



Bexar County Small Business and Entrepreneurship Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 1, 2017

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Bexar County helps Small Businesses Get Bond Ready

San Antonio, TX – Getting bonded isn't a simple process for small or disadvantaged businesses. Starting April 4, 2017, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and Gulf Region Small Business Transportation Resource Center in partnership with the Surety and Fidelity Association of America (SFAA), Bexar County SMWBE/DBE Program and The Associated General Contractors of Texas (AGC) will be helping businesses learn the ins-and-outs of the bonding process through the Bonding Education Program (BEP).

The BEP was announced by the USDOT in April 2010 as a resource that would help qualified small and disadvantaged businesses compete for government contracting opportunities. The first of its kind program is aimed at getting small businesses bond ready, which has proven to be an obstacle for many small or disadvantaged businesses.

“Becoming bondable is a challenge for many small and disadvantaged businesses and this program aims to help businesses grow by obtaining or building bonding capacity,” says Renee Watson, Bexar County’s Small Business and Entrepreneurship Director. “Bonding opens the door for businesses to expand. Without bonding, a small business looking for work must rely on a prime contractor. Once bonded, that business can compete directly for work. It's an important step toward growth and independent access to bigger and better contracts with Bexar County or other public entities.”

The BEP helps small businesses obtain and build bonding capacity. It is a free program tailored to small businesses competing for construction-related contracts in the transportation industry. It consists of a comprehensive set of sessions designed to provide small and disadvantaged businesses the tools and resources required to compete for transportation projects.

BEP participants will have a chance to learn about bonding programs, contract law, banking relationships, and a host of other resources made available to them.

The program will run every Tuesday from April 4, 2017 to May 16, 2017 at the Bexar County Records Center located at 232 Iowa Street from 5pm to 8pm.

For more information or questions, please contact the SMWBE/DBE Program by email at rwatson@bexar.org, or call (210) 335-2478. Deadline to register is March 28th.