



# Your Guide TO DOING BUSINESS WITH



West Virginia  
Department of Transportation

Brought to You Through a  
WVDOT Partnership With  
**CEI** DBE  
Supportive  
Services

Volume 36, January 2020

## WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOL UNDERGOES TRANSFORMATION

LEWISBURG, W.V.—Work has begun on renovating the Greenbrier Episcopal School in Lewisburg. When completed, it will be known as the Greenbrier Community School at Bolling.

The school was originally funded at the end of American Civil War as the Lewisburg Colored Junior High and Graded School. The school for African-American children was renamed Bolling Junior High and Elementary School in 1933, in memory of respected local educator Edward A. Bolling, who taught there for many years. The school was rebuilt following a fire, and the present three-story structure was known as Bolling High School from 1940 until 1963, when the integration of Lewisburg’s schools was declared complete and Bolling was shuttered.

According to an article in the [Register-Herald](#), the project is slated for completion in August 2020. The Mills Group is providing architectural and engineering services for the project. A new roof on the main structure and updated guttering system are currently under construction.

Lewisburg developer Lance Syner said, in a statement, that six classrooms are in that part of the building. The renovation of that section comprises the first phase of what he expects to be a two- or three-phase project.

Syner told local media that the purpose of the project is to create a school and a community center. While this is not an historic preservation project, the board is aiming to preserve major portions of the structure as possible. The school board has contracted with Janice Cooley to safeguard the school’s history, including artifacts. Syner said a main stairwell will become “the history walkway.”

A second story will be added to the Maple Street side of the building where a new main entrance will be located. The entrance was on the Oak Street side, but Syner said, the Maple Street side provides better vehicular parking space allowing parents to safely drop off and pick up their children.

The second phase of the project will include the renovation of the existing gymnasium that will be named in honor of Vernell “Bimbo” Coles, a former NBA player, who lives in Lewisburg. His nonprofit GROW Project sold the Bolling School property to Greenbrier Episcopal in December.

Greenbrier Episcopal/Greenbrier Community School has 45 students as the 2019-20 academic year begins, by Lyner hope that enrollment will increase to between 80 and 100 by spring.

[Click Here to Read More](#) ▶

### 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.



### About The Program

The Construction Estimating Institute (CEI) works with WVDOT as the statewide provider of the federally funded Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Supportive Services Program. We want to increase the number of certified DBEs participating in highway and bridge construction, as well as assist DBEs in growing and eventually becoming self-sufficient. Additionally, CEI provides supportive services by assisting prime contractors and consultants with identifying DBEs for subcontracting opportunities on priority projects.

## PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTING – NOT YOUR TYPICAL BID

If you are a newly minted construction contractor who wants to start bidding on California Public works projects, there are few things you need to know. Depending on whether you are bidding as a prime contractor (GC) or as a sub, there are definite protocols and procedures that come into play.

Getting into the public works arena is a laudable goal for any contractor, but one needs to be properly prepared and have a complete understanding of what will be required on such projects. Today's article will highlight just some of the requirements your firm will encounter.

### Here are some preliminary points of information to be considered:

- You must have the proper contractor's license and be registered with the Division of Industrial Labor (DIR) and pay the registration fee - \$400 (annually). This is an absolute prerequisite before even bidding the job.
- Prevailing wages (i.e. union scale) are required for ALL of your construction trade workforce, period, without exception. This will be documented and recorded by the fact that you

will be required to submit certified payrolls each week to the DIR.

- If you are bidding as a general contractor or the Prime, then you will be required to post Payment & Performance bonds if the contract exceeds \$35,000. Again, no exceptions.
- You must bid per the contract documents (plans & specifications), without qualification or modification, and the bid must be submitted on the Bid Form provided by the awarding authority.
- Progress payments during the life of the project are paid monthly in arrears, and there is no upfront deposit. So for your first progress payment, you will be carrying all costs for at least 45 days assuming the owner pays within two weeks after invoicing.

As you can see, these conditions vary significantly from private commercial work, and are completely different and more stringent than residential construction.

[Click Here to Read More](#) ▶

### Supportive Services Offered:

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



**Within the past 3 months,  
CEI assisted DBEs  
in obtaining  
\$6 MILLION  
IN BONDING!!**

*Contact CEI for Bonding,  
Financing or Insurance needs!*

 (800) 423-7058

 [www.wvdbesupport.com](http://www.wvdbesupport.com)



CEI is an educational organization providing the highest quality construction training in the industry. Over 100,000 owners, estimators, project managers, field supervisors, office support staff, foremen, laborers, and key management personnel have attended courses that are offered nationwide. The courses provide students with construction skills training and the critical information needed to be effective within their companies and organizations.