



**Cornell R. Robertson, P.E., P.S.**  
FRANKLIN COUNTY ENGINEER

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Franklin County Engineer's \$2.34M County Resurfacing Contract Utilizes Equitable Business Enterprise Program**

[Columbus, Ohio – June 9, 2020] – Cornell R. Robertson, Franklin County Engineer, is pleased to announce that on June 9, 2020 the Franklin County Board of Commissioners awarded the contract and approved the contract bond to Kokosing Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$2.34M for the Franklin County Resurfacing Program. Competitive bids were opened May 19, 2020, and Kokosing had the lowest and best bid. This project is part of the County Engineer's Infrastructure Maintenance Program and will resurface more than 11 miles of roadway throughout the county.

The Franklin County Resurfacing Program is the first project to utilize the newly established "Franklin County Engineer's Equitable Business Enterprise (EBE) Program for Locally Funded Projects." The program name was recently changed from the Franklin County Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program to avoid confusion between this local program and the Federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program. The FCE EBE program intends to increase participation of disadvantaged businesses on Franklin County Engineer's Office (FCEO) locally funded projects.

"I want to ensure that firms and professionals in the industry understand that this is a program for locally funded projects with the Franklin County Engineer's Office only. It is similar to, but different from, the Federal DBE program. One of my objectives as The Franklin County Engineer is to make sure disadvantaged businesses have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in FCEO-administered contracts and procurement activities, and to promote the use of disadvantaged businesses in all types of contracts and procurement activities conducted by The Franklin County Engineer's Office," said Cornell Robertson.

Engineer Robertson has designated Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator, Simone Burley as the Administrator of the program. As part of the ongoing administration and monitoring of the program, an oversight committee was assembled to establish the FCE EBE participation goals. The equitable business participation aspirational goal for this project is 6%. Prior to contract award, Kokosing identified three disadvantaged business subcontractors to meet the participation goal and assist in fulfilling the scope of work.

For more information about Franklin County Engineer's Office construction projects, visit our website: [www.franklincountyengineer.org](http://www.franklincountyengineer.org).

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*The Franklin County Engineer's Office provides for safe and efficient movement of people and goods from place to place by building and maintaining Franklin County's roads and bridges. We are an agency of action, innovation, and collaboration. For more information, please visit [www.franklincountyengineer.org](http://www.franklincountyengineer.org).*