



# DOT Biz Journal

The official publication of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

[www.osdbu.dot.gov](http://www.osdbu.dot.gov)

## From the Desk of the Director

This spring marks one year since we began seeing the first allocations of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds which were passed by Congress and signed by President Obama in an effort to directly respond to the economy and help create new jobs, save existing jobs, spur economic activity and invest in long-term growth as well as provide accountability and transparency in government spending. During this time the U.S. Department of Transportation has obligated over \$37.4 billion to transportation related projects and OSDBU, through its many programs, has worked hard to ensure that small businesses obtain access to these funding opportunities. As a result, over \$1.3 billion worth of ARRA contracts have gone to small, disadvantaged and minority owned businesses under the current Administration.



This past March we hosted an OSDBU Small Business Summit in Washington, DC to provide individuals from across the nation the opportunity to learn strategies that will assist in meeting the demands of the competitive small business environment in the transportation industry. We shared success stories, best practices and tools to succeed in this viable market.

In this spring edition of the DOT Business Journal, we will discuss the key highlights of this Summit as well as DOT's proposed funding under President Obama's 2011 budget. We also showcase ARRA projects in Colorado and Massachusetts and highlight recent events at Spelman College's Women and Girls Program.

I hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter and encourage you to actively visit [www.osdbu.dot.gov](http://www.osdbu.dot.gov) for additional updates and information benefiting the small business transportation community.

**Brandon Neal, Director  
Office of Small and Disadvantaged  
Business Utilization (OSDBU)**

## OSDBU Hosts Small Business Summit

On March 24th and 25th OSDBU hosted the "2010 Small Business Summit: Road to Recovery" in Washington, DC. This event was attended by over 700 individuals from across the nation and provided the opportunity to learn strategies to meet the demands of the competitive small business environment in the transportation industry.



Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood welcomes participants to the 2010 OSDBU Small Business Summit

The Summit commenced with welcome remarks from several dignitaries including Ray LaHood, Secretary of Transportation; Brandon Neal, Director of DOT OSDBU; Karen Mills, Administrator of the Small Business Administration; Eleanor Holmes Norton, U.S. Congresswoman; Adrian Fenty, Mayor of Washington, D.C.; Benjamin Todd Jealous, NAACP President and CEO; and Reverend Jessie Jackson, Sr.

The speakers stressed the important role small businesses play in this economy and highlighted commitments the Administration is making to ensure small businesses continue to have greater opportunities in the federal contracting arena. Secretary LaHood announced that *continued on page 2*

## DOT's Proposed Funding Under President Obama's 2011 Budget

On February 1st, President Obama proposed \$78.8 billion for transportation-related initiatives and projects at the Department of Transportation (DOT) as part of the FY 2011 federal budget. The request represents a 2% increase from 2010 and targets the Administration's three key transportation priorities of improving transportation safety, investing for the future, and promoting livable communities.

The Department will continue to invest in the nation's transportation infrastructure in order to keep the *continued on page 4*

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**OSDBU HOSTS SMALL BUSINESS SUMMIT**...continued from page 1

more than \$1.3 billion worth of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) contracts have gone to small, disadvantaged and minority owned businesses under the current Administration. Updates were also given on federal legislation and programs aimed to help the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) community compete for federally funded projects.

Following the welcome remarks, a roundtable discussion took place on Leadership for the Global Business Community that highlighted successes of leading high profile businesses and experiences with entrepreneurship. This roundtable was moderated by John Rogers, Chairman of Ariel Investments, LLC and panelists included Sheila C. Johnson, Co-Founder of BET and CEO of Salamander Hospitality, LLC; Jerri Devard, Principal at DMG; Seth Goldman, Co-Founder of Honest Tea; Ronald Baylock, Founder and Managing Partner of GenNx360 Capital Partners; and Ken Asbury, President IS&GS-Civil Group at Lockheed Martin.

The summit also had a number of breakout sessions throughout the day with speakers from the federal government, as well as small and large business executives and owners, and leaders in the green economy. Topics discussed included:

- growing and sustaining your business with business development strategies;
- ways to market your company the federal government and how to do business with DOT;



*OSDBU Director Brandon Neal (center) meets with Small Business Summit participants*

- strategies to help small businesses take advantage of the green economy;
- strategic alliances and finding the right business partners; and
- lessons for women and service disabled veteran owned small businesses as well as other topics aimed at providing small business owners with the knowledge, tools and networking skills needed to succeed.

Also during the summit, there was an awards luncheon where DOT recognized small businesses that provided outstanding service to the transportation industry in 2009. During the luncheon, Elijah Cummings, U.S. Congressman, provided the audience with a special greeting while Roland Martin, Political Commentator for CNN and author, was the keynote speaker. The mistress of ceremonies, Ms. Cynné Simpson, News Anchor at ABC 7/WJLA-TV presented recipients with their awards. See page 3 for a list of awardees.

The second day of the summit focused solely on DOT's DBE program and the importance of community involvement in the early planning stage of major transportation projects to ensure DBE opportunities and success. Speakers from Wisconsin and Missouri Departments of Transportation shared best practices that helped lead to significant minority participation contracts, employment, and workforce development in their DBE programs.

The summit concluded with a Business Matchmaking Session with over 30 organizations.

**DOT DBE updates:**

- DOT is working to extend the Economic Recovery Act DBE Bonding Assistance Reimbursable Fee Program, set to expire in September, by recommending that the Sunset Provision be removed.
- DOT plans to launch a demonstration program in five cities, similar to initiatives in Missouri and Wisconsin, which have proven successful models for awarding DBE subcontracts on ARRA projects. Cities to participate in the demonstration programs are: Louisville, KY; New Albany, IN; Denver, CO; Hartford, CT; Phoenix, AZ; and Brooklyn-Queens, NY
- DOT is proposing an advisory board to make recommendations for improvements to the DBE program to help ensure that all federal, state and local policies affecting DBEs are consistently and uniformly implemented.

To learn more about and see photographs from the "2010 Small Business Summit: Road to Recovery" visit: [www.osdbu.dot.gov/](http://www.osdbu.dot.gov/)

## Small Business Summit Recognizes Recipients of the 2009 Small Business Awards

### 2009 Small Business of the Year Award

- Hanks and Hanks Associates, LLC
- Szanca Solutions, Inc.
- T. White Parker Associates
- Leon Snead and Company, PC
- Sayres and Associates Corporation
- Syneren Technologies Corporation
- Guident Technologies, Inc.
- Mafeks International, LLC
- IS Technologies LLC
- Miracle Systems, LLC

### 2009 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise of the Year

- Jalisco International, Inc.
- Technatomy Corporation
- Airport Concession Consultants, Inc.

### 2009 Small Business Specialists Awards

Awarded to federal employees for their outstanding performance in providing assistance to small business.

- **Federal Aviation Administration**  
Inez Williams, Frederick Dendy, Lisa Floyd, and Gloria Rosier
- **Federal Highway Administration – Federal Lands Division**  
Darren Brown
- **Federal Highway Administration**  
Frank Waltos
- **Federal Railroad Administration**  
Dana Hicks
- **Maritime Administration**  
Rita Thomas
- **Office of the Secretary**  
Phaedra Johnson and Lenita Ahmadi
- **Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration**  
Christopher Williams
- **Federal Transit Administration**  
Ledra Post
- **National Highway Traffic Administration**  
Lloyd Blackwell
- **Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration**  
Eric Hilton
- **Research and Innovative Technology Administration**  
Kristen Laggis Pedroli
- **Saint Lawrence Seaway Administration**  
Patricia White

*Small Business Summit Featured Panelists from left to right: Ronald Blaylock, Sheila C. Johnson, Seth Goldman, Jerri Devard, Ken Asbury, John Rogers, and Brandon Neal*



## STLP Success Story – HydroTech, Inc.

Small businesses like HydroTech, Inc., located in Fernley, Nevada have greatly benefited from assistance received from the U.S. DOT's Short Term Lending Program (STLP). Established in 1987, this general engineering contracting firm is a woman owned, small disadvantaged 8(a), HUBZone certified company and specializes in innovative infrastructure solutions for wet utility rehabilitation and design-build construction, working for Nevada and California Departments of Transportation and other state government agencies.

Since its founding, HydroTech has grown in large part due to additional cash-flow made available by the STLP. The firm's first loan was for \$150,000, allowing the small business to hire additional employees, and allowing more contract bids. As a result, in July 2009 when HydroTech went for a loan renewal, it received the maximum credit of \$750,000 based on \$1.9 million in transportation contracts.

As Debra Brazell, HydroTech's President explained, "The STLP has been instrumental in the rapid growth of our company by providing the necessary cash flow to

For more information on how the program works and whether your firm can benefit from the STLP, please visit <http://osdbu.dot.gov/financial/stlp.cfm>

pay for upfront expenses for transportation projects and has been responsible for the creation of many new jobs. It has made cash available to fund upfront costs, and avoid the negative effects of slow cash income. With this, our company has been able to effectively maxi-



mize cash assets to grow the company by completing more work faster."

As a result of its exceptional services, HydroTech was awarded the U.S. Navy's NAVFAC STAR Award for outstanding safety in 2008 and Ms. Brazell was nominated for the SBA Woman Business Champion Award in 2009. In addition, the company recently entered into a Mentor-Protégé Program agreement with Granite Construction Company under the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) 8(a) Business Development Program. This program was created to motivate and encourage large firms to assist small business entities that are certified through the SBA 8(a) Program. Through their agreement, Granite Construction (mentor) will provide HydroTech (protégé) with developmental assistance that will foster increased collaboration between the companies and will assist towards the partnered acquisition of large-scale federal contracts.

The Short-Term Lending Program matches eligible firms with lending bank partners, giving small businesses access to working capital necessary to participate in transportation-related projects.

### DOT'S PROPOSED FUNDING...continued from page 1

U.S. competitive in the future by increasing mobility and supporting the development of infrastructure that will promote job creation for years to come.

### Some of the proposed investments

- \$4 billion will be to establish the National Infrastructure Innovation and Finance Fund (NIFF), which will issue grants and/or loans to support transportation projects that provide significant economic benefit.
- \$1 billion to continue the implementation of the High Speed Rail Program.
- \$1.1 billion for the implementation of Next Gen air traffic control system.
- \$42.1 billion will go to the Federal-aid Highway program which assists states with highway and bridge projects.
- \$10.8 billion in total for transit projects, including: \$2.8 billion to focus on a "state of good repair" for transit infrastructure; \$1.8 billion for transit New Starts and Small Starts; and \$150 million to enable the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to focus on much needed infrastructure improvements related to rail system safety and service reliability.

As part of the proposed budget, DOT's priority for Livable Communities for investments in transportation, housing and commercial development will be coordinated through the Partnership for Sustainable Communities. Livable Communities increase choices for transportation, provide connections from homes to employment centers and other amenities in an affordable manner, and enhance the number of economic opportunities while promoting sustainable environments. DOT plans on allocating \$527 million to its Livable Communities Program to support the initiatives that will help integrate housing and land use into transportation decisions.

Although these are just proposed investments that will require approval by Congress, they are a good indication of the spending that is planned in the next fiscal year and may be potential contracting opportunities that are worth tracking.

For additional information on 2011 proposed transportation budget visit: [www.dot.gov/budget/2011/2011budgethighlights.pdf](http://www.dot.gov/budget/2011/2011budgethighlights.pdf)

## SBA Proposes Women-Owned Small Business Rule To Expand Access to Federal Contracting Opportunities

On March 2, 2010, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) released a proposed rule based on previous studies aimed at expanding federal contracting opportunities for women-owned small businesses (WOSB). The proposed rule highlights the Administration's commitment to encourage more small business participation in federal contracts. Specifically, it identifies 83 industries, determined by SBA size standards, in which WOSB are under-represented or substantially under-represented. The identification of 83 industries is a significant increase from the four industries identified in a previous proposed version.

In order to qualify under the proposed WOSB rule, a business must be 51% owned by one or more women who

are U.S. citizens, primarily managed by women, and in order to be deemed "economically disadvantaged," owners must demonstrate economic disadvantage in accordance with the requirements set forth in the proposed rule. Other highlights of the proposed rule include:

- Authorization for set-asides regarding contracts that do not exceed \$5 million for manufacturing and \$3 million for all other contracts.
- WOSBs would be allowed to be self-certified or by a third party, including government entities. Self-certification would require prospective businesses to submit a core set of eligibility-related documents to an online "document repository" to be maintained by the SBA.

## 6th Annual National Veterans Small Business Conference

The 6th Annual National Veteran Small Business Conference and Expo will take place July 19-22, 2010, at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, Nevada. The conference brings together business owners – both small and large – and Federal Government representatives to share best practices of how to do business together. The conference will also include sessions on Federal Contracting for small businesses that are just breaking into the public sector.

General sessions and breakouts will be led by small business owners, as well as representatives from various Federal Agencies, including the Department of Transportation. Topics will include:

- Contracting procedures
- Marketing and selling to the Federal Government
- Legislation affecting small businesses
- Legal issues with Government contracting
- Managing small business finances
- Successful business strategies
- Subcontracting
- And more!

The conference is open to both government and non-government personnel and is a great opportunity to learn about the federal contracting process. We look forward to seeing you in Las Vegas.

For additional information, including registration, go to [www.nationalveteransconference.com/](http://www.nationalveteransconference.com/)

## DOT's Open Government Initiative

One of the Administration's top priorities since coming to office has been to make all federal agencies more transparent, participatory, and collaborative, as outlined in the Open Government Directive ([www.whitehouse.gov/open/documents/open-government-directive](http://www.whitehouse.gov/open/documents/open-government-directive)). In response to this effort, this past February the DOT unveiled a new web site that supports the administration's directive: [www.dot.gov/open](http://www.dot.gov/open). This website provides information on DOT's Open Government initiative, including its approach and methodology, news and updates, and progress toward meeting key milestones and objectives.

As part of this effort, several different sections from the existing DOT web site will be consolidated at DOT Open Government for greater transparency and access. One section is Congressional Requests for Information, which is responsible for the agency's affairs related to legislative and budget programs before Congress. Declassified documents will make up another section and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests will be streamlined. Reports on tire quality, new car safety ratings, child safety, and other data will also be more readily available.

Once DOT has received public feedback and integrated it into the DOT Open Government Plan, the final version will be published on the site. For the most up to date information on the DOT's Open Government initiative, please visit [www.dot.gov/open](http://www.dot.gov/open)

## ARRA – One Year On...

A year after its passage, the effects of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) can be seen across the nation. One measure of the legislation's success has been the number of jobs created or sustained. According to the nonpartisan, Congressional Budget Office, ARRA funds thus far have helped to create or save as many as 2.1 million jobs. The effect of the ARRA funds are still being felt across the country, and President Obama expects another 1.5 million jobs to be created this year. Below we discuss ARRA's impact on Colorado and Massachusetts and provide information on a few of the many projects they will put up for bid in the coming months.

### COLORADO

In Colorado, as of January 31, 2010, 131 highway and transit projects worth \$438 million have been put out for bid. Of this amount, 24 projects have been completed and 96 projects are under construction or starting soon. These projects have helped to create or sustain 16,799 jobs in the state. These impressive figures are just the start; there are still several projects that are in the pipeline into the spring of 2010.

Some of these projects include: An \$8 million project along I-70B near Grand Junction, which will add lanes in both directions and intersections at turn lanes; a project costing \$335,000 will go towards the historic restoration and construction of sidewalks and landscaping in the city of Las Animas; and a multi-phase, \$260 million project to improve U.S. 36 between Denver and Boulder.

For more information on these and other opportunities, please visit [www.coloradodot.info/projects/arra](http://www.coloradodot.info/projects/arra)



### MASSACHUSETTS

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) has received the authority to obligate over \$750 million in ARRA funds across 115 projects in highway, transit, and aviation. As of January 1st, these funds have created or sustained approximately 482 jobs. In February, Governor Patrick announced that the state had obligated all \$437.9 million in highway funds, an entire month ahead of the federal deadline of March. In addition, MassDOT has successfully halved the procurement time from a federally mandated 120 to 46 days.

As part of the ARRA funded High-Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail program, MassDOT received \$70 million for final design and construction of the "Knowledge Corridor" along the Connecticut River rail line in western Massachusetts. The \$75 million project will not only create 626 construction jobs and 155 permanent jobs, but the rehabilitation of the Connecticut River rail line will provide direct access to cities in the Pioneer Valley, such as Greenfield, Northampton, Amherst, and Springfield. This project is part of \$485 million in stimulus funds allocated to improving rail lines in the Northeast Corridor.

Along with rail, MassDOT has wasted no time in advertising on road projects. In the near future, MassDOT will open bidding opportunities for a \$14.3 million project towards reconstruction on Route 20 and 10/202 (MassDOT# 603318,) a \$15 million project involving reconstruction and signal improvements on Assembly Square Drive, Foley Street, and New Road/IKEA Way (# 605680,) and a \$16.2 million on reconstruction and resurfacing along Route 2 (# 602942). "These ARRA projects illustrate our strategic approach to prioritizing projects that spur private sector development, promote long-term job growth and balance the needs of all transportation users," said MassDOT Secretary & CEO Jeff Mullan.

For more information on MassDOT's recovery projects, please visit [www.massdot.state.ma.us/recovery/main.aspx](http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/recovery/main.aspx).

## DOT Publishes Two Federal Register Notices Related to DBE Program

On February 3rd, the DOT issued two Federal Register notices related to the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program. The first notice publishes the final rule changes to regulations (49 CFR Part 26) regarding how often recipients of DOT financial assistance are required to submit to the appropriate DOT operating administration for approval of the methods and processes used to establish their overall DBE goal for federally funded contracting opportunities. Under the rule effective March 5, 2010, recipients will submit overall goals for review every three years.

The second is a notice of proposed rulemaking, in which DOT is to remove the “sunset” provision from its rule governing the airport concessions disadvantaged business enterprise program (49 CFR 23). The rule would instead provide for periodic program reviews. In addition, and in the interest of initiating a program review, DOT is soliciting comments on any changes that should be made in the rule. These comments would assist the Department in reviewing the rule and, if necessary, proposing modifications to it in the future.

To review the Federal Register notice visit:  
[www.osdbu.dot.gov/documents/pdf/dbe/49\\_CFR\\_Part\\_26-3\\_yr\\_goal\\_Fed\\_Reg\\_notice-02\\_03\\_10.pdf](http://www.osdbu.dot.gov/documents/pdf/dbe/49_CFR_Part_26-3_yr_goal_Fed_Reg_notice-02_03_10.pdf)

To review the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking visit:  
[www.osdbu.dot.gov/documents/pdf/dbe/49\\_CFR\\_Part\\_23-Program\\_Review-02\\_03\\_10.pdf](http://www.osdbu.dot.gov/documents/pdf/dbe/49_CFR_Part_23-Program_Review-02_03_10.pdf)

Responses to the request for comments on potential modifications to the rule must be received by November 1, 2010.

## Administration to Toughen Accountability in Federal Contractor’s Taxes

On January 20th, President Obama issued a memorandum in an effort to ensure that companies that are seriously delinquent on their taxes are not awarded federal contracts. Each year the federal government pays more than half a trillion dollars to contractors and it is understood that steps must be taken to protect taxpayer money and the federal procurement process. As part of this order, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) commissioner must conduct a review of certifications of non-delinquency in taxes for firms that bid on federally funded contracts and within 90 days the IRS is to report on the accuracy of those certifications.

In addition, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) chief, as well as other agency heads, will be required to evaluate how contracting officers and officials responsible for suspension and debarment respond when significant delinquencies are found. OMB must also issue recommendations within 90 days on how to improve the process of ensuring these contractors are not awarded contracts. Furthermore, OMB will develop a plan to make contractor tax certifications easily accessible on a government-wide database.

To read the memorandum issued by President Obama visit: [www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/memorandum-heads-executive-departments-and-agencies-1](http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/memorandum-heads-executive-departments-and-agencies-1)

## Recent Events at Spelman College Women and Girls Program

In a continued effort to assist Atlanta area small, women-owned and disadvantaged business enterprises (S/WOB/DBE) in participating in Department of Transportation funded opportunities, OSDBU and Spelman College hosted a number of small business training sessions during the months of January and February. The purpose of these trainings was to provide information to businesses and aspiring business owners that can assist them in navigating through the government procurement process and help them to better compete on future transportation funded projects.

The training provided participants with an overview of the DOT-Spelman College Project, as well as information regarding the small business certification process, why it is necessary, and the various categories within this type of certification.

For more information on the program and future events sponsored visit:  
[www.osdbu.dot.gov/WG/pettaw.cfm](http://www.osdbu.dot.gov/WG/pettaw.cfm)

The procurement process was thoroughly discussed and best practices, such as the “do’s” and

“don’ts” of procurement were shared by the District Director from the Georgia Office of the SBA, Ms. Terri Denison.

Attendees were also provided with information regarding the ARRA Bonding Assistance Reimbursable Fee Program for DBEs, in which small and disadvantaged businesses can apply to be reimbursed for bonding premiums and fees incurred when competing for, or performing on, transportation infrastructure projects funded by ARRA. They also learned about the Short Term Lending Program that provides a revolving line of credit for DBE-certified or SBA-certified small businesses.

These events provided participants with resources that will help guide them into the government procurement arena, in addition to offering insight on strategies that will help them be successful in accessing DOT funded contracts and subcontracts.

# calendar

**MAY 17 – 19, 2010**

**U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
America's Small Business Summit  
Washington, DC**  
[www.uschambersummit.com/sbsummit/default](http://www.uschambersummit.com/sbsummit/default)

**MAY 18, 2010**

**Prince George's County Small Business Day  
Oxon Hill, MD**

**MAY 18-19, 2010**

**Partnering with Communities on Major Projects to  
Assure Success in DBE Participation (FHWA, FTA, COMTO)  
Denver, CO**

**MAY 23-25, 2010**

**Small Business Administration Small Business Week  
Washington, DC**  
[www.nationalsmallbusinessweek.com/](http://www.nationalsmallbusinessweek.com/)

**MAY 24, 2010**

**Baltimore Small Business Day  
Baltimore, MD**

**MAY 25, 2010**

**Keeping the Promise - California Disabled Veterans  
Alliance Business Matchmaking  
Irvine, CA**  
[www.businessmatchmaking.com/events.shtml](http://www.businessmatchmaking.com/events.shtml)

**MAY 25, 2010**

**Sky's the Limit Regional Conference  
Atlanta, GA**

**JUNE 1, 2010**

**Bonding Education Program begins  
Chicago, IL**

**JUNE 2-4, 2010**

**FAA Western Pacific Region Airports Conference  
Los Angeles, CA**  
[www.asballiance.com/component/registrationpro/?view=event&did=2&shw\\_attendees=0](http://www.asballiance.com/component/registrationpro/?view=event&did=2&shw_attendees=0)

**JUNE 3, 2010**

**Honolulu Small Business Day  
Honolulu, HI**

**JUNE 9-11, 2010**

**National Association of Women Business Owners  
Women's Business Conference 2010  
Washington, DC**  
[http://nawbo.org/section\\_231.cfm](http://nawbo.org/section_231.cfm)

**JUNE 10, 2010 (tentative)**

**Bonding Education Program begins  
Dallas, TX**

**JUNE 19-22, 2010**

**Airport Minority Advisory Council  
Airport Business Diversity Conference  
Sheraton, New Orleans, LA**  
[www.amac-org.com/annualconference.html](http://www.amac-org.com/annualconference.html)

**JUNE 24, 2010 (tentative)**

**Bonding Education Program begins  
Atlanta, GA**

**JUNE 28 – JULY 1, 2010**

**FAA National Small Business Training Conference:  
Renaissance Oklahoma City Convention Center -  
Oklahoma City, OK**  
[www.asballiance.com/component/registrationpro/?view=event&did=1&shw\\_attendees=0](http://www.asballiance.com/component/registrationpro/?view=event&did=1&shw_attendees=0)

**JULY 10-13, 2010**

**COMTO Annual Conference  
Cleveland, OH**  
[www.comto.org/news-events.php?event\\_id=95](http://www.comto.org/news-events.php?event_id=95)

**JULY 19-22, 2010**

**6th Annual National Veteran Small Business  
Conference & Expo  
Caesars Palace - Las Vegas, NV**  
<http://expo.nationalveteransconference.com/>

**JULY 26, 2010**

**Minneapolis Small Business Day  
Minneapolis, MN**

**SEPTEMBER 13-16, 2010**

**AASHTO National Civil Rights Conference  
Norfolk, VA**