

# WV DOT Newsletter

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WEST VIRGINIA  
Department of Transportation



## SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

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



## WVDOH Accepts Bids for Three Bridge Replacement Projects

Projects to replace three bridges are among 25 projects included in a bid letting held by the West Virginia Division of Highways (WVDOH) on Tuesday, Oct. 17, 2022.

The WVDOH is reviewing the bids and hopes to award the contracts for these projects soon.

Replacement of the Coalwood Bridge in McDowell County will be paid for with funding from Gov. Jim Justice's \$2.8 billion Roads to Prosperity program.

"The Governor's Roads to Prosperity program has allowed us the adequate funding to address the replacement of these bridges in addition to many similar deficient bridges throughout our state much earlier than originally planned under our prior funding levels, which were significantly limited," said WVDOH State Bridge Engineer Tracy Brown, P.E. When Gov. Justice created Roads to Prosperity in 2017, the program specifically set aside funding to address not only major bridge projects like the renovation or rebuilding of 26 sets of bridges on Interstate 70 around Wheeling, but also dozens of smaller bridges around the state which might otherwise have waited years for replacement.

The Coalwood Bridge is only about 25 feet long, but carries about 1,500 vehicles a day on WV 16 across Perry Camp Branch. The bridge is an important span for the coal industry. Closing the bridge would create a 34-mile detour for drivers. The WVDOH also accepted bids to replace the Caney Branch Bridge in Mingo County. The bridge currently carries a three-ton weight restriction, and would leave local residents stranded if not replaced.

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## ABC: Enhancing Inclusion Creates Needed Change in the Construction Industry

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) today announced its strong support of the second annual Construction Inclusion Week, which kicks off today, and the need to champion and foster inclusion, diversity and equity throughout the construction industry. Created by ABC members, Construction Inclusion Week harnesses the collective power of the construction industry to build awareness regarding the need to improve inclusion, diversity and equity in the industry.

"Building inclusive, diverse and equitable workplaces ensures job creators in the construction community offer a robust employee value proposition that is attractive to top talent from all communities," said ABC Director of Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Tia Perry. "Recruiting and retaining the best workers in the marketplace will foster more creativity, win more work and deliver the greatest value to the construction user. ABC is proud to be an integral part of this important week."

"Associated Builders and Contractors of New Jersey is proud to support Construction Inclusion Week and a more inclusive construction industry," said Samantha DeAlmeida, president of ABC of New Jersey. "We've recently partnered with the African American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey to bring our Apprenticeship Education & Training Fund, a U.S. Department of Labor-approved apprenticeship program, to underserved and low-income areas throughout New Jersey, where this type of upskilling program has not existed. By providing inclusive and equitable opportunities for well-paying jobs in these communities, our apprenticeship program helps achieve workforce equity while disrupting generational poverty."

"One of the most important opportunities in front of us is ensuring that authentic and personal conversations happen in the field," said Carolyn Ellison, managing director of community affairs at Clark Construction Group LLC and a member of ABC's National Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Committee. "I'm proud that Clark Construction has placed increased focus on fostering engagement and personal connections with our craft workforce—both during CIW and beyond."

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## 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.



**CEI DBE Supportive Services**  
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