



## Bonding Program Success in DC

SFAA & The U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) is proud to highlight the completion of the Washington, DC, Bonding Education Program (BEP) efforts.



Joanne Brooks (far left), SFAA's vice president & counsel, participants, stakeholders, SBTRC staff, and BEP Manager Nyime Gilchrist at the DC BEP

OSDBU's Mid-Atlantic Small Business Transportation Resource Center (SBTRC) partnered with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority (MWAA), and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to provide the DC area its first ever BEP.

The DC BEP included 17 emerging contractor participants and resulted in two contractors receiving bonding totaling \$500,000 within six weeks of the BEP education component. The education component of the program was held from October 17 through November 21, 2013. Each participant will continue to work with the program's surety professionals to receive individualized development plans and the SBTRC to obtain ongoing technical assistance.

The SBTRCs use The Surety & Fidelity Association of America's (SFAA) national network to secure local surety professionals who volunteer to assist the small businesses in becoming bondable or increasing their bonding capacity through

the BEP. Through its hands-on, multi-component program, the BEP aims to help businesses grow by obtaining or building bonding capacity.

For information on the BEP, please visit:

[www.dot.gov/osdbu/financial-assistance/bonding-education/bonding-education-program](http://www.dot.gov/osdbu/financial-assistance/bonding-education/bonding-education-program)