



**Washington State  
Department of Transportation**

Lynn Peterson  
Secretary of Transportation

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January 4, 2015

Joint Transportation Committee  
3309 Capitol Boulevard Southwest  
Olympia, Washington 98504-0937

Re: Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Presentation Correction

Dear Joint Transportation Committee:

On December 17, 2015, the Secretary of Transportation presented a PowerPoint presentation titled *Engaging the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Community in WSDOT Contracting*. Slide five of this presentation contained information which needs to be corrected. The revised presentation is attached.

In February of 2015, WSDOT revised internal DBE Program documents to reflect the more culturally sensitive terminology of African American versus the dated regulatory term of Black American. As such, many of the queries we were running during this timeframe to determine the percentage of work going to the presumptive races, genders and ethnicities was incorrect for African Americans. For example, from April 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015, our records indicated \$458,409 went to African American owned businesses while the correct figure is \$5,481,523. The dollar totals to DBEs of \$105,515,662 remain accurate. We apologize for any issue this may have caused and are confident we've corrected the issue.

If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 360.705.7095 or [NorthM@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:NorthM@wsdot.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Mike North, Interim Director  
Office of Equal Opportunity  
Washington State Department of Transportation

cc: Lynn Peterson, WSDOT  
Roger Millar, WSDOT

Attachments: Revised Presentation