

## **For Immediate Release**

Neida Cintron  
HACIA  
(312) 666-5910 ext. 15  
[symposium@haciaworks.org](mailto:symposium@haciaworks.org)

Diane Palmer  
RTA Director of Communications  
(312) 913-3282  
[palmerd@rtachicago.org](mailto:palmerd@rtachicago.org)

**DATE:** November 15, 2007

### **TRANSPORTATION AGENCIES HOST BUSINESS PROCUREMENT SYMPOSIUM ON NOVEMBER 28**

Chicago – Vendors and contractors interested in doing business with regional transportation agencies are invited to attend the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Transportation Symposium & Business Exchange on November 28<sup>th</sup> from noon to 6 p.m. at the Chicago Hilton & Towers, 720 S. Michigan Ave.

Key representatives from the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), CTA, Metra, Pace and IDOT will participate in the symposium and provide 2008 procurement forecasts. Highlights of this year's event include:

A workshop titled "How to Get Bids, Get Contracts, and Get Paid!"

Business Forum followed by a networking Reception. During the one-on-one business exchange, Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) can meet with procurement and departmental representatives from each agency and network with contractors and vendors to explore contracting business opportunities

Vendor exhibitors

Registrants can look forward to broadening business opportunities with governmental agencies, promoting their products and services, networking, plus develop partnerships with other vendors in the transportation industry. "The RTA is committed to partnering with a diverse array of businesses to reflect the diverse constituencies that our agency serves in northeastern Illinois," according to Steve Schlickman, RTA Executive Director.

Bryce D. Word of Pace Suburban Bus Service adds "The Transportation Symposium will not only allow attendees to learn about the suburban transit agency, but also how receptive and excited we are to promote supplier diversity."

Professional service firms, engineers, architects and construction contractors are just a few of the businesses who can benefit by attending this event. Registration begins at noon followed by the informational workshop from 1 – 2:30 p.m. and the event concludes with the Business Forum and Networking Reception from 3 – 6 p.m.

"This forum provides vendors and contractors with an opportunity to meet directly with the decision makers, receive invaluable information, and assist in developing a better understanding on how we do business," says Issa G. Lozada, IDOT Diversity Administrator.

To register for the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Transportation Symposium & Business Exchange, contact HACIA at 312-666-5910 ext. 15 or visit [www.haciaworks.org](http://www.haciaworks.org) to register online. Pre-Registration \$75 - On-site registration \$95.

###