

FDOT Newsletter

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Volume 95



SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

- Estimating Training
- Building Capacity
- Mobilization Financing
- Bonding Assistance
- Marketing Plan Development
- Creating a Business Plan
- Website Building
- Plan Reading

U.S. Department of Transportation Announces \$1.25 billion in Direct, Accessible Grants for Local Communities to Improve Roadway Safety
Click on pic for more info



Florida Department of Transportation Honors Crossing Guards on Appreciation Day 2024

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) joins communities across the state to celebrate the selfless service of Florida's school crossing guards, recognizing their crucial role in enhancing community safety and protecting our schoolchildren. In a proclamation signed by Governor Ron DeSantis, February 2, 2024, has been officially designated as Crossing Guard Appreciation Day in Florida, acknowledging the unwavering commitment and efforts of these guardians of safety.

"Florida's school crossing guards are invaluable assets to our communities, ensuring the safety of millions of school-aged children and their families," stated Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Jared W. Perdue, P.E. "Their dedication to safeguarding our children's journeys to and from school is exemplary. On behalf of FDOT, I extend our deepest gratitude to these devoted individuals for their relentless service to the state and local communities."

For the past 15 years, the first Friday of February has provided Floridians with an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the admirable services provided by thousands of school crossing guards throughout the state. In addition to community recognition, FDOT annually highlights their dedication and professionalism through the School Crossing Guard Awards. This year, we are proud to announce the following individuals as the 2023 award recipients who have been chosen for their exceptional service.

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Emphasis on Infrastructure Creates New Opportunities, New Risks for Construction Professionals

With great opportunity for construction projects comes great responsibility for mitigating risk. Here's how to avoid increasing business costs and liabilities.

There is no shortage of opportunities or demand for construction professionals right now. The need for new housing is at an all-time high while established industrial and commercial property owners tackle long overdue upgrades to improve the efficiency and resiliency of current structures. At the same time, significant investments are being made by local and state municipalities and the federal government to improve the nation's aging infrastructure.

All of this has opened the door to plenty of long-term construction projects and a steady stream of work and revenue for contractors. Before jumping into new or more complex projects, construction professionals should ensure they are properly prepared and protected against emerging construction risks that could increase their business costs and liabilities.

EMBRACING INFRASTRUCTURE INNOVATION

The Infrastructure Investment and JOBS Act, which was passed in 2021, allocates more than \$550 billion in federal funding to improve the country's roads and bridges, water infrastructure and overall resilience.

According to official information about the IIA, the funding is being distributed in several ways, including: \$110 billion to rebuild and repair roads and bridges. \$11 billion in transportation safety programs, which includes grant money for communities to replace or rebuild gas pipelines.

\$39 billion to modernize transit, including repairing and upgrading aging transit infrastructure, and expanding transit services to new communities.

\$66 billion to address deferred rail maintenance.

\$7.5 billion to "build out the first-ever national network of EV [electric vehicle] chargers in the United States."

The private sector can capitalize on these infrastructure investments.

About The FDOT

The goal of the DBE Supportive Services Program is to increase the number of DBEs participating on FDOT contracts and facilitate the opportunity for DBEs to obtain contracts. The services are designed to:

- Assist established construction firms to move them from bidding as a subcontractor to bidding as a Prime Contractor to produce sound bids.
- Provide access to training increases DBE expertise in handling of daily business operations.



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