



Your Guide TO DOING BUSINESS WITH



West Virginia
Department of Transportation



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WEST VIRGINIA CAPITOL DOME REPAIRS NEARING COMPLETION

By late spring 2021, work should be finished on a \$15 million project to repair the water-damaged West Virginia Capitol dome and install a new drainage system to mitigate future leaks, among other structural repairs.

Hidden under scaffolding and wrapped in plastic for the past year and a half, the iconic 292-foot-tall dome slowly will return to public view over the next few weeks, Gov. Jim Justice said.

“It’s truly exciting that we’ll see our beautiful Capitol dome highlighting the Charleston skyline once again,” the governor said in a statement.

The project’s completion will mark the end of a five-year saga that began in spring 2016, when General Services Division workers noticed peeling paint on an interior dome panel. The damage quickly spread to the entire panel.

Suspecting a water leak, scaffolding was erected to allow access to the interior dome. The state retained a consulting engineering firm to pinpoint the source of damage.

That report confirmed the worst fears — that a failure of the exterior dome drainage system was allowing rainwater to pour into the internal dome.

“The volume of water entering the building at this location is ... leading to significant damage in the interior plaster at the Colonnade level,” the report state, “but is also splashing onto the plaster of the inner dome itself, which could lead to more interior damage to the

inner dome plaster over time.” While General Services Director Greg Melton said he suspected a section of drainage pipe had been destroyed during an ice storm in late 2015, the report also found design and construction flaws uncovered shortly before the Capitol’s 1932 dedication.

In correspondence with architect Cass Gilbert and then-Gov. William Conley, Capitol Building Commission representative Bonner Hill raised concern over stone in the upper dome that had been improperly set and grouted, and improper installation of metal cladding for the gilding of the dome: “In other words, it’s a rush job and does not fit properly,” he complained.

As the state prepared to put the Capitol dome repair and restoration project out to bid, consulting engineer Rex Cyphers discovered an even more critical issue: The tensioning system — a series of 60-foot steel cables that run from the exterior dome and hold up the interior dome — had failed.

He said engineers discovered the failure while examining water damage and discovered that the interior Rotunda walls were pushing out because they were bearing the weight of the interior dome.

Cyphers did not see a danger of imminent collapse, but he said the tensioning system needed to be replaced “as expeditiously as possible.”

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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.



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.

YOUR CONSTRUCTION FIRM'S GREATEST ASSET

Using data & advanced analytics to improve safety, reduce costs & optimize resources

As technology continues to transform nearly every sector of the construction industry, the most successful companies are those that truly understand and leverage the power of advanced analytics and real-time data. Previously viewed by some organizations as “nice to have,” data has begun to take center stage over the last decade, revolutionizing company operations and bringing enhanced efficiencies. Now more than ever, companies are recognizing the significant value of deep analytics, with many investing in solutions to help them collect, unify and analyze data to better understand their customers, inform their processes and improve operations.

Following the onset of COVID-19, access to accurate and real-time data is crucial for companies to keep up with the rapidly evolving landscape and to meet their unique needs. In recent months, construction has faced a drastic slowdown, with jobsites across the country sitting idle for weeks as state government officials decided their fate.

With the number of new commercial and multifamily projects plunging by 22% January through June, when compared the first half of 2019, many companies across the industry are looking for new solutions to optimize processes, reduce costs, enhance safety, eliminate theft and more.

Accurate Job Costing

As COVID-19 wreaked havoc on the job market, with a

reported 13.6 million Americans out of work as of August, many companies have kept their finances top-of-mind. Perhaps one of the most common long-term business challenges construction firms face is getting an accurate picture of what each jobsite costs in order to apply that knowledge to future project bids.

Without visibility into the assets and work hours being applied to each job, companies struggle to understand true project-by-project costs. However, with the help of advanced technologies, such as connected field and asset operations platforms, companies can now have complete visibility into their mobile assets and workforce to garner real-time insights and better manage their end-to-end operations, job costing and, therefore, profitability per project. Businesses that are able to unify their data, people and processes within a single, configurable platform will facilitate strategic and tactical decisions from day-to-day operational managers.

Reducing Costs

With many jobsites empty and projects on hold, it has been critical over recent months for construction companies to be smarter when it comes to their spending and eliminate unnecessary costs. But, for many, knowing where and how to remove duplicative spending isn't always easy.

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Supportive Services Offered:

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



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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.