

## THE LIST

## WHAT'S NEXT

# Milwaukee sets small business goals for streetcar

BY SEAN RYAN

seanryan@bizjournals.com  
414-908-0567, @seanryanMBJ

The city of Milwaukee has set a goal of awarding \$12.7 million of its streetcar construction work and \$2.27 million of the project's professional services contracts to disadvantaged businesses.

Firming up those goals is among the progress engineers have made over the past month on the \$98.8 million first phase of the streetcar, a 2.1-mile loop through downtown Milwaukee. The project team remains on schedule, and on budget, with plans to award the first contracts in July and the bulk of the construction work kicking off in April 2016.

The track alignment will be locked in within the next three months, including a decision on whether to reroute the streetcar around Cathedral Square Park.

As with other city projects that receive federal money, Milwaukee officials will set goals to hire disadvantaged business enterprises. A DBE, by federal regulation, is a small business at least 51 percent owned by a "disadvantaged individual," which includes minorities and women.

For the streetcar's first phase, the goal will be 20.7 percent of construction contract dollars, said Tim Clancy, of The Concord Group, the city's owners representative and top consultant on the project. There will be a 17.91 percent goal on professional services contracts, includ-

## ► CLOSER LOOK

Construction firms are lining up to bid on contracts for the first phase of the downtown Milwaukee streetcar project. A timeline of the project:

**July 2015:** Award utility relocation contracts

**September 2015:** Begin utility relocation construction

**January 2016:** Award contracts for streetcar main line and operations and maintenance facility

**March 2016:** Begin building O&M facility

**April 2016:** Start construction on main line

**August 2016:** Complete utility relocation work

**March 2017:** Complete O&M facility

**February 2018:** Complete construction of main line

ing engineering and design work. The goals were opened to the public for 30 days and received no comments, he said.

The first phase of the project will involve work for utility contractors mov-

ing underground sewer, water and communication pipes for the streetcar track. It also includes building an operations and maintenance facility at Fourth Street and St. Paul Avenue.