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DART names general engineering consultant for rail expansion

DART has chosen ACT21 Joint Venture as its general engineering consultant to expand and upgrade DART light rail, bus and Trinity Railway Express commuter rail facilities.

ACT21 -- a joint venture of Carter-Burgess, Jacobs Sverdrup, STV Inc. and KAI Alliance -- will provide general engineering and consulting services to DART over the next five to eight years. One of the four prime contractors, KAI Alliance represents 25% of the ACT21 Joint Venture and is a certified minority business enterprise. ACT21 will draw upon more than 30 minority firms to achieve more than 48% participation from disadvantaged, minority and women-business enterprises from the beginning of the contract.

"The joint venture's combined construction expertise is essential for DART to continue completing projects on time and on budget," said DART President/Executive Director Gary Thomas. "It was equally important for DART to select a contractor that properly reflects all segments of the community. The ACT21 Joint Venture is experienced and diverse. Together, we're going to do great things for the region."

ACT21 will assist DART with the third phase of its light rail build-out through 2010. The projects include 41 miles of extensions serving Deep Ellum, Fair Park, South Dallas and Pleasant Grove to the southeast, and the new American Airlines Center, Medical/Market Center, Love Field Airport, Farmers Branch, Carrollton, North Irving, Las Colinas Urban Center and DFW International Airport to the northwest. Other projects include new facilities such as the expansion of DART's rail maintenance facility near Fair Park, and construction of a second rail maintenance facility in northwest Dallas.