



CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICE

Bill Grunloh, Department of Transportation - Highway Construction

October 4, 2021

Ms. Janel L. Forde, Director
Department of Central Management Services
401 South Spring Street – Room 715 Stratton Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Re: Report of Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) and
Veteran Owned Business (VOSB)

Dear Director Forde:

Pursuant to Public Act 97 260 (30 ILCS 500/45 57(b)), the Chief Procurement Officer for the Illinois Department of Transportation (Highway Construction) is providing you with the Fiscal Year 2021 report of Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) and Veteran Owned Small Business (VOSB).

My office continues to work with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA), and the Illinois Department of Central Management Services (CMS) to encourage Illinois veterans who own businesses to become certified in the state's Veterans Business Program (VBP).

Currently there are 224 certified businesses in the VOBP. Out of those certified, only 34 firms are prequalified and certified with IDOT. Those 34 consist of the following: 5 prequalified prime contractors, 8 prequalified consultants and 23 registered subcontractors.

- IDOT prequalified prime contractors - 603 (5 certified in the VBP)
- IDOT registered subcontractors - 1339 (23 certified in the VBP)
- IDOT prequalified consultants - 320 (8 certified in the VBP)

Per 30 ILCS 500/45-57 (b), the CPO shall report:

1. Total number of veteran small businesses that submitted bids for contracts = IDOT (**Highway Construction**) - **11**
2. Total number of veteran small businesses that entered into contracts = **10 VOB for a total of 45 contracts.**
3. Total contract awarded amount = **\$14,091,443.42**

Please note that these numbers represent only “construction and construction related” contracts and do not include “supplies and services” which are procured through the General Services CPO.

I continue to work with IDOT executive staff to discuss recommendations on the VBP going forward. IDOT executive staff has interacted with the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) regarding the use of the Veterans Business Program on projects that are eligible for federal funding. IDOT has been advised by the USDOT that the use of VOSB goal on federally funded project would be in direct conflict with the federally approved Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program therefore the department is looking at the possibility of implementing VOSB goals on state funded projects. This is something the department continues to work on but remains a work in progress.

My continued recommendation to CMS and IDOT is the importance of vigorous outreach to increase the number of certified firms in the Veterans Business Program so it can become a viable program.

Sincerely,



Bill Grunloh
Chief Procurement Officer

cc: Omer Osman, Secretary
Georgina Syas, Chief of Staff
Pam Simon, Director of Office of Business and Workforce Diversity
Yangsung Kim, Office of Chief Counsel
Margaret van Dijk, Deputy Secretary