



Florida Department of Transportation

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FDOT Invests More Than \$1.2 Billion in Small, Veteran, Minority, Women, and Disadvantaged Businesses

~ Department to continue engaging with and increasing opportunities for businesses ~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – In an effort to help expand the capacity of small businesses within the state, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has invested more than \$1.2 billion in small, veteran, minority, women, and disadvantaged businesses over the past state and federal fiscal year. Through FDOT's substantial investment efforts, the opportunities for small and disadvantaged businesses and their employees have undoubtedly increased, providing a significant economic impact within communities across Florida.

"As Governor and a veteran, I understand that veteran-owned and small businesses are vital to the success of our communities and our state's economy," said Governor Ron DeSantis. "I am proud of the Florida Department of Transportation's ongoing commitment to invest in these businesses because this investment provides veteran-owned and small businesses more opportunities to thrive for years to come."

"Supporting small and disadvantaged businesses is a priority of the department as we work toward building the transportation system that will serve Floridians for generations to come," said Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Kevin J. Thibault, P.E. "The department is proud to have invested more than \$1.2 billion in the businesses that are crucial to the economic prosperity of our communities."

In state fiscal year 2019-20, FDOT:

- Reserved 199 projects totaling more than \$60 million in contracts for certified small businesses and spent nearly \$430 million with Minority/Women Business Enterprise firms, which is an increase of over \$40 million compared to the prior state fiscal year.
- Spent \$206 million with veteran-owned businesses, an increase of over \$43 million compared to state fiscal year 2018-19.

In federal fiscal year 2019-20, FDOT:

- Committed nearly \$770 million with Disadvantaged Business Enterprise firms certified in the state of Florida, an increase of close to \$87 million compared to the prior federal fiscal year.



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FDOT is also currently engaged in a comprehensive review of the department's small business program. As part of this review, the department will conduct listening sessions in every region of the state to seek input from the small business community regarding the issues and challenges they are facing and their ideas and perspectives on how to improve department programs.

Dates and times for all listening sessions will be noticed in advance on www.fdot.gov, as well as on the department's [procurement](#) site, and on FDOT's social media channels:

- Twitter: [@MyFDOT](#)
- Facebook: [@FLDOT](#)
- Instagram: [@my_fdot](#)

Ultimately, a final assessment will include recommendations for continued improvements in contracting with small, veteran, minority, women, and disadvantaged businesses. FDOT plans to release its assessment, including the feedback received from the small business listening sessions as well as additional small business initiatives, in the Spring of 2021. For more information on conducting business with FDOT, please visit the FDOT website at www.fdot.gov.

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