



NEWS RELEASE

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SBA SELECTS DOT DIRECTOR TO HEAD GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING PROGRAM

WASHINGTON –Luz Hopewell, Director of the U.S. Department of Transportation’s (DOT) Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU), has been selected to become the new associate administrator of the Office of Government Contracting at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), SBA Administrator Aida Alvarez announced today.

As associate administrator, Ms. Hopewell will oversee a program that works to ensure that small businesses receive their fair share of federal prime and subcontract dollars. Her areas of responsibility will include prime contracts, subcontracting assistance, certificate of competency and size policy programs.

“I’m excited about Luz’s decision to join our team,” said SBA Administrator Alvarez. **“Under Luz’s direction, DOT awarded over 58 percent of its direct procurement budget to small, disadvantaged, and women-owned businesses. Her expertise will be a key factor in increasing participation by minority and women-owned businesses in federal government contracts and accomplishing President Clinton’s goal ‘to meet or exceed’ the 5 percent contracting goal for women-owned businesses.”**

Before Ms. Hopewell’s appointment as associate administrator, she served as the director of DOT’s OSDBU office. As the director, she developed and implemented programs designed to ensure small, disadvantaged, minority and women-owned business participated in direct procurements and subcontracts of major prime contractors.

Just recently, Ms. Hopewell became a member of the Women’s Transportation Seminar (WTS) Advisory Board. WTS is dedicated to excellence in transportation through the achievement and success of women.

Before her appointment at DOT, Ms. Hopewell was president of the Latin American Management Association (LAMA).

From 1976-1979, she owned a small marketing firm that represented minority-owned firms and not-for profit organizations seeking federal and state contracts. She earned Vice President Gore’s prestigious “Hammer Award” for her role in assisting DOT in developing a unique procurement strategy for Information Technology Omnibus Procurement (ITOP).

Ms. Hopewell completed the Executive Leadership program at Vanderbilt University.

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