

## Upcoming Events

### November 8th

Illinois Department of  
Employment Security  
Veterans Career &  
Service Job Fair 2012

10:00am-2:00 pm  
Army National Guard  
3101 S. Airport Rd  
Bartonville, IL

Contact:

Tory Davis

[Tory.Davis@Illinois.gov](mailto:Tory.Davis@Illinois.gov)

### November 15th

16th Annual  
Transportation  
Symposium & Business  
Exchange

9:00am-6:00pm  
Chicago Hilton & Towers  
720 South Michigan  
Avenue

Chicago, IL

Contact:

Kacy Bassett

[Kacy.Bassett@illinois.gov](mailto:Kacy.Bassett@illinois.gov)

### November 25th

Veteran's Workshop  
9:00-11:00am  
Illinois Department of  
Employment Security  
Office

1307 N Mattis Ave  
Champaign, IL

Contact:

Thomas Schlepphorst

**Thomas.**

[Schlepphorst@illinois.gov](mailto:Schlepphorst@illinois.gov)

For a complete list of  
events, visit [http://www.  
diversity.dot.illinois.  
gov/event\\_calendar.  
aspx](http://www.diversity.dot.illinois.gov/event_calendar.aspx)



# Illinois Department of Transportation Diversity Matters!

November 2012

## Illinois Department of Transportation Profile: Marva Boyd, Chief of Staff



Chief of Staff Marva E. Boyd is among three women leading the way at the

Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), an organization that has generally been male dominated.

"It is important to continually challenge and develop yourself personally and professionally so that you are prepared for opportunities as they come along," said Chief Boyd.

Chief Boyd was awarded her Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology. She served as a hardware engineer for a large computer manufacturer, which opened up doors to several other opportunities in the private sector. In addition to her engineering degree, she attained a Master of Science in Real Estate

Development from Roosevelt University, Chicago.

Chief Boyd officially began her career as Deputy Chief of Staff for IDOT in January 2010, to former Illinois Transportation Secretary Gary Hannig. Today, Chief Boyd serves as Chief of Staff to Secretary Ann L. Schneider, Illinois' first female Secretary of Transportation.

"Governor Quinn made history when he appointed Secretary Schneider to lead the Department of Transportation," said Chief Boyd. "She is an extremely smart, driven, thoughtful, well-qualified leader who just happens to be a woman."

In her role as a Chief of Staff, Chief Boyd is responsible for assisting in the oversight of the agency which has a workforce of more than 5,200 employees and a \$2.5 billion budget for capital projects. Chief Boyd also maintains a keen interest in supporting Disadvantaged Business Enterprises and small businesses

by finding avenues to maximize contract participation opportunities.

"IDOT understands the benefits of having a talented diverse workforce and fully embraces the recruitment and hiring of talented individuals from all sectors of the population," said Chief Boyd.

Chief Boyd believes it is important for women interested in advancing their careers to identify a mentor within the organization to guide them and help put them on the path to success. "As a woman in a senior executive position, I see that it's necessary to identify and groom qualified candidates that have the potential to be future leaders," said Chief Boyd.

In her spare time, Chief Boyd enjoys spending time with friends and family and travelling abroad. She has lived, worked and studied in Barcelona, Spain and is fluent in Spanish.

## Winter Technical Program Vacancy Announcement

The Illinois Department of Transportation will post the Winter Technical Program on the department's website at <http://www.dot.il.gov/techapp/vacancy.html> from November 7 through November 21. Applications will be available during the posting period only. The Winter Technical Program, which runs January 7 through May 15, is designed to give non-engineering students an opportunity to obtain on the job training. High school graduates through students who have completed four or more years of college courses in areas other than engineering are eligible to apply. For additional information, visit our website or call (217) 782-5594.

## IDOT Commemorates Veterans Day and U.S. Marines Corps Birthday

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is proud to recognize Veterans Day and the birthday of the U.S. Marine Corps this month. "We are very proud to have U.S. veterans as a part of the IDOT family," said Illinois Transportation Secretary Ann L. Schneider. "We cherish the many contributions from our veterans and encourage others to always honor and remember their sacrifice for our nation." Veterans Day has been recognized on November 11 as a legal federal holiday in the United States since 1938. The U.S. Marines celebrates the "birth" of their Corps on November 10.

## IDOT Announces Current Procurement Opportunities

The Illinois Department of Transportation announces current procurement opportunities open for bid. To find a full list of opportunities, potential vendors can visit the Illinois Procurement Bulletin at [www.purchase.state.il.us](http://www.purchase.state.il.us).

## Save The Date: Today's Challenge, Tomorrow's Reward DBE Conference

The Office of Business and Workforce Diversity (OBWD) has officially announced the dates for the 2013, Today's Challenge, Tomorrow's Reward Conference (TCTR).

The statewide event, hosted by OBWD, will be held on February 19-20, 2013 at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel and Conference Center in Springfield, Illinois. Last year, the event attracted over 350 participants with representation from agencies including Central Management Services, Small Business

Administration, the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

This year, participants can expect workshops on Electronic Bidding, Project Quantities, Prompt Payment and many other topics specific to the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) community.

A networking event entitled, "Face Time with the Primes," is also set to give DBE firms and Prime Contractors an opportunity

to network and build relationships to last far beyond the duration of the TCTR event.

Management and Technical Supportive Service assistance will also be available during the conference and attendees will be able to obtain their Digital I.D. (necessary for electronic bidding) throughout the conference.

Registration information will be available in late November. For more information, contact Dana Goodrum at (217) 524-7793.

## Career Day Events a Huge Success

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is proud to announce the success of two Career Day events in October. Both events, held in Peoria and Chicago, were used as a platform to promote awareness and education on transportation careers among Illinois youth.

"We are grateful for the hard work and dedication from our employees and the many community partners involved to

ensure these events were a success," said Illinois Transportation Secretary Ann L. Schneider. "Career Day is an exceptional and popular forum where students can gain a thorough understanding of the transportation industry at an early age, along with insightful information and tools to better illustrate various rewarding career paths in transportation."

The two Career Day events exposed area

youth to numerous career opportunities in the transportation field, including Civil Engineering. Through hands-on activities, demonstrations and interaction with IDOT staff and exhibitors, students were able to see first-hand the positive impact various transportation careers have on Illinois.

The two events combined attracted approximately 400 students and more than 70 exhibitors and vendors.

## New Multicultural Outreach Program Introduced

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), Division of Traffic Safety, has introduced a new multicultural outreach program targeting diverse populations aimed at increasing traffic safety awareness amongst previously under targeted areas.

One of the first outreach events was held on September 29 at the Chicago Football Classic (CFC) – a weekend-long event filled with inspirational activities for high school and college students. The main attraction is the college football game that draws thousands of visitors to Soldier Field annually. This year, Albany State and Kentucky State battled it out on the field and marching bands from across the state played

while IDOT staff distributed important traffic safety messages.

IDOT staff provided commemorative photos and trinkets with safe driving messages to visitors encouraging them to sign a pledge promising to buckle up. Visitors also received information about proper child car seat installation. Approximately 100 buckle up pledges were signed and more than 1,000 people were reached during the experience.

"We are proud to participate in such an impactful community event, which successfully empowers diverse populations and promotes safe driving behavior in Il-

linois and across the Midwest," said Illinois Transportation Secretary Ann L. Schneider. "We hope to take part in more events like the Chicago Classic to share vital traffic safety messages, actively engage our young drivers and also increase awareness of motorist safety in all appropriate venues."

The CFC is a not-for-profit organization that encourages African-American youth to achieve their personal best and seize empowering opportunities.

For more information, please visit <http://www.chicagofootballclassic.biz/>.

## Historical Tidbits: Minorities in Transportation

Did you know that Alinda C. Burke was the first woman to be named as Deputy Administrator for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)? Burke, who was sworn in on August 18, 1980, assisted Administrator Jon S. Hassell, Jr., in directing the \$8 billion Federal-aid highway program.

According to the FHWA website, Burke was appreciative of the honor. "I'm proud

to have been chosen for this position but . . . I am extremely respectful of those of you who have made a life's work of giving this nation the finest highway system in the world," Burke said.

Burke received a Bachelor's Degree from Stanford University in Political Science and a Master's Degree from the University of Washington's Graduate School of Public Affairs. Burke held many govern-

ment positions in Seattle before moving to join Public Technology, Inc., a nonprofit urban research firm in Washington, DC. Burke served as a Special Assistant to U.S. Secretary of Transportation Neil Goldschmidt before her appointment as Deputy Administrator for the FHWA.

Source: [Federal Highway Administration](http://www.fhwa.gov/)

## Mississippi River Bridge Project Snapshot

One of the goals of the Mississippi River Bridge (MRB) project is to create a diverse job site contractor workforce. For the week of October 7-13, 2012, there was an overall workforce of 29.4% minorities and 2.9% female on the MRB project. For more information, visit <http://www.newriverbridge.org/>.