



The Delaware River and Bay Authority

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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DRBA Contracts to Replace Delaware Memorial Bridge Tower Elevators *Original Elevators Antiquated*

(New Castle, DE) Today, Delaware River and Bay Authority (DRBA) officials announced that Cornell and Company, Incorporated of Westville, New Jersey was awarded Contract DMB 05-01R Elevator Replacement 1st and 2nd Structures at the Delaware Memorial Bridge at a cost of approximately \$12.1 million. The project is expected to be completed in May 2012. On March 16, 2010, the Commissioners unanimously approved the recommendation to award the contract to Cornell and Company at its monthly public meeting and the disclosure follows the ten (10) business day veto period for the Governors of New Jersey and Delaware regarding Commission resolutions and contract awards.

The project is also a success story for the Authority's recently adopted supplier diversity program. Cornell and Company, Inc., a certified Women Business Enterprise (WBE) by the State of New Jersey's Division of Minority and Women Business Development, bid competitively as a prime contractor and will be performing at least 50% of the work with their own crew. According to the company website, this South Jersey family-owned steel construction company is located in Westville, New Jersey, and can trace its roots back nearly a century. President and CEO, Delor Cornell, acquired sole ownership of the corporation in 1996 is actively involved in everyday operations of the company, overseeing projects and discussing details with many customers personally.

According to Joseph Volk, senior engineer for the DRBA, the current elevators are antiquated and unreliable. "The current elevator system is original equipment from the 1940s and 1960s and they have failed to operate on several occasions," Volk said. "Without the elevators, our maintenance crews, construction personnel and engineering professionals would not have the necessary access to the entire bridge tower from the water level pier to bridge deck to the top of the tower to perform inspections and make repairs. In addition, the new system will be vital to support the upcoming 1st structure improvement program."

For construction activity related to the future Delaware Memorial Bridge Major Improvement Program, the DRBA will be opening up the main cables, possibly be replacing the suspender ropes, repainting the entire structures, and replacing the roadway deck of the First Structure.

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Because these new elevator cars will be more than double in size, the new system will also more effectively move personnel, materials and equipment.

The project work shall include the furnishings of all labor, materials, and equipment necessary and consists of replacing existing interior elevators located on the inside of the towers with eight new exterior elevators located on the outside of and attached to the towers. The elevator replacement project is one of several infrastructure investments contained in the Authority's \$248 million Five-Year Capital Improvement Program, which was adopted by the Commission in February.

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About the DRBA

The Delaware River and Bay Authority, a bi-state governmental agency created by Compact in 1962, is charged with providing vital transportation links between Delaware and New Jersey as well as economic development in the three counties of Delaware and the four southern counties of New Jersey. To fulfill these missions, the DRBA operates the Delaware Memorial Bridge, the Cape May-Lewes Ferry, the Three Forts Ferry Crossing, the Salem County Business Center and five regional airports—New Castle, Civil Air Terminal at Dover AFB, and Delaware Airpark, all in Delaware, and Millville and Cape May, both in New Jersey. All DRBA operating revenues are generated through the bridge, ferry and airport facilities.