Tracey Aping
Tracey Aping is the Director of Business Development and Diversity at Williams Brothers Construction Co., Inc. She has served in this capacity since 2014 and is responsible for managing technical proposal development for alternative delivery procurements, marketing services, and S/DBE outreach program.

An AGC of Texas member, Tracey currently co-chairs the joint TxDOT-AGC DBE Committee and the DBE Outreach workgroup. Tracey has been an active member of Women’s Transportation Seminar (WTS) since 2006 and serves on the Houston Chapter’s board as Director of Student Relations, overseeing the Scholarship, Student Chapters and Gala committees. She is a recipient of the Houston Chapter’s 2016 Rosa Parks Diversity Award. Tracey is a cum laude graduate of Greensboro College with a B.S. and a graduate of the University of Houston-Clear Lake with an M.B.A.

Angela Berry Roberson
Angela is the Director of Diversity Contract Compliance for Ferrovial Agroman US Construction Companies (FAUSCC) where she manages comprehensive Diversity and Civil Rights contract requirements, program management, and compliance for FAUSCC U.S. projects and affiliate companies. Some of her additional duties include diversity development, administration of diversity contracting programs, Workforce Diversity goals and external Diversity Affairs.

Over 20 years of experience in Civil Rights and Diversity Policy and Program Management services in the Transportation industry, Angela sits on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee of the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of America as well as the DBE committee for the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Texas. She is also licensed attorney with a B.A. in Political Science from Rice University and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C.

Bob Lanham, P.E.
In addition to being a Military Vet, Bob is an honors graduate of Texas A&M University with a B.S. in Civil Engineering, served on the Corps of Cadets, and is an alumnus of Chi Epsilon and Tau Beta Pi. He is a registered professional engineer, and in 2015, Texas A&M recognized Bob as a Distinguished Graduate of the Department of Civil Engineering.

Bob started out as Project Engineer with Williams Brothers in 1985 and over the next 30 years, he worked in virtually every aspect of the business until being named President in 2013. A life member of the AGC of America’s Board of Governors, Bob has served 8 years on the AGC of America’s Board of Directors. In 2006, he was Chairman of AGC of America’s Highway and Transportation Division and at the 2018 Convention installed as Vice President of AGC of America. Bob has also served two terms as the President of the AGC of Texas (2000 and 2011).

Sharon Douglas
Founder of Potere Construction, LLC., Sharon graduated from Huston-Tillotson College in Austin, TX with a B.A. in Business Administration. She also attended University Texas of Austin and was commissioned to the United States Army as a Second Lieutenant. While serving as a Captain in the Army Reserve, she trained cadets at the University of Toledo and University of Iowa.

Under Sharon’s leadership, Potere Construction has grown exponentially and completed both Heavy Highway and Commercial projects with Hensel Phelps, Granite Construction, Ferrovial Agroman, Texas Sterling, Holder Construction, Webber, Hunt Construction, Austin Bridge Road, City of Hurst, City of Fort Worth and others. More recently, sharon was appointed the first Chair 2016–2017 for DFW-National Association of Minority Contractors.

Marc D. Williams, P.E.
Marc serves as Deputy Executive Director of the Texas Department of Transportation. In this role he assists the department’s executive director and management team with oversight of all TxDOT functions, including the management and operation of the state’s transportation system. He is charged with ensuring Texas’ transportation system is planned, constructed and maintained in a cost-effective manner in order to effectively address the state’s growing safety, mobility and reliability needs.

Williams’ career experience in transportation planning and program efforts includes public- and private-sector organizations involving state, county and local jurisdictions. He has served in leadership positions with two state departments of transportation and has worked with national, private-sector transportation engineering organizations. His professional assignments have included directing statewide transportation planning and programming efforts as well as managing project-specific highway and multimodal transportation plans and programs.
Program Overview

8:00–8:30 am Registration

8:30–8:45 am Opening Remarks
Quincy Allen, TxDOT Houston District Engineer
Greetings
Laura Ryan, Texas Transportation Commissioner
Ivan Svec, AGC Houston Area Chairman

8:45–9:30 am Essentials to do Business w/TxDOT
Jesse Lineberger - TxDOT CST

9:30–10:00 am TxDOT Procurement Types
Varuna Singh, HOU Alternative Delivery Program Director

10:00–10:30 am DBE Engagement
Michael Bryant - TxDOT CIV

10:30–10:45 am Break

10:45–11:05 am Performing Heavy Highway Work
Tracey Aping - AGC

11:05–11:45 am TxDOT Rules and Regulations: A Contractors’ Perspective
Bob Lanham - AGC

11:45–12:30 pm Are You Ready, Willing, and Able?
Angela Berry Roberson - AGC
Working Lunch (Lunch provided by AGC)

12:30–1:00 pm Lessons Learned from a DBE Contractor
Sharon Douglas - AGC

1:00–1:15 pm How to Get More
Tracey Aping - AGC

1:15–1:30 pm Wrap Up & Q&A

1:30 pm Closing Remarks
Marc Williams - TxDOT

Today’s Presenters

Quincy Allen, P.E.
As the District Engineer for TxDOT’s Houston District Quincy is responsible for overseeing the planning, designing, building, operation and maintenance of the state transportation system for the six counties in the district.

The Houston District has a larger population, higher number of registered vehicles and more vehicle miles traveled than any other district. The district runs 24-hour automobile ferry service between Galveston Island and Port Bolivar and has the largest roadway maintenance budget in the state. It oversees the Green Ribbon Project, an innovative landscaping enhancement program, and Houston TranStar, the largest freeway traffic management system in the United States. He earned a bachelor’s degree in petroleum engineering in 1984 from the University of Texas and a bachelor’s in civil engineering in 1990 from the University of Houston.

Jesse Lineberger
Jesse is the Construction and Maintenance Contracts Letting Director for the Texas Department of Transportation. His section is responsible for the execution of the State Construction and Maintenance Letting, Pre-qualification and E-Verification of prime contractors, the facilitation of the low bid contract process, contract award and execution.

Jesse joined TxDOT after 23 years in the United States Army. He holds a B.S. degree in Air Traffic Control from Thomas Edison State University and an MBA in Project Management from Columbia Southern University.

Varuna Singh, P.E.
Singh, 2002 civil engineering graduate of the University of Texas at Arlington has 15 years of transportation experience with TxDOT. Varuna began his TxDOT career with Weatherford Area Office in the Fort Worth District, focusing on design. He transitioned to alternative project delivery in 2010 serving as a deputy project manager on the 13-mile $2.1 billion North Tarrant Express Concession Project. In 2012, he became the project manager of the 30-mile $1.4 billion I-35E Express Lanes Design-Build Project in Dallas. Since 2015, he has served as the Houston District’s Alternative Delivery Program Director, currently implementing over $2 billion in construction and developing $3 billion for procurement.

Michael D. Bryant
serves as director of the Civil Rights Division (CIV), responsible for promoting diversity and inclusion in the internal operations and external programs of the Department by effectively working alongside Districts, Divisions, and stakeholders to achieve civil rights related objectives.

Bryant began working with the Department of Family and Protective Services as a procurement and contracts attorney and also served as the agency’s Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Coordinator. While working at the Office of Governor Rick Perry, he served as counsel to the Trusteed Programs within the Office, including the Economic Development & Tourism Division, Texas Military Preparedness Commission, Texas Music Office and the Texas Film Commission.

Bryant started his TxDOT career in the General Counsel Division working on a variety of matters related to the Civil Rights Division, HUB and DBE issues, comprehensive development agreements, intellectual property and the agency’s information technology outsourcing. Currently, CIV manages a variety of economic development programs for small business development and workforce development. CIV manages the Title VI program to ensure nondiscrimination. Additional programs include Affirmative Action, Diversity, and Equal Employment Opportunity. CIV provides training, certifies businesses for the small business programs, performs contract compliance reviews, conducts program outreach efforts, and monitors subrecipient contracts and programs.