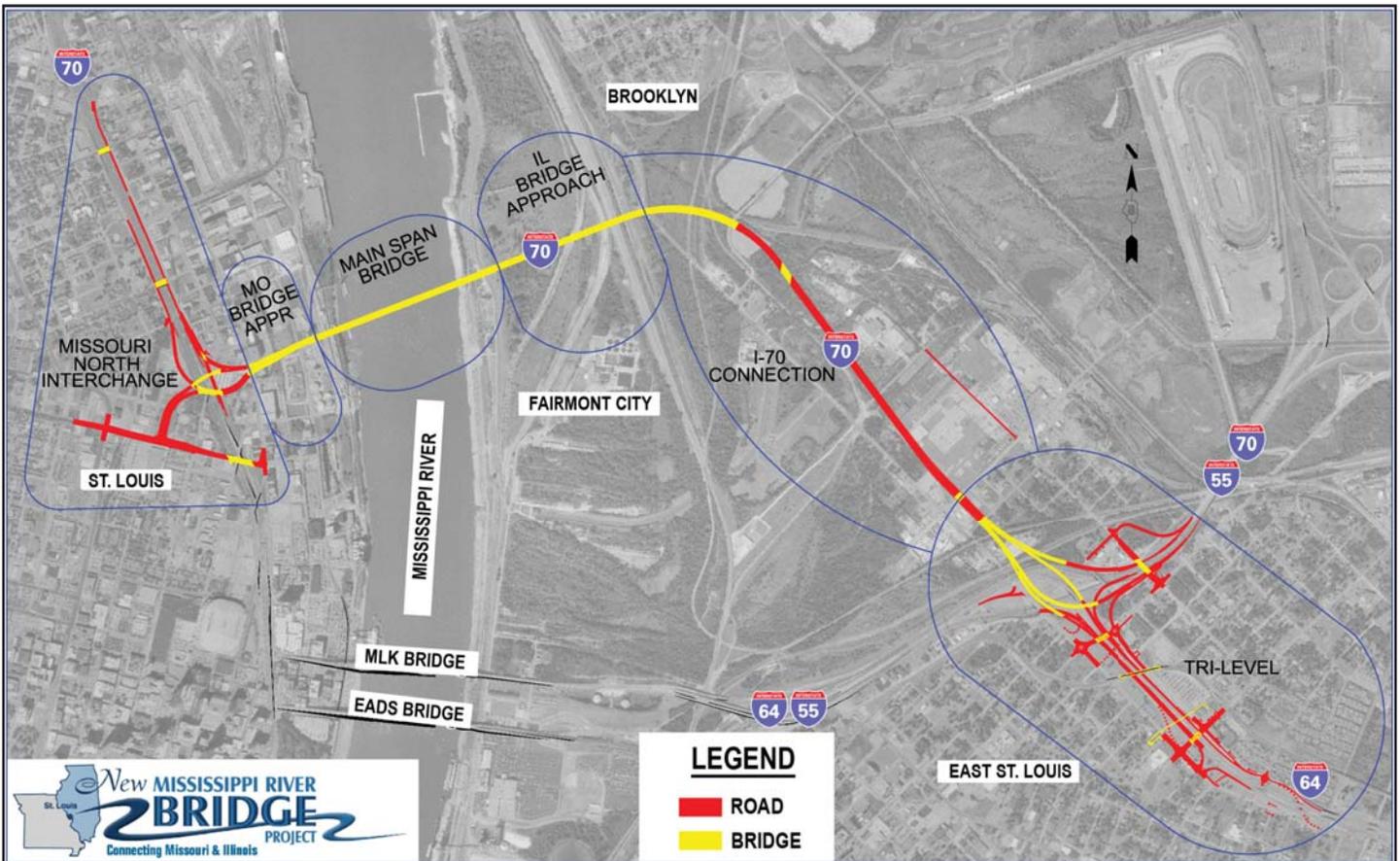
WHAT'S NEW ON THE WEB

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PROJECT UPDATES

MISSOURI NORTH INTERCHANGE

Engineers have completed right of way plans for the Missouri North I-70 interchange based on discussions with St. Louis City engineers on methods to improve access to downtown (see page 5 for more details). These plans will be used to determine, appraise, and purchase the properties required to construct the new I-70 Missouri Interchange.

Engineers have worked on a municipal agreement with the city for the interchange. They are also reviewing safety, lighting and drainage plans.

Engineers are also finishing up geological studies in preparation to design retaining walls and the structures needed to support lights, traffic cameras and signs.

BRIDGE, MISSOURI AND ILLINOIS APPROACHES

The Mississippi River Bridge engineers are wrapping up final design work for the cable-stayed main span and approaches. Right now, they are double-checking plans.

Additionally, the team has been working through the land acquisition process for the properties required to complete the river bridge and its approaches. This

process is moving along as expected and should be complete by the time the MRB team breaks ground on the project in early 2010.

Engineers are approximating the quantities of material required to construct the bridge and approaches.

In September, the contract for the cable-stayed main bridge will be advertised out for bids.

I-70 CONNECTION AND TRI-LEVEL INTERCHANGE

This summer IDOT will be letting two demolition and clearing contracts of \$2 million and \$500,000 respectively. This will be the clearing of the Interstate 70 connector corridor and will serve as a good opportunity for DBE certified contractors. DBE participation goals have been set at 22 percent and 10 percent respectively. Items of work for which there is a potential for DBE involvement for these projects and others may be found on the MRB web site at <http://www.newriverbridge.org/documents/IllinoisXdiagram6-17-09.pdf>.

Engineers are continuing to prepare plans for the pedestrian bridge over I-64, the Exchange Avenue Bridge, the roundabout at 18th street and the Baugh Avenue and Exchange Avenue extension for lettings this fall and winter.

PIECES OF THE PAST

ARCHAEOLOGISTS UNCOVER NEW CLUES TO ANCIENT CULTURE



Maggie Rallo measures the depth of an artifact during the archeological investigation along the I-70 connection. These artifacts were from the Mississippian culture, who lived along the Mississippi from 1000-1300 AD.



Rich Dauer and Julie Bukowski note artifact locations on a large map.



Holly Mitchell and Steve Boles uncover the burnt frame of a house. One of the archeologist's main objectives is to gather information on life in the Mississippian culture. They do this by examining each object's location.



Victoria Rohe and Mat Terry investigate one of the sites. The Illinois Transportation Archeological Research Program employs about 60 field archeologists for the I-70 connection.

NEWS BRIEFS

MHTC AWARDS REBUILD CONTRACT FOR ST. LOUIS, MADISON BRIDGES

The Missouri Highway and Transportation Commission awarded a contract to rebuild two bridges along the I-70 corridor during their monthly meeting June 3, 2009. These projects will impact traffic through the early portion of the construction of the river bridge.

The contract to remove and replace the Madison Street and St. Louis Avenue bridges over Interstate 70 in downtown St. Louis was awarded to Fred Weber, Inc., for \$4.44 million. This project will start after Interstate 64 reopens between Kingshighway and Interstate 170.

RIVER BRIDGE TEAM OFFERS FINAL PRE-QUALIFICATION OPPORTUNITY

The Mississippi River Bridge team will offer a final opportunity for capable construction teams to pre-qualify to bid on the cable-stayed portion of the Mississippi River Bridge project in August 2009. Those interested teams will be evaluated on their expertise and experience in constructing a major river bridge, the company's available bonding capacity and backlog, and their diversity experience and plans.

Contractor teams currently prequalified to bid on the bridge are: Kiewit Western Co., American Bridge Co., a joint venture between Walsh Construction and PCL, and a joint venture between Massman Construction Co., Traylor Brothers and Alberici Enterprises.

COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE SELECTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

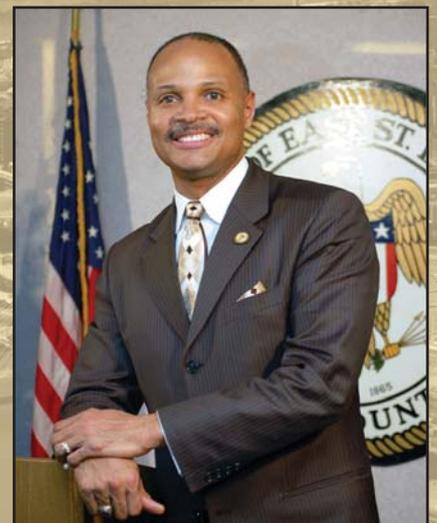
The Mississippi River Bridge Community Roundtable, which reviews and addresses workforce and Disadvantage Business Enterprise issues, selected 15 people as members of their advisory committee. The advisory committee will meet regularly through the duration of the project. Advisory committee members are:

- Yusuf Haqq, African American Business Contractors Association, (Chairperson)
- Teresa Willis, Missouri Women in Trades, (Co-Chairperson)
- Pat Clark, Metro East Black Contractors Organization/ CEO Clark Trucking
- Yaphett El-Amin, Missouri/Kansas Construction Contractors Assistance Center
- John Gaal, EdD, Carpenters District Council-St. Louis
- Tim Garvey, Southern Illinois Business Association
- Diana Hanks, Millstone Bangert, Inc.
- Vivian Martain, Construction Prep Center -St. Louis
- Dr. William Mason, Sr., Metro East Black Contractors Organization/ CEO Mason Landscaping
- Rev. Ken McCoy, MOSES
- Tom Nellums, United Truckers Association/CEO Tee & E Trucking
- Rev. Tommie Pierson, Metropolitan Congregations United/Pastor of Greater St. Mark's Church
- Kevin Potter, COMTO St. Louis Chapter President/CEO NewPOT Solutions
- Julia Tibbs, Pride Operation Excel (Pride Pre-apprentice Training Program)
- Len Toenjes, AGC of St. Louis-Associated General Contractors Association of St. Louis

WORD ON THE STREET - WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT THE MRB

“I’m very excited about the new Mississippi River Bridge project. I think the commute from Illinois to Missouri or from East St. Louis to St. Louis, and vice versa, will be a lot easier for hundreds of people who conduct business between the two locations. Whether that commute is for a job, shopping, leisure, etc., it’s going to be a great addition in the area of transportation. It will also put less stress on the other roads and bridges already used to get to Missouri and Illinois.”

**Mayor Alvin Parks
City of East St. Louis**



RIVER BRIDGE TEAM WORKS WITH CITY

COOPERATION IMPROVES SAFETY, UPGRADES ACCESS TO DOWNTOWN

Drivers exiting the New Mississippi River Bridge into St. Louis City will have better access into the city due to extensive cooperation between the city and the Mississippi River Bridge design team.

The original plan for the Missouri I-70 interchange with the city had traffic from the river bridge connecting into Cass Avenue midway between 10th Street and 11th Street. This would create a T-

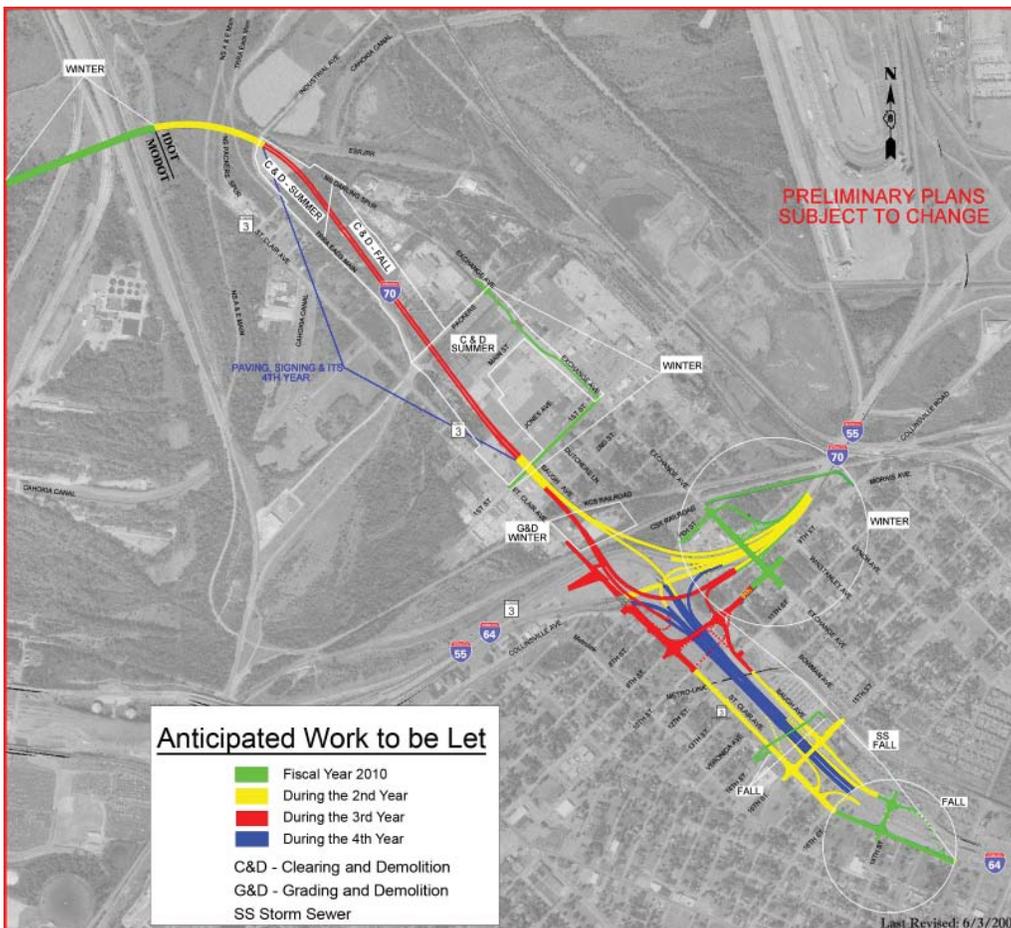
intersection with Cass. That would mean all traffic would have to turn onto Cass Avenue before heading into downtown from the bridge.

The city is currently working on a \$35 million project to improve Tucker Avenue. To help tie that program into the Mississippi River Bridge, the Missouri Highway and Transportation Commission allocated \$17 million in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to construct

improvements between Tucker Avenue and the exit from the Mississippi River Bridge into downtown.

This required some minor modifications on the Missouri I-70 interchange to further improve traffic flow into that connection, said Jim Middleton, project manager for the new Mississippi River Bridge.

This will have a number of benefits for the city and for the river bridge project, said Middleton. The biggest benefit is that traffic from the bridge will flow more smoothly into downtown.



ILLINOIS SCHEDULE

The Illinois Department of Transportation has created a map of the various work on the I-70 connection and Tri-Level Interchange and has outlined when contractors may expect various portions of the project to go out for bids.

CONTRACTOR FOCUS: ENGINEERING DESIGN SOURCE, INC.

Location: Headquarters in Chesterfield, Mo. with a satellite office in O'Fallon, Ill.

Mission: EDSI, a certified DBE/MBE, provides design and surveying services.

Number of employees: 36, includes nine professional engineers, two environmental scientists and four full survey crews.

Number of employees involved with the MRB project: 19

About working on the bridge: EDSI performed topographic surveys, established right-of-way, provided a base map of existing survey data, provided preliminary and final traffic signal and roadway design services, located and inventoried 600 guide and route signs along the interstate and developed conceptual signing plans. "We're very fortunate to have an extensive role in both the survey and design of the

FIND MORE INFORMATION ON THE BRIDGE AT WWW.NEWRIVERBRIDGE.ORG



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Jeff Geisen, left, and Jeff Hull of Engineering Design Source, Inc. stake borings for the Mississippi River Bridge foundation piers, while on a barge in the Mississippi River.

MRB project," EDSI principal George John stated. "As a DBE/MBE firm, working as a sub-consultant to companies like CH2MHill, CTE/AECOM, CMT and HNTB has given us a wonderful opportunity to build strong partnerships to tackle such a large project. The experience working on the New Mississippi River Bridge has been extremely valuable, and we look forward to developing our experience with similar MoDOT and IDOT projects."

