

## **BONDING ASSISTANCE**

The US Department of Transportation (DOT) Bonding Education Program (BEP) partners with the Surety and Fidelity Association of America (SFAA) to help small businesses become bond ready. Becoming bondable is a challenge for many disadvantaged businesses and this program aims to help businesses grow by obtaining or building bonding capacity. The BEP is offered through DOT's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization and its network of Small Business Transportation Resource Centers (SBTRC) around the county. A list of centers in the County's Market Area follow below:

### **Los Angeles**

#### **LA Metro**

Diversity and Economic Opportunity Department  
One Gateway Plaza  
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952  
Tel: 213.922.2600  
<http://www.metro.net/about/deod/>

#### **Los Angeles World Airports**

Los Angeles International Airport  
1 World Way, Los Angeles, CA 90045  
<http://www.lawa.org>

#### **Minority Business Development Agency—Los Angeles Business Center**

Sergio Gascon  
3716 South Hope Street, Suite No. 341  
Los Angeles, CA 90089  
Phone: (213) 821-2541  
E-mail: [sgascon@usc.edu](mailto:sgascon@usc.edu)

#### **Port of Long Beach**

925 Harbor Plaza  
Long Beach, CA 90801  
<http://www.polb.com>

#### **Port of Los Angeles**

425 S. Palos Verdes Street  
San Pedro, CA 90731  
<http://www.portoflosangeles.org>

#### **Los Angeles County Office of Small Business/Procurement Technical Assistance Center - PTAC**

1100 North Eastern Avenue, 1st Floor  
Los Angeles , CA 90063  
Phone: (323) 881-3964  
Toll free: (855) 230-6430  
OSB E-mail: [osb@isd.lacounty.gov](mailto:osb@isd.lacounty.gov)  
<http://osb.lacounty.gov/home.htm>

### **Southwest Region**

## **Southwest Region SBTRC: Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada**

The Southwest Region Small Business Transportation Resource Center (SW SBTRC), operated by the California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce, serves the small business contracting community in Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Nevada. The goal of the SW SBTRC is to increase the ability of small businesses to compete for and enter into transportation-related contracts at the local, state and federal levels throughout the region. Headquartered in Sacramento, the SW SBTRC assists small and disadvantaged businesses in the region by providing procurement, technical, financial and bonding assistance.

<http://www.dot.gov/osdbu/sw-sbtrc>

## **Additional Resources**

The Caltrans/SBA Bonding Assistance Initiative is another valuable resource available to you. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in consultation with the Governor's Office of Small Business Advocate, have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), to offer a technical assistance surety bond guarantee program to promote increased small business participation in Caltrans, State highway and transit projects.

This initiative is vital to placing more small businesses on the path to full and adequate utilization within California, bringing success to more small businesses, thereby strengthening the State's business community and economy. Further, this initiative provides a viable means to advance the unimpeded participation of all willing, ready, and able construction contractors and subcontractors, professional architectural and engineering firms, suppliers and truckers, without regard to race, ethnicity, gender, or physical disability to participate in the State's Contracting Program.

SBA's Surety Bond Guarantee Program helps eligible small businesses obtain bid, performance and payment bonds by guaranteeing surety companies between 70% and 90% of the bond amount.

SBA's Surety Bond Guarantee Program contains two components: Prior Approval Program and Preferred Program. For more information, please visit their Web site at [www.SBA.gov](http://www.SBA.gov)

Contact or visit your nearest SBA office listed below:

### **Santa Ana District Office**

200 W. Santa Ana Blvd.  
Suite 700  
Santa Ana, CA 92701  
Phone: (714) 550-7420

### **Los Angeles District Office**

330 North Brand, Suite 1200  
Suite 700  
Glendale, CA 91203  
Phone: (818) 552-3215

Other Offices located in California can be found at the link below:

[http://www.caltrans.ca.gov/hq/bep/documents/CT\\_SBA\\_Bonding\\_Assistance\\_Initiative.pdf](http://www.caltrans.ca.gov/hq/bep/documents/CT_SBA_Bonding_Assistance_Initiative.pdf)