

FACTS

LRTWORKS.org facts

LRTWORKS.org is a database created by the Metropolitan Council and funded by the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative to help the contractors working on the project find skilled workers to help them meet the workforce goals. It also:

- ▶ Gives a realistic picture of how many skilled construction workers are in the region
- ▶ Helps contractors find skilled workers who may not be represented by any unions
- ▶ Is a networking resource for individuals, both union and non-union, interested in working on the project

For information about construction job opportunities on this project and to register job skills, visit:

LRTWORKS.org.

TRADES

- ▶ Bricklayer
- ▶ Carpenter
- ▶ Cement Mason/Concrete Finisher
- ▶ Electrician/Lineman/ Electronics (Construction)
- ▶ HVAC Installer-Technician
- ▶ Glazier
- ▶ Heat and Frost Insulator
- ▶ Ironworker
- ▶ Laborer/Tender (Construction Craft Laborer)
- ▶ Millwright
- ▶ Operating Engineer/Heavy Equipment Operator
- ▶ Painter
- ▶ Pipefitter
- ▶ Plasterer
- ▶ Plumber
- ▶ Roofer
- ▶ Sheet Metal Worker
- ▶ Steamfitter
- ▶ Taper and Finisher
- ▶ Tile Setter
- ▶ Truck Driver
- ▶ Welder

Central Corridor Light Rail Transit

Workforce and



DETAILS

Details about the Central Corridor LRT Project

The Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project will link downtown St. Paul and downtown Minneapolis along Washington and University avenues via the state Capitol and University of Minnesota. Construction began in 2010 on the planned 11-mile Central Corridor line, and service will begin in 2014. The line will connect with the Hiawatha LRT line at the Metrodome station in Minneapolis and the Northstar commuter rail line at the new Target Field Station.

The Metropolitan Council would be the grantee of federal funds. The regional government agency is charged with building the line in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Transportation. The Central Corridor Management Committee, which includes the mayors of St. Paul and Minneapolis, commissioners from Ramsey and Hennepin counties and the University of Minnesota, provides advice and oversight.

Funding is provided by the Federal Transit Administration, Counties Transit Improvement Board, state of Minnesota, Ramsey and Hennepin counties' regional railroad authorities, city of St. Paul, Metropolitan Council and the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative.

Visit centralcorridor.org.

ADVICE

Advice from the contractors

"There are more than 40 apprenticeship programs in the building trades. People know typically about jobs for carpenters and electricians, but there are other real opportunities they are not aware of.



"Become educated about the trades and the process of applying for apprenticeship programs. That is the biggest hurdle for minorities entering the construction trades."

— **Doug Cunningham**, director of corporate diversity for Walsh Construction, which is building the line's eastern seven miles

"The key is to be a motivated person in general. Let them know who you are whether through persistence or fine-tuning your skills to the scope of work you are looking for."



— **Justin Dean**, workforce coordinator for Ames-McCrossan Joint Venture, which is building the line's western three miles

TIPS

Hiring tips

- ▶ Apply early in the morning at the contractor's office, never at the job sites.
- ▶ Focus on the smaller contractors and subcontractors. There is less competition for jobs with them than the big contractors.
- ▶ Dress the part. Wear jeans and work boots. Do not wear makeup or loose-fitting clothes.
- ▶ Be honest about your skills. Be aggressive but not overconfident. Do not beg for a job but let them know you want a job.
- ▶ Follow up with a phone call or email. Say you want the job for the challenge and because it is interesting, not because of the money or because the union sent you.

CONTACT

Contact information for the construction contractors working on the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project is available at: LRTWORKS.org.

Aldridge/ColliSys Joint Venture – Building the line's traction power substations and overhead contact system

Ames/McCrossan Joint Venture – Constructing the line's western three miles

PCL Construction Services – Converting a vacant warehouse into the operations and maintenance facility

Walsh Construction – Constructing the line's eastern seven miles

FAQs

FAQs about how to get hired

- Q** Who do I talk to about getting a construction job?
A The prime and subcontractors.
- Q** What is work like as a construction worker?
A Construction is hard physical work that is primarily outside in the elements with workdays stretching from early morning to late in the day.
- Q** What are the workforce goals on the Central Corridor LRT Project?
A 18 percent minority and 6 percent women.