# **DIVERSITY & INCLUSION NEWSLETTER**

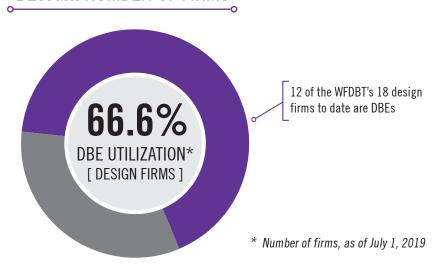




### PROJECT UPDATE

Construction of the RPM Phase One Project is set to begin on the Red Purple Bypass in fall 2019, and design is currently in full swing. To date, the Walsh-Fluor Design-Build Team (WFDBT)'s design team includes lead designer Stantec and 17 subconsultants — 12 of which are certified DBE firms.

### **DESIGN: NUMBER OF FIRMS**





Building upon our culture of equity, diversity, and inclusion is a core component of the Walsh-Fluor DBT's mission statement. We will act in a fair and equitable way to build trust and enhance

the performance of all team members and stakeholders on RPM Phase One.

- DAVE SHIER WFDBT PROJECT EXECUTIVE

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or Jean Claude Aurel, Jr., the RPM Phase One Project is more than just another job – it's a homecoming. Aurel, who grew up on the South Side of Chicago, is the owner, President, and CEO of Transit Safety & Security Solutions, Inc. (TSSS), a DBE firm providing system security certification services on RPM as subconsultant to the Walsh-Fluor Design-Build Team (WFDBT).

"RPM is our first transit project in Chicago, which means we can establish a presence here and our employees who had been working in other states are now able to come home and work," said Jean Claude. "We are excited to be a part of RPM and it means a lot to us."

Jean Claude grew up in Chicago's Beverly neighborhood and graduated from Northern Illinois University with a degree in Industrial Engineering. He began his career working for Johnson Controls, and in 2002, he joined the CTA as the System Safety Engineer where he participated in the Authority's several Red, Brown, and Blue Line improvement projects that were underway at the time. Jean Claude left Chicago in 2006 for a position with Houston Transit, where he served as the Manager of Safety Engineering and Analysis.

A self-proclaimed visionary, Jean Claude was always interested in starting his own business and creating opportunities for others. "I've always wanted to help others become better by giving them opportunities they have not been provided," he said. "In particular, I'm interested in giving women, minorities, and various ethnic groups the opportunity to sit at the table and be heard."

In 2008, Jean Claude founded TSSS, a DBE firm headquartered in Houston that special-

izes is safety and security certification, including risk management and hazard analysis, for large transit projects. The company is also a national training center for First Aid, CPR, and OSHA training courses. In 2010, TSSS was approached by Fluor to join their team on the Denver RTD's \$2.3 billion Eagle P3 light rail project — the company's first major project and an opportunity that would open the door to future successes for Jean Claude and his company.

In the coming years, TSSS would go on to provide system safety, security, and certification services on several multibillion-dollar transit projects across the country, including the \$5.6 billion MTA Purple Line Project near Baltimore and the \$2.3 billion MBTA Green Line Extension in Boston — as a member of Fluor's team on both projects. TSSS was again approached by Fluor in 2018 to join the WFDBT, the team eventually selected by the CTA to design and construct the \$2.1 billion RPM Phase One Project. This project would be different than others, however, as it would provide Jean Claude an opportunity to return to his hometown of Chicago and make some changes within his company.

With a staff of more than 50 full-time employees across the country today, Jean Claude relocated TSSS's headquarters from Houston to Chicago following the award of RPM in early 2019. He also recently opened a safety training facility in the Roseland neighborhood on the city's South Side where the company conducts OSHA and First Aid training for government agencies.

"My goal while on RPM is to ensure the transit system is safe and secure for revenue services," he said, "and also provide opportunities for the people living within the cities we work in. If there are opportunities to hire local staff, I will."

Jean Claude also noted that he has been revising his hiring strategy to include more youth — young professionals who can be trained on the job and remain with the company long-term. And with a five-year project just underway, one thing is certain: there will be plenty of opportunities here in Chicago.



RPM Phase One is providing one DBE firm the opportunity to return to Chicago



# GROWTH

### **OPPORTUNITY**

How RPM Phase One is providing design DBE firm 2IM Group an opportunity to grow through meaningful mentorship

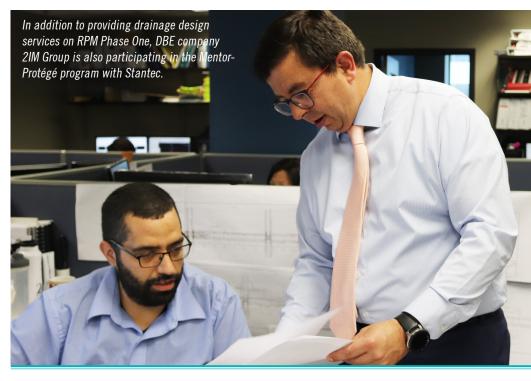
ftentimes, a job as substantial as RPM Phase One means there are plenty of opportunities for DBE firms. For the multidisciplined civil engineering firm 2IM Group, however, being a part of the Walsh-Fluor Design-Build Team (WFDBT) on RPM is not only an opportunity to work on a high-profile mega-project, but it's also an opportunity for the firm to grow into a new area of expertise. By participating in the Mentor-Protégé program with lead designer Stantec, 2IM is gaining valuable track design guidance and experience while also providing their specialty drainage design and civil support services.

"We are participating in the Mentor-Protégé program with a focus on track design," said Luis Montgomery, owner and president of 2IM. "Our goal is through meaningful mentorship, we will gain track design experience and build that discipline within our company."

Luis founded 2IM in 2006 and has grown the business to a firm of 50 staff members.

Luis Montgomery, president of 2IM, grew up in Edgewater near the RPM Phase One project area.





Specializing in civil and environmental engineering and water resource management, 2IM has gained experience — particularly in sustainable design — through numerous jobs for the Illinois Tollway and IDOT. But being a part of RPM is an experience that could lead to more opportunities for the company and has particular meaning to Luis.

"I was born in Colombia, but I grew up in the Edgewater neighborhood, so I know this project corridor well," he said.

Luis attended St. Ignatius College Prep in the Near West Side and would ride the Red Line every day across the city to school. "This project is like memory lane for me and I'm glad to be a part of this team. I want to see the face of Chicago change for the better, which is what this project will do."

According to Luis, 2IM's role on RPM is a great opportunity for the firm to showcase its abilities while gaining valuable experience needed to expand their service offerings in adjacent areas, such as track design. He also hopes the experience gained on this project could lead to roles on the CTA's planned future phases of RPM and the upcoming Red Line Extension project.

In addition to RPM Phase One, 2IM will be a part of other high-profile projects around

the city, including providing project controls services as part of the Studio ORD team for the O'Hare Expansion Project. The company will also be providing civil services as part of CDOT's Program Management team for the Lincoln Yards development, as well as serving on the Tollway's Mile Long Bridge and Elgin O'Hare Western Bypass projects.

When asked how he learns about new business opportunities and potential involvement on upcoming projects, Luis credits good old-fashioned networking. "You have to use the resources available to you and be active in industry organizations," he said.

Luis is an active member of the Hispanic American Construction Industry Association (HACIA) and emphasized the importance staying involved with such organizations. "Show up at the networking events and stay in touch with the Diversity and Inclusion contacts within the industry, but don't overextend yourself and take on work you cannot perform."

Right now, Luis finds his company in a good place with RPM Phase One and other milestone projects on his plate. 2IM will be expanding their office space later this year and will hopefully expand their geographical footprint to other cities in the future.





his summer, the Walsh-Fluor DBT and its lead designer, Stantec, brought on a group of 11 interns from universities and high schools throughout the Chicagoland area and beyond to participate in the team's summer internship program. While the students bring diverse backgrounds and experiences to the RPM Phase One Project, they all share a similar goal: To learn as much as possible while contributing to the success of city's largest design-build transit project.

As part of the student's learning experience, Walsh-Fluor and the CTA hosted an intern social lunch and jobsite tour on June 28. Members of the CTA and Walsh-Fluor teams discussed their own career paths, while the interns shared with the group their goals and interesting facts about themselves.

In addition to learning about each other,

the event aimed to make students aware of the valuable professional experience they have at hand — not only RPM-specific, but for the extensive amount of construction work the city has planned in the near future.

"With billions of dollars of construction planned throughout the city of Chicago in the next 10 years, this internship is about more than just the CTA and RPM — it's about getting into a career and an industry with a lot of opportunities in the

pipeline," Doug Kucia, CTA RPM Director of Administration, told the students.

With RPM Phase One design in full gear, a majority of the interns (six total) are working with Stantec on various elements of design and quality control. Walsh-Fluor has three interns, and DBE subconsultants Lakeshore Engineering and TSSS each have an intern, as well.

Learn more about our interns on the following pages.

The CTA's Doug Kucia, Walsh-Fluor Diversity & Inclusion Manager Kweku Thompson, and CTA's Diversity Project Consultant-Workforce Chynna Hampton led a discussion with RPM interns about careers in Chicago's A/E/C industry during the RPM intern social.







#### TERESA VERGARA MIRANDA

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY • CLASS OF 2022
Teresa is joining Walsh for her second internship — last summer she interned on the CTA Belmont & Jefferson Park Station Renovations project. A Civil Engineering and Economics major, Teresa's long-term goals include working with community-based organizations that provide resources to underserved neighborhoods in Chicago, specifically, providing post-secondary education and college-readiness resources where they are lacking.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Brighton Park, Chicago



#### **JULIA KAMINSKI**

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY • CLASS OF 2021 Julia is a Sustainable Systems Design Engineering student interning with Stantec. She is excited to gain insight into how a design-build team functions and how the design process works for a project as large as RPM Phase One. She is inspired by Albert Einstein, Leonardo DaVinci, and everything about nature. After graduation, Julia hopes to work in urban development in developing countries.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Printer's Row, Chicago



JOSEPH MASON
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT PINE BLUFF
CLASS OF 2020

Joseph is an Industrial Technology student interning with TSSS. While on RPM, he hopes to gain as much knowledge as possible about the transit industry and Chicago's rail systems. Joseph is also a musician who produces beats, mixes music, writes songs, and sings. After graduation, he hopes to work full-time with a firm while pursuing his technical certifications. He also has entrepreneurial aspirations for the future.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Flossmoor, IL



### JOHN (BEAU) GALAHER

CLEMSON UNIVERSITY • CLASS OF 2020

Beau is working his third internship with Fluor — he spent his previous two summers working on nuclear projects for the firm. Beau is a Mechanical Engineering student who hopes to gain full-time construction experience before returning to school to obtain an MBA. After receiving his MBA, he will strive to manage international projects.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Bronzeville, Chicago



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO CLASS OF 2020

Kadijah is a Mechanical Engineering student interning with Lakeshore Engineering. Her goal while on RPM is to gain confidence as an engineer. After graduation, Kadijah would like earn a PMP certification, and eventually become a project manager. Long-term, she would like to pursue an MBA and start her own consulting firm.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Uptown, Chicago







Members of the Walsh-Fluor DBT toured the RPM Phase One project area with the interns on June 28. The tour brought to life much of what the interns have been working on to date and provided an opportunity for their questions to be answered by Walsh-Fluor technical staff.





CLEMENTE TOVAR
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO
CLASS OF 2019

Clemente is a former Marine who is studying electrical engineering and interning with Stantec. He hopes to learn as much as possible from the Systems Engineering team while on RPM. After graduation, Clemente hopes to gain employment as an electrical engineer and finish restoring his 1966 Mustang.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Rogers Park, Chicago



Shailja is studying civil and structural engineering, and this is her second internship with Stantec. Having immigrated to the U.S. from India as a young child, Shailja is inspired by her family who has taught her to work hard, never settle for anything, and to work with humility, kindness, and dedication.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Lakeview, Chicago





### DOMINIC GEMELLI

BRADLEY UNIVERSITY • CLASS OF 2020

Dominic is majoring in construction management and has career ambitions of being a safety manager in the construction industry. He has previously worked various internships with Fluor and hopes to be hired on full-time after graduation so he can work on RPM Phase One through project completion.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Wheaton, IL

# JACK DOMEIER MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY CLASS OF 2020

Jack is pursuing a degree in civil engineering. He hopes to gain valuable experience and learn more about the civil engineering field while working with Stantec this summer, which will help him achieve his goal of becoming a Professional Engineer. Last summer, Jack ran with the bulls in Spain.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Riverside, IL





### ASHLEY HERRERA

WALTER PAYTON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2020

Ashley is a Stantec intern who previously participated in Stantec and Walsh's ACE Mentorship Program. Ashley also held an internship with the Field Museum, where she designed an educational game about freshwater ecosystems. She's looking forward to learning how projects advance while on RPM Phase One.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Jefferson Park, Chicago

### **ALEXANDER KEMNITZ**

WHITNEY YOUNG HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2020

Alex is joining Stantec, and is a previous ACE Mentor. He is interested in studying architecture, civil engineering, and urban planning, and is inspired by Raymond Loewy and Daniel Burnham. Alex hopes to improve his skills while on RPM Phase One, and better understand how certain programs work.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Edgewater, Chicago











# PROCUREMENT S C H E D U L E

### **AVAILABLE SCOPES OF WORK:**

The following scopes of work will be available to bid during the next three months:

- TEMPORARY STATIONS:
  - » FIBERGLASS
  - » Steel
  - » Concrete
  - » Rebar
  - » Excavation
  - » EARTHWORK
- O VAUTRAVERS RELOCATION
- O RELAY HOUSE STRUCTURE
  - » STEEL
- REBAR (RPB SUBSTRUCTURE)
- O REBAR (RPB SUPERSTRUCTURE)
- O WOOD TIES FOR TRACK
- SURVEY

- Erosion Control
- Tree Protection
- O TEMP FENCE
- → MOT FLAGGING

  Output

  Description:

  Output

  Description:
- VACUUM TRUCK
- O TRUCKING (DUMP/SPOIL REMOVAL)
- Sewer Televising
- SITE SECURITY
- O BEARINGS (TWO SEPARATE PACKAGES)
- DRAINAGE
- EXPANSION JOINTS
- Access Hatches
- For more information about upcoming bidding opportunities and scopes of work, visit www.Walsh-FluorRPM.com
- Subcontractors and DBE firms wishing to be considered for contracting opportunities should submit their credentials to comments@Walsh-FluorRPM.com

# Upcoming I

The Walsh-Fluor DBT will be hosting the following outreach events for the DBE community. Please check our website (www.Walsh-FluorRPM.com) for more information.

### **AUGUST**

### Thursday, August 1 | 1:30pm to 3:30pm

Walsh-Fluor & CTA Roadshow at the Cosmo Chamber of Commerce's Monthly Meeting

Cosmo Chamber Office 1633 S. Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL 60616

### Tuesday, August 15 | 12pm to 1:30pm

Walsh Community Series Lunch-and-Learn: Labor Compliance

Walsh Construction 307 S. Sangamon St., Chicago, IL 60607

### Tuesday, August 15 | 5pm to 7pm

Walsh-Fluor & CTA Roadshow at the Black Contractors Owners and Executives' Monthly Meeting

LiveWire 12900 S. Throop St, Calumet Park, IL 60827

### **SEPTEMBER**

### Thursday, September 12 | 12pm to 1:30pm

Walsh Community Series Lunch-and-Learn: Contract Management

Walsh Construction 307 S. Sangamon St., Chicago, IL 60607

### Thursday, September 19 | 1pm to 3pm

Walsh-Fluor & CTA Roadshow at the Greater Englewood Community Development Corporation's Monthly Meeting

**9** 815 W. 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, Chicago, IL 60621

### Thursday, September 26 | 6:30pm to 8pm

Walsh-Fluor & CTA Roadshow at the National Association of Minority Contractors' Monthly Meeting

4455 S. MLK Drive. Chicago. IL 60653

















## CTA ROADSHOW AT HACIA'S MEMBERSHIP MEETING May 8, 2019

The CTA and Walsh-Fluor teamed up for the first RPM Roadshow event, which was held at HACIA's membership meeting in early May. Dave Shier, Walsh-Fluor Project Executive (pictured) and other members of the Walsh-Fluor team spoke about DBE involvement on the RPM Phase One project.

# DAWSON TECHNICAL INSTITUTE CAREERS TRAINING PROGRAM GRADUATION May 9, 2019

The WFDBT was invited to attend the Highway Construction Careers Training Program (HCCTP) graduation on May 9. Funded by the Illinois Department of Transportation, HCCTP is a 16-week training program designed to increase access to highway construction jobs for minorities, women, and disadvantaged individuals. WFDBT's Quality Manager, Ty Robertson (pictured, right) and Project Engineer Paul Crutchfield (pictured, left) were guest speakers during the ceremony and shared thier personal success stories about working in the construction industry.

## CTA ROADSHOW AT CBA MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING June 11, 2019

The Chatham Business Association (CBA) welcomed the CTA and WFDBT to their monthly membership meeting in June for an update on RPM. WFDBT's Diversity & Inclusion Manager Kweku Thompson (pictured) spoke about how DBEs can stay engaged with our team early and often as bidding opportunities become available.

### CTA ROADSHOW AT USMCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING June 13, 2019

The WFDBT and CTA joined approximately 35 attendees at the U.S. Minority Contractors Association (USMCA)'s monthly membership meeting in Crestwood, IL, on June 20. Walsh-Fluor team members, including Project Manager Dago Beek (pictured, right) shared information on upcoming RPM bidding opportunities for DBE companies. The event was hosted by Rev. Larry Bullock, Founder and CEO of USMCA, who shared his enthusiasm for the positive impacts and opportunities the RPM project will bring to the DBE community (pictured, left center with JuanPablo Prieto, CTA's Senior Manager of Diversity Programs and Kenneth Webb, Sr., Vice President of USCMA.)

