NOT July 2024 Volume 90 WEST VIRGINIA Department of Transportation CEISING Services

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

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



Gov. Justice signs Senate Bill 1002 allocating \$150 million for supplemental highway funding.

Gov. Jim Justice signed **Senate Bill 1002** today giving the West Virginia Division of Highways (WVDOH) \$150 million in supplemental highway funding for paving projects throughout the Mountain State.

Gov. Justice asked the Legislature to approve the extra funding during the first special legislative session in May. The money is in addition to \$190 million received by the WVDOH in federal highway funds.

"Signing this bill is a huge win for our roads, our people, and West Virginia," Gov. Justice said. "With federal funds only stretching so far, this additional \$150 million means our hardworking Division of Highways crew can roll up their sleeves and tackle even more roads. I am beyond proud we got this across the finish, and I thank the West Virginia Legislature for prioritizing our roads. Now, we can keep the momentum going and continue to improve every corner of our state."

The \$150 million supplemental budget appropriation will be used exclusively for paving projects in every district in West Virginia and will greatly increase the ability of the WVDOH to pave the roads West Virginians drive every day.

"Once again, our Governor has led from the front," said Transportation Secretary Jimmy Wriston, P.E. "He has demonstrated time and again that investing in our infrastructure pays dividends for our citizens. By calling the Legislature back for a special session to appropriate surplus funds for highway paving, our great people will continue to reap the rewards of a highway system that serves them well."

ICYMI: Highlights from NIBS' Building Innovation Conference 2024

CE reports from the National Institute of Building Sciences' Building Innovation Conference 2024, where industry experts answered questions on sustainability, diversity and inclusion, technology and more.

The National Institute of Building Sciences' Building Innovation Conference 2024, held in Washington, D.C., from May 22-24, offered attendees insights on incoming shifts within the industry with hard-hitting declarations from experts who broke down what the future of the built environment holds. Chief among the discussion topics were the supply chain, workforce diversification and social equity, and climate adaptation and mitigation.

Here are key takeaways and quotable moments from the opening general session, which presented "A Look Ahead: The Next 50 Years of the Built Environment":

Diversity and inclusion have been hot-button issues for some time, with many advances in the last several years in terms of women's visibility and opportunity for advancement. However, panelists still noted room for improvement regarding how women are perceived within the construction industry.

"Change often happens when something makes you angry." — Mónika Serrano, Resilience Program Manager, Turner Construction; Co-Host, "Adapt: Climate Change and the Built Environment" podcast "The men that I work with are intimidated by me. Why is that a problem in 2024? They don't know how to speak to me, and I'm training men how to have soft skills when interacting with other women. It doesn't really make me angry. It makes me sad, and of course, you get angry because you want to fix it. There are women out there [in the construction industry] who are very knowledgeable. They're bringing a different dynamic." — Christi Powell, Women Business Enterprise Manager, 84 Lumber

The supply chain will continue to be a challenge over the next five decades, both for suppliers themselves and for the contractors who rely on them.

"The capacity to either sink or swim for suppliers lies in their ability to change rapidly. This adoption is also fueled by suppliers prioritizing building a relationship or partnership with customers and having detailed table conversations on how they can fulfill needs." — Amy Marks, Executive Vice President, Global Strategy, Symetri.

About The WVDOT

The goal of the DBE Supportive Services Program is to increase the number of DBEs participating on WVDOT 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.

Click below for more details





CEI DBE Supportive Services (800) 423-7058 www.wvdbesupport.com