# Increasing Diversity in the Transportation Workforce

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Joint Transportation Committee
October 24, 2012

#### 2012 Legislation

- HB 2673: Addressing Transportation Workforce Development
  - Use federal funds to increase diversity on highway transportation projects.
  - Collaborative effort between the Washington State Department of Transportation and Washington State Department of Labor & Industries' Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council.
  - Report progress to the Legislature.



#### What is Pre-Apprenticeship

- Safety Training
- Workplace Skills
- Physical Fitness
- Math Skills
- Contextual Learning
- Formal Agreement with the Apprenticeship Programs



#### **Apprenticeship Advantage**

- Efficient training combination of on-the-job and related school instruction
- Family wage jobs
- Elevated wages
- Training the future workforce:
  - Retirement increasing
  - Focus on diverse workforce
  - Entrepreneurial efforts supported by apprenticeship training
- Assists in supporting one of the best training systems available

#### **WSDOT Heavy Highway Trades**

- Electricians
- Laborers
- Carpenters
- Operating Engineers
- Painters
- Ironworkers
- Plumbers
- Other Crafts





#### **Pre-Apprenticeship Program Examples**

- Apprenticeship & Non-Traditional Employment for Women (ANEW)
- Seattle Vocational Institute
- WSDOT Initiatives:
  - Spokane
  - Tri-Cities
  - Southwest Washington



## Apprenticeship & Non-Traditional Employment for Women

- Have assisted over 1,000 individuals in gaining family wage jobs so far in 2012
- Unique Trades "Rotation"
- 14 Registered Trades Partners
- Workshops & Customized Training
- Technical Assistance
- Support Services

"ANEW provided me with a solid foundation and career pathway for my 30 years in the apprenticeship world. I owe any success I have had in my career to the training and support from ANEW and the ANEW community." Anne Wetmore, United States Department of Labor



#### **Seattle Vocational Institute**

- 46 participants in their Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Training Program so far in 2012.
- The Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Training consists of:
  - Construction Skills Training
  - Job Readiness Training
  - Physical Education
  - Flagging/Forklift Certification

#### Spokane Pre-Apprenticeship Initiative

- Started August 2012
- Outreached to 1,500 individuals
- Assessed and screened 40 individuals
- Training currently under way



"I was bouncing from dead-end job to dead-end job and I love to work with my hands so when I saw this program, I knew it was the right fit."
Nicholous Johnson, Spokane Initiative Participant

#### **Tri-Cities Pre-Apprenticeship Initiative**

- Started September 2012
- Joint effort between National Association of Women in Construction and Tri-Tech Skills Center
- 14 individuals enrolled in the program
- Classes Started October 16<sup>th</sup>
- 8 Week Course:
  - OSHA, First-Aid/CPR
  - Skills Training:
    - · Blue Print Reading
    - Electrical
    - Welding, Carpentry, etc.
    - Forklift and Flagging
  - Career Counseling & Development



## Southwest Washington Pre-Apprenticeship Initiative

- Anticipated start date November 2012
- Partnership between Apprenticeship & Non-Traditional Employment for Women and Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc.
- Will assist 75 individuals

### Washington State Department of Transportation Projections

October 2012 through September 2015



#### Financing & Outcomes

- \$320,000 of Federal Funds until September 30, 2013
  - \$75,000 Spokane Initiative
  - \$45,000 Tri-Cities Initiative
  - \$45,000 Southwest Washington Initiative
  - \$20,000 Apprenticeship & Non-Traditional Employment Sponsorship
  - \$11,000 Seattle Vocational Institute Sponsorship
  - \$10,000 Support Services Supplies (e.g. hardhats, safety vests, etc.)
  - \$40,000 Construction Career Days
  - \$74,000 Approximately remaining
- As required by HB 2673, WSDOT will update the Legislature on the continuing success of the program in December 2012.

#### **Testimonials regarding Program Benefits**

- Randy Ambuehl, Training Director for the Electrical Industry Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee.
- Janelle Carson, Seattle Vocational Institute Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Training.
- Donesha Hall, Apprenticeship & Non-Traditional Employment for Women Graduate.

# For more information on Transportation Workforce Diversity please contact:

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