

The Illinois Department of Transportation (“Department”) sets its overall goal on a three-year cycle. The Department’s next scheduled submittal date is August 1, 2015. At this time, it has been determined that the Department will need additional time to collect data in order to develop an approach to setting an overall goal. In accordance with 49 CFR 26.45(f)(5), the Department is requesting that FHWA approve an interim aspirational goal of 22.77%. The interim goal-setting methodology is intended to be temporary and is attached to this e-mail, available at the District Resource Centers, and can also be found on the IDOT website.

In accordance with 49 CFR 26.45(g), the Department would like to announce Public Hearing on **July 24th, 2015** from **9:30 AM to 11:30 AM** at the following location:

**Illinois Department of Transportation
Harry Hanley Building Auditorium
2300 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL 62764**

This Public Hearing will be live-streamed from the IDOT website for those who are unable to participate at the address above. The purpose of this hearing is to consult with minority, women’s and general contractor groups, community organizations, and other officials or organizations which could be expected to have information concerning the availability of disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged businesses, the effects of discrimination on opportunities for DBEs, and the Department’s efforts to establish a level playing field for the participation of DBEs.

The Department will provide for a 30-day public comment period which will begin on the date of the conference, July 24th, 2015. All communications received from the public will be provided to FHWA to supplement the Department’s interim goal-setting proposal and may be used for future goal-setting purposes.

Public comments can be submitted via e-mail to the following address:

dot.dbepubliccomment@illinois.gov

Public comments can also be submitted via postal mail to the following address:

**Illinois Department of Transportation
Bureau of Small Business Enterprises, Rm 319
Attn: Bruce Harmening
2300 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL 62764**

If you need special accommodations or would like to request an interpreter for the public hearing, please contact Dana Goodrum at dana.goodrum@illinois.gov or call 217-524-7793.