



**Edition 8:** March 19, 2024

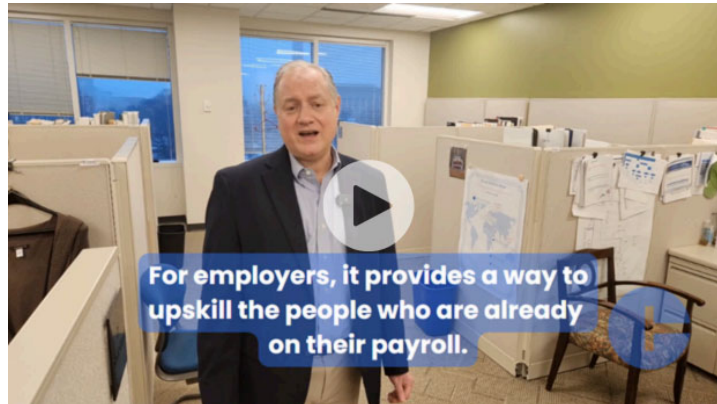
## Commissioner's Corner



March has already been a busy month at DAS, as the legislative session gets into full swing. In this edition of DAS Newsline, we are highlighting the collaborative work of the state's IT optimization efforts, celebrating National Procurement Month, and announcing an award to our Fleet Operations team, among other important stories.

As always, we appreciate the opportunity to share these updates with you, and we look forward to working toward our mutual goals in the coming weeks.

## Collaboration Through IT Optimization



Cross-agency collaboration is key to the success of the state's information technology and digital government programs. Governor Lamont's recent launch of [jobs.ct.gov](https://jobs.ct.gov), the state's new jobs portal, is just the latest example of our work to break down silos and offer a better digital experience for residents.

The state's ongoing IT optimization efforts make projects like this possible and will lead to better services to agencies and a more user-friendly experience for residents and businesses.

Connecticut has been a leader in the digital space, and IT optimization will help us continue to lead.

[Video: Cross-Agency Collaboration on Jobs.CT.Gov \(LinkedIn\)](#)

[Blog: Why Digital Government Requires IT Optimization \(ct.gov\)](#)

## Celebrating Procurement Month



Celebrating .....

## Procurement Month

..... March 2024

March marks Procurement Month, a celebration of the amazing DAS employees who work in the contracting program, the p-card program, the construction contractor prequalification program, the supplier diversity program, and the surplus and auctions program.

Their work is essential to the state government's ability to function, and we will be sharing carefully curated procurement content all month long.

[Video: How DAS Procurement Supports CT's Aviation Industry \(LinkedIn\)](#)

[Blog: DAS Recognizes National Procurement Month 2024 \(ct.gov\)](#)

## Promoting Women in Construction

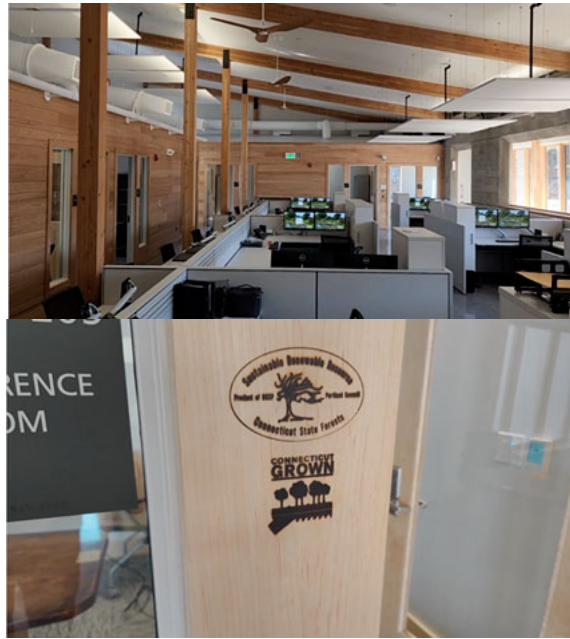


DAS was thrilled to participate in the National Association of Women in Construction's *Women in Construction Week* celebration in Hartford.

The diverse perspectives and skills of women are critical to the success of projects. Women's lived experiences contribute to making our job sites better, and DAS stands committed to uplifting women in the construction space.

DAS has long sought to open up opportunities for women and people of color through initiatives such as the Supplier Diversity Program. The upcoming release of the state's disparity study, thanks to CHRO for leading, with DAS's active participation, will provide concrete recommendations for improving these opportunities even further.

**COMING SOON: The New DEEP  
Western  
District Headquarters Opening**



Stay tuned: DAS and DEEP will soon share details on an opening ceremony for the new DEEP Western District Headquarters, located within Black Rock State Park in Watertown. Local park rangers and ENCON Police, have begun moving into the new facility, which includes the following features:

Trombe Wall – the southern facade features a Trombe wall that absorbs thermal energy for heating and promotes the circulation of air for natural ventilation.

Geothermal – 16 geothermal wells, 500 feet deep with four 10-ton water to water heat pumps heat and cool the building. Additionally, a 5-ton water to water heat pump provides domestic hot water.

Photovoltaics – the building’s roof holds 186 solar panels, generating 73kW, estimated to provide 105% of the building’s annual electrical needs .

Enhanced Building Controls – alarms and troubleshooting building controls are tightly monitored within the building to obtain a net zero goal.

Heat – Areas of the building are zoned with geothermal-fed hot water in-floor radiant heat.

Ventilation – Ventilation systems incorporate energy recovery “heat wheels” mounted within air handling equipment.



Carbon Reduction – Materials, systems and assemblies were selected to reduce embodied carbon in the construction of the building, and eliminate carbon in the operation of the building.

Site Development – Stormwater management and native plantings ensure minimal impact on the environment by cleaning water before it drains to the wetlands and eliminating the need to mow or water groundcover.

The building is designed to LEED Platinum and net-zero design standards and is operated free of fossil fuels.



## **DAS Fleet Operations Wins Geotab Award**



The DAS Fleet Operations team was recently recognized with a 2024 Geotab Innovation Award for Excellence in Safety!

The Geotab Innovation Awards recognize organizations that are leading the way in their use of connected vehicle technology and data insights to drive better outcomes for business, people and the planet.

The winners are scored and selected based on their implementation and performance compared to similar fleets. A new category, the Geotab Awards of Excellence (Safety Champion and Maintenance Champion) is based on nominations by Geotab partners, customers and industry peers, and recognizes fleets for performance, management, innovation and impact.

[DAS Fleet Wins 2024 Geotab Innovation Award for Excellence in Safety\\_\(ct.gov\)](#)

## **DAS Continues Outreach Efforts**



The DAS Talent Solutions and Equal Employment Opportunity teams continued to work tirelessly to reach out to prospective employees through attendance at career fairs at Southern Connecticut State University, UConn Stamford, Yale, Quinnipiac, Central Connecticut State University, University of New Haven, and other locations in recent weeks.

## DAS Testimony at a Glance



### DAS Presentations and Legislative Testimony

DAS has provided testimony on a wide variety of bills, including our two DAS agency proposals: SB 312, *An Act Concerning a Janitorial Work Program for Persons with Disability and Persons with a Disadvantage*; and SB 288, *An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Department of Administrative Services Regarding the School Building Projects Statutes*. You can find all of our testimony on the DAS website.

## Go Behind the Scenes with DAS

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