



JULY 16, 2026

2026 FIRST QUARTER UPDATE

Diversity & Inclusion Committee

Marlene Vick, Chief of Diversity & Strategic Development

AGENDA

- ▶ 2026 First Quarter DBE/BEP/VET Participation
- ▶ 2026 First Quarter Program Updates
- ▶ Small Business Initiative Mid-Size
- ▶ Meetings and Outreach
- ▶ Contracting with Government Events
- ▶ Continuing the Commitment to Diversity

2026 FIRST QUARTER OVERALL PARTICIPATION

January 1–March 31, 2026



Nearly **35 percent** of all **dollars spent** went to DBE/VET and BEP firms

Nearly **\$73 million** paid to DBE/BEP/VOSB firms
(\$7.1 million increase compared to 2025)



Best overall Q1 in past five years

BEP participation increased by nearly **10 percent**



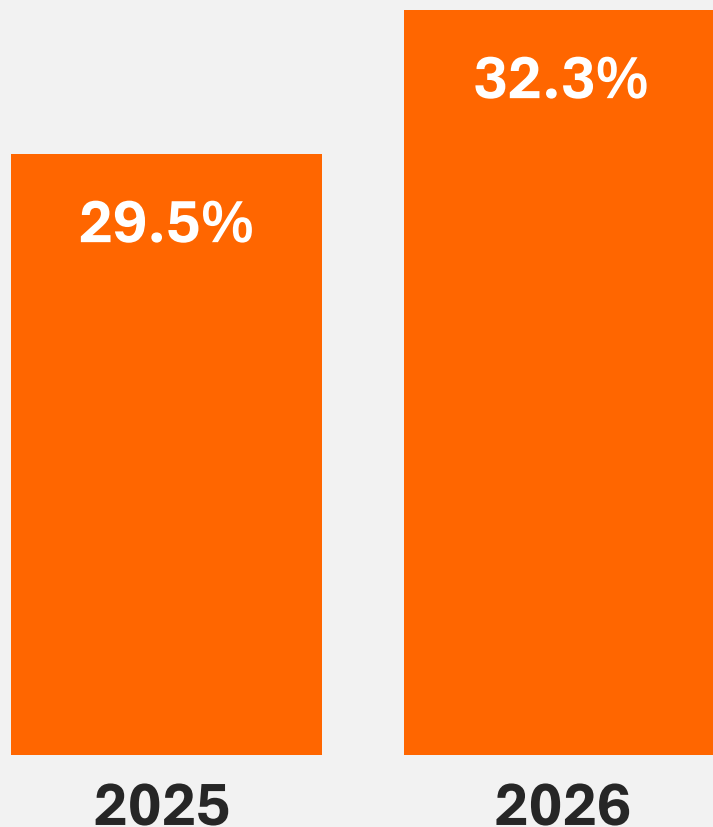
Biggest gains by:

- African Americans, Hispanics and women (construction)
- Veterans (construction and professional services)

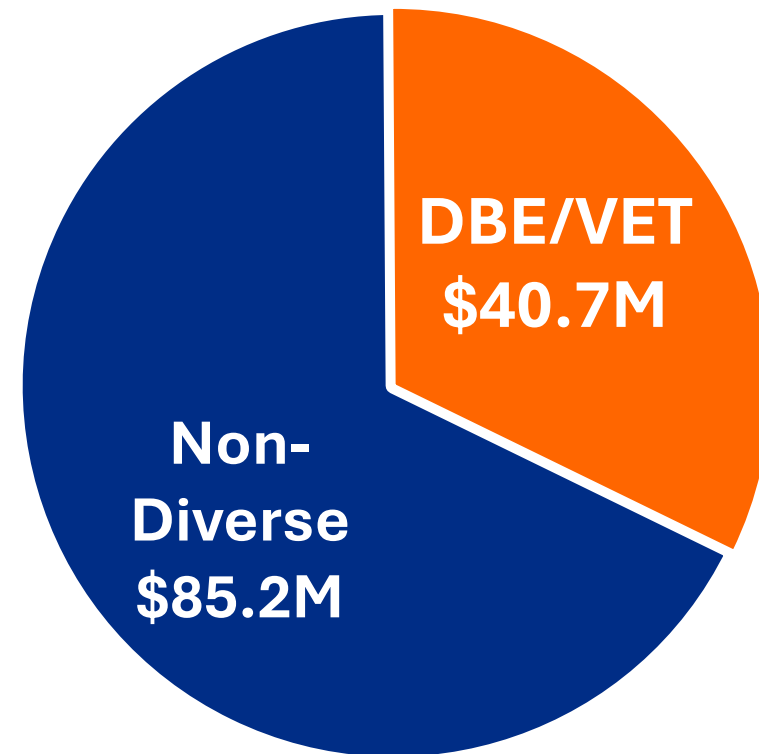


2026 FIRST QUARTER CONSTRUCTION SPEND

DIVERSE FIRMS PARTICIPATION



2026 FIRST QUARTER SPEND *Comparison*

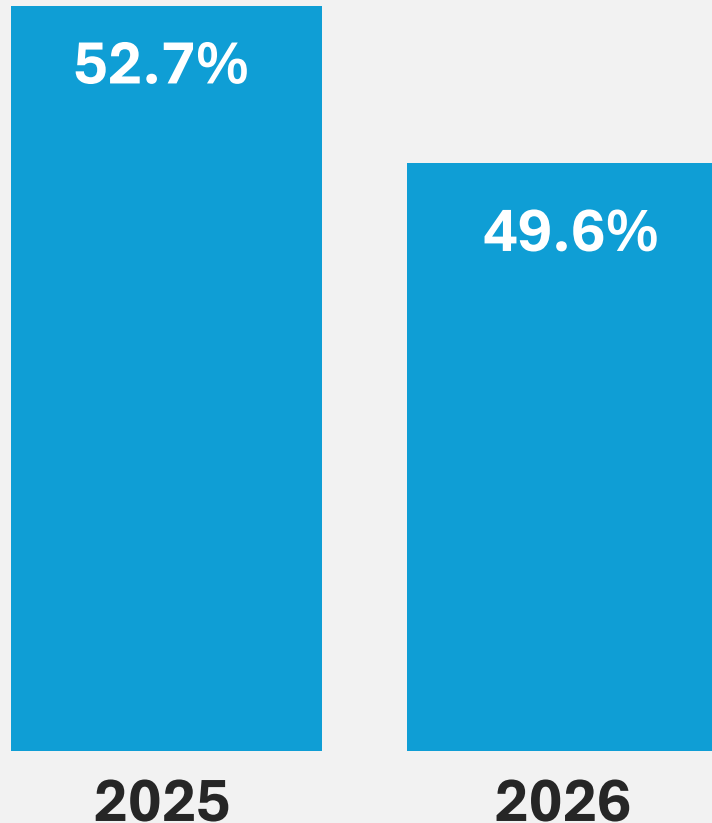


The Tollway spent nearly \$126 million in construction services in First Quarter

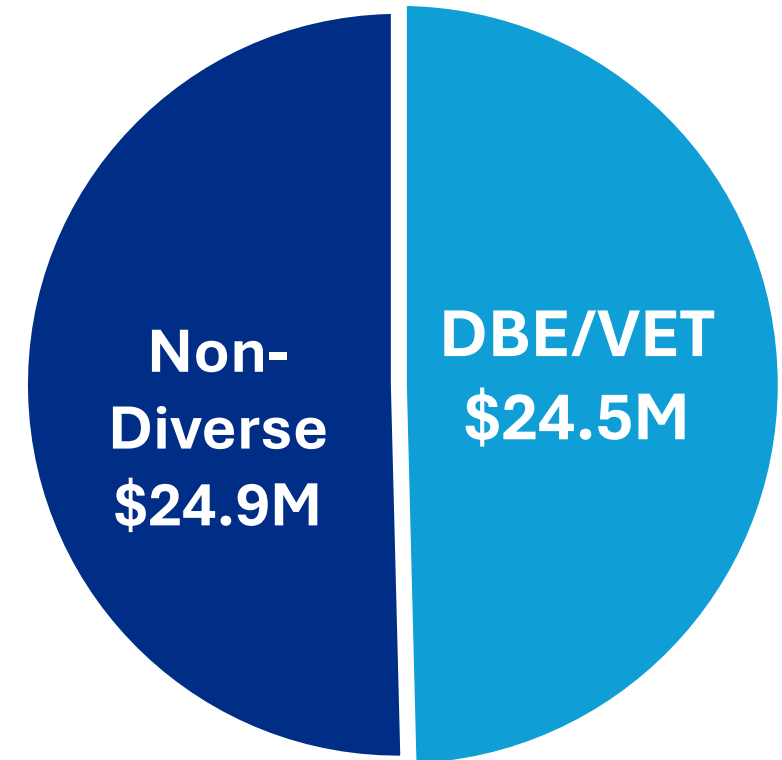


2026 FIRST QUARTER **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES SPEND**

DIVERSE FIRMS PARTICIPATION



2026 FIRST QUARTER SPEND *Comparison*

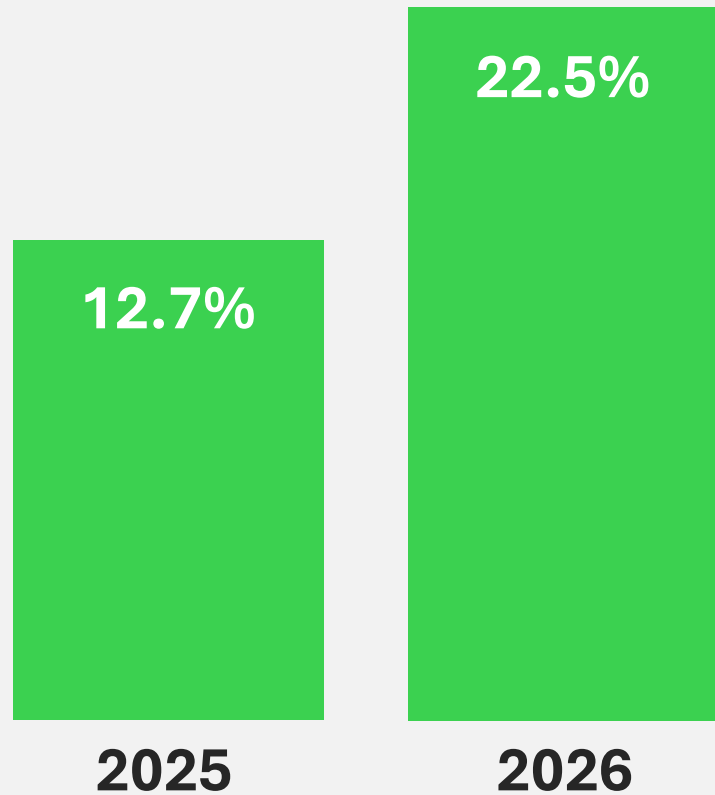


The Tollway spent more than \$49 million in construction services in First Quarter

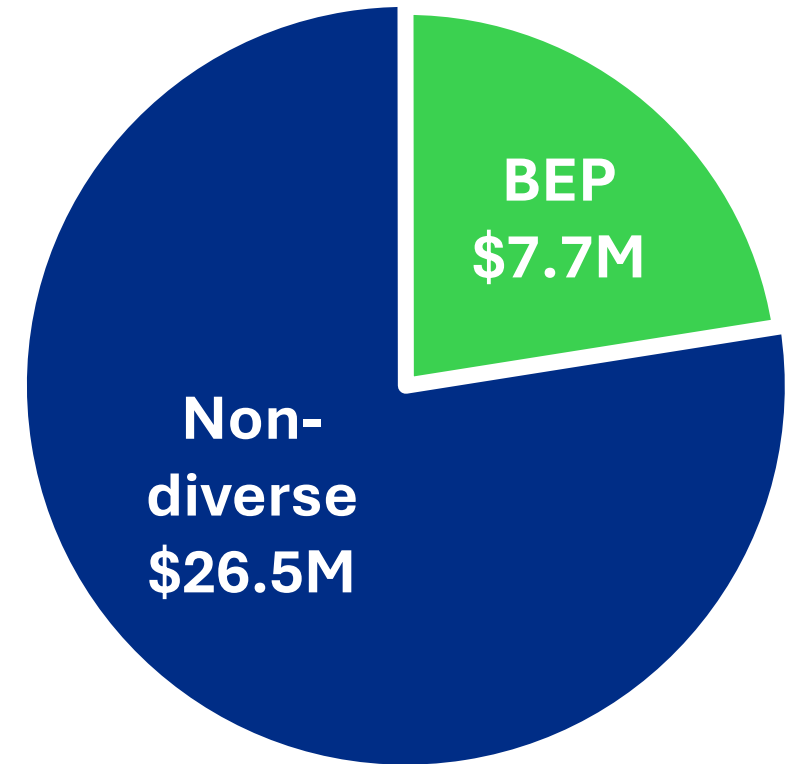


2026 FIRST QUARTER **GOODS AND SERVICES SPEND**

DIVERSE FIRMS PARTICIPATION



2026 First Quarter Spend *Comparison*



The Tollway spent more than \$34.1 million on Goods and Services in First Quarter

2026 FIRST QUARTER DBE PROGRAM UPDATES



PARTNERING for GROWTH

POWERED BY THE ILLINOIS TOLLWAY



PARTNERING FOR GROWTH Professional Services

PARTNERING FOR GROWTH *Construction*

- ▶ **Five** new agreements approved
- ▶ **Two** Reverse Partnering for Growth agreements approved
- ▶ **One** firm went from protégé to prime:
American Engineering Consultants



2026 FIRST QUARTER DBE PROGRAM UPDATES



PARTNERING for GROWTH

POWERED BY THE ILLINOIS TOLLWAY



PARTNERING FOR GROWTH Construction

- ▶ **One** new agreement
- ▶ **Two** extensions of existing agreements
- ▶ **\$429,000** in bid credits accrued by contractors

PARTNERING FOR GROWTH *Professional Services*



2026 FIRST QUARTER DBE PROGRAM UPDATES



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
POWERED BY THE ILLINOIS TOLLWAY

Technical Assistance

- ▶ **More than 50** certifications received by clients
 - ▶ **11** bids submitted on Tollway construction and professional services opportunities
 - ▶ **Nearly \$11 million** awarded to Technical Assistance clients
- ▶ ***Technical Assistance RFP***
to be issued later this year



2026 FIRST QUARTER DBE PROGRAM UPDATES



ConstructionWorks
POWERED BY THE ILLINOIS TOLLWAY

ConstructionWorks/ Bid Credit Program

- ▶ **Nearly 110 participants** entered training
- ▶ **More than 70 participants** completed training
- ▶ **More than 50 participants** entered employment
- ▶ **More than \$540,000 in bid credits earned** by contractors hiring/retaining participants



2026 FIRST QUARTER DBE PROGRAM UPDATES



SMALL BUSINESS INITIATIVE

POWERED BY THE ILLINOIS TOLLWAY

Small Business Initiative

- ▶ **Four** small business contracts awarded worth more than **\$11 million**
 - ▶ **Two** contracts worth **more than \$7 million**
 - ▶ **Two** contracts worth **more than \$4 million**
- ▶ Surpassed **\$116 million** in small business contracts since January 2021
- ▶ Nearly **200** contractors remain enrolled in the Tollway Small Business Initiative



SMALL BUSINESS INITIATIVE EXPANSION CREATES MID-SIZE OPPORTUNITY

New Tier 4 contracts between \$5 million and \$7.5 million

Creates exclusive prime and subcontracting opportunities for small and mid-size firms

- ▶ Eligible firms can have annual revenues up to \$45 million
- ▶ Scopes of work will include electrical work, earthwork, paving, demolition and more
- ▶ Will include DBE and VET goals
- ▶ Registration and launch of program to occur later this year



SMALL BUSINESS INITIATIVE

POWERED BY THE ILLINOIS TOLLWAY

Creating Opportunities for Inclusion

2026 FIRST QUARTER MEETINGS AND OUTREACH | *Be a part of the action*

Hosted/attended more than 40 events

- ▶ Concrete construction best practices training
- ▶ Diversity Advisory Council
- ▶ Stakeholder events (*panel discussions, networking*)
- ▶ Six webinars



Sent nearly **20 email blasts**
regarding Tollway
opportunities

Agency meetings to discuss Tollway DBE programs

- ▶ State of Illinois Commission on Equity and Inclusion
- ▶ ACEC Illinois
- ▶ IRTBA

2026 FIRST QUARTER BUILDING FOR SUCCESS WEBINAR SERIES

6 webinars, nearly 400 attendees

PREVIOUS TOPICS

- ▶ Navigating BidBuy
- ▶ Navigating the Illinois Procurement Gateway
- ▶ Partnering for Growth Professional Services Vendor Training
- ▶ Streamlining Plan Delivery for Design and Construction
- ▶ Tollway Contracts – Roadway Contract Exploration
- ▶ Fringe Benefits and LCP Tracker Reporting



FUTURE TOPICS

- ▶ Registering for the Small Business Initiative
- ▶ BEP and Veteran Business Program
- ▶ Doing Business with the Tollway – Goods and Services



CONTRACTING WITH GOVERNMENT EVENT

UNIVERSITY PARK – JUNE 3, 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

Contracting with Government Goods and Services Event *November 5, 2026 | Chicago (West Side)*



FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION, VISIT:
**[Illinoistollway.com/
ContractingWithGovernment](https://illinoistollway.com/ContractingWithGovernment)**



CONTINUING THE COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY





THANK YOU