

Met Council: Central Corridor contractors making DBE goals

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According to a newsletter from the Metropolitan Council, after a slow start the two large civil contractors working on the Central Corridor project — Walsh Construction from Chicago and the locally based Ames-McCrossan joint venture — are achieving the project's workforce participation goals for minorities and women.

Those goals are 18 percent for minorities and 6 percent for women.

Walsh and Ames-McCrossan were not meeting those goals early on, according to the Met Council's DBE News report.

But as construction moved into full swing, both became fully staffed and started hitting the workforce participation goals.

As of July, Walsh had reached an 18.8 percent minority participation rate and a 9.9 percent female participation rate. As of July, Ames-McCrossan's rates were 18.1 percent for minorities and 8 percent for women.

Walsh is building the line's eastern seven miles in St. Paul, while Ames-McCrossan is responsible for the western three miles — in Minneapolis.

"Workforce" refers to individual tradespeople in the field doing the construction work for contractors and subcontractors. Workforce goal participation is measured by the hours these individual tradespeople work.

The Met Council's Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity is responsible for monitoring construction contractors in the field to confirm their workforce numbers.