

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Profile

INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEERING INCORPORATED (IEI)

Infrastructure Engineering, Inc. (IEI) is one of the largest African American owned civil engineering firms in Chicago.

IEI's Work on the 75th Street Corridor Improvement Project (75th St. CIP)

IEI is a part of the Corridor Management Consultant team for the 75th Street Corridor Improvement Project (75th St. CIP). IEI's work on 75th St. CIP includes:

- Utility coordination
- Constructability reviews
- Programming coordination
- Workforce diversity program enforcement

IEI found out about the 75th St. CIP opportunity by tracking the CREATE Program, Illinois Department of Transportation, Chicago Department of Transportation, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, Cook County and several other agencies that are stakeholders on the corridor improvement project. IEI focuses its mission on transforming communities, and the 75th St. CIP does that for the Chicagoland area. "At IEI, we believe in supporting the communities where we live and work. As part of our corporate commitment, our firm members become personally involved by working with local, regional, and national governments, charitable organizations, and schools.

Diversity is part of who we are – it is in our DNA and culture as a firm. We have a strong local workforce in Chicago with many of our leadership group and senior engineers being with the firm for more than 10 years. We are growing our workforce currently and hiring for many positions to supplement our local technical staff of more than 50 professionals."

Clarice Lyons-Davidson, MBA, CPSM, Chief Marketing Officer

About IEI

Civil engineer and entrepreneur Michael Sutton, P.E. started the company by acquiring a firm and utilizing the experience that he had gained previously with consulting firms and state government. IEI is headquartered in Chicago.

IEI's Advice for Other DBE Firms

IEI is a certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise/Minority Business Enterprise and has directly benefited from the Chicago area agencies and their commitment to promote and support the economic growth of diverse businesses. IEI is currently mentoring multiple firms with the City of Chicago on the Citywide Program Management Consultant Project, and on an Illinois Tollway project.

"We believe that an effective mentor/protégé plan includes technical training for production staff, project management training and business relationship development. This results in a firm's ability to grow capacity, enhance capabilities, and develop long-term partnerships. We recommend to others that they incorporate these aspects into all mentor/protégé opportunities to fully leverage the relationship."

Moving Forward Together

To learn more about CREATE visit www.createprogram.org and www.75thcip.org

