

## **Regional Workforce Economic Stimulus Meeting**

### *Illinois Department of Transportation*

- The mission of the Division of Highways at the Illinois Department of Transportation is to plan, design, construct, and maintain a safe highway system with a diverse and professional work force, within available resources, and to the highest nationwide standards for all of the citizens of Illinois.
- The Illinois Department of Transportation is implementing the stimulus through 'shovel ready' projects to create jobs to stimulate the economy and put people to work. The department followed the emphasis for job creation throughout the state while maintaining roadways in the most safe, cost effective method.
- The State of Illinois received \$936 million for Highways and Bridges improvements. The amount made available to the state is by a federally mandated split of 67 % to IDOT and 30% to locals units and 3% set aside for Transportation Enhancements. The funding broken out equates to IDOT receiving \$627 million and \$281 million for locals.
- IDOT will be utilizing the state appropriated resources through two lettings on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and April 24<sup>th</sup>. The projects have already been advertised for contractor review and will be required to submit bids to the department by the previous dates.
- Local units of government will have until March 2, 2010 to obligate federal dollars in order to utilize their stimulus funding. This money will be programmed and approved through Metropolitan Planning Organizations in urbanized areas. Local units will be able to get their projects on future lettings of June 12, July 31, September 18 and November 6.
- The workforce will be labor intensive with skill sets associated with laborers, operating engineers, carpenters, ironworkers, and other road construction trades.
- Attached you will find a complete listing of projects included as part of the stimulus package. Also attached you will find a regional map with the primary contact for your region. If you have any questions regarding the stimulus or regular program, please feel free to contact them.