January 27, 2010

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 11 and the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) are pleased to announce the third annual Calmentor Mentor-Protégé Program for San Diego Region Architectural and Engineering (A&E) firms. You are invited to the third annual Calmentor Kick-off Workshop on Monday, March 15 at 8:00 a.m.

Consistent with Governor Schwarzenegger’s Executive Order S-11-06, the program aims to develop existing businesses and promote more small and emerging A&E firms for the potential of participating in public transportation projects in the San Diego region. The program is designed to encourage and support small A&E firms through voluntary “Mentor-Protégé” partnerships with mid-size and larger firms.

In order to ensure success, Caltrans and SANDAG have partnered with the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) – San Diego Chapter, the City of San Diego, the San Diego Contracting Opportunities Center – Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), and the Caltrans, District 11 Small Business Council (D-11 SBC). A Steering Committee consisting of representatives from Caltrans, SANDAG, ACEC, the City of San Diego, PTAC, and the D-11 SBC, have worked together to develop the enclosed program material.

If yours is a smaller firm, it may benefit as a protégé in the Calmentor program by:
✓ Forming an alliance with a larger firm
✓ Learning better business practices
✓ Developing a stronger business development program

If yours is a larger firm, it may benefit as a mentor in the Calmentor program by:
✓ Forming an alliance with a specialized small business
✓ Networking with other consultants as well as Caltrans and SANDAG staff
✓ Gaining recognition for leadership in the engineering community

If your firm is mid-sized, please be aware that the program has been designed with plenty of flexibility so that you may be eligible to participate as a mentor or a protégé. You are encouraged to make a proposal to the Steering Committee for consideration.

Regardless of your firm size, please join us at the third annual Calmentor Kick-off Workshop on Monday, March 15, 2010, at the Caltrans District Office, 4050 Taylor Street, Garcia Room, at 8:00 a.m. If you have any questions, please contact Connie Siordia, Caltrans, at D11_Calmentor@dot.ca.gov, or call (619) 688-0276. RSVPs should be directed to the Calmentor Steering Committee at D11_Calmentor@dot.ca.gov or call (619) 767-2357.

We hope that you will take advantage of this outstanding program.

Laurie Berman
District Director
Caltrans, District 11

Gary Gallegos
Executive Director
SANDAG

“Caltrans improves mobility across California”