



SBPO Quarterly Newsletter

A Small Business Programs Office Publication

Director's Corner

On behalf of the entire SBPO staff, we would like to thank you for attending WMATA's "New Socioeconomic Programs and Bonding Overview" event on September 13, 2021. My hope was that you were able to gain a high-level understanding of our new Social Economic Programs.

If you missed our previous outreach event, here is another opportunity for you to join us on November 15, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. and learn about WMATA's New Socioeconomic Programs and hear from subject matter experts about Bonding. Space is limited, so please register 4 p.m. on Thursday, November 11, 2021.

REGISTER BY CLICKING HERE
WMATA's New Socioeconomic Programs
and Bonding Presentation
November 15, 2021

To better position you for success, always remember "Certification is the Key to Participation". We look forward to your certification applications being submitted to WMATA's Small Business Programs Office.

We know that everyone's schedule is busy, and you may not be able to make all our events. If for some reason you missed any of our outreach trainings/events, you can find the on the SBPO website or by [clicking here](#).

Visit [Socio Economic Programs | WMATA](#) to learn more about how to become certified with WMATA in one or more of the following socioeconomic programs:

- Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE)
- Small Business Enterprise (SBE)
- Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) – **New**
- Small Business Program (SBP) – **New**
- Micro-Business Program (MBP) - **New**

The Bonding Presentation video recording is available and can be provided to all attendees upon request.

Thank you for entrusting us with your time. Please stay tuned for more outreaches "Meet the Primes Series"/ Upcoming Projects: Making Equity a Business Partnership/ and much more.

FTA Announces \$25 Million Funding Opportunity to Help Transit Agencies Better Serve Their Communities

FTA today announced a [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) (NOFO) for \$25 million through the American Rescue Plan to help public transportation agencies return service from COVID-19 suspensions in ways that can best serve their communities.

Under FTA's [Route Planning Restoration Program](#), funding can be used for transit route restoration planning that is designed to examine ridership following the COVID-19 pandemic, reduce travel times and make adjustments to increase the quality or frequency of transit service for low-income riders and those in disadvantaged neighborhoods or communities who may need increased service to get to jobs, shopping and health care.

Projects will be selected, in part, on their ability to increase racial equity and advance environmental justice, in support of the President's [Executive Order](#) on "Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government." The projects will also be examined for their impact on the climate, as referenced in the President's Executive Order on "Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad." Transit agencies will be given additional consideration for projects that clearly reassess and plan for service that connects those in underserved communities, while helping cut down on car and other trips that increase emissions, particularly in those communities, which are often the most impacted by airborne pollution.

Eligible recipients include any urbanized area formula grant (Section 5307) recipient that has reduced transit service on or after January 20, 2020, due to COVID-19. The maximum award amount for any prospective applicant may be up to \$1 million and a local match is not required.

Projects will be evaluated by criteria outlined in the NOFO. Apply by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on November 15, 2021.



Federal Acquisition Regulation: Accelerated Payments Applicable to Contracts with Certain Small Business Concerns

The Defense Department, the General Services Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration are proposing to amend the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to implement a section of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 to provide for accelerated payments to small business contractors and subcontractors and a comparable statute applicable only to the Department of Defense.

SBPO Employee Highlight

SHOUT OUT

Anthony Spain – SBPO Sr. Auditor

Anthony is the backbone of the Small Business Program Office (SBPO) Outreach Programs. What technically happens in the background with the information technology is all Anthony connecting the dots and working with the communication and marketing departments to make the presentations connect and ensure the controls are working for a successful process for the outreach. He develops the flyers and information that markets the event, then partners with communications for the final review. Anthony also handles a very important business process for the SBPO when it comes to Contract Compliance, the Prompt Payment Process to ensure payment compliance for small businesses is taking place, to include training businesses on the process of entering payment information into the system for accountability.

Current Solicitations

To view a current listing of contract opportunities online, go to wmata.com. Click on Business > Procurement & Contracting > WMATA Procurement Opportunities > View WMATA Procurement Opportunities > View Active Solicitations Opportunities.

WMATA-0000008518
RFP
BUS PLANNING SOFTWARE
11/15/2021 02:00 PM EST

WMATA-0000008533
RFP
ELEVATOR REHABILITATION PROJECT
11/30/2021 04:24 PM EST

WMATA-0000008544
RFI
METROBUS SHELTER REPLACEMENT
11/12/2021 02:00 PM EST

WMATA-0000008502
RFP
IBM POWER ENTERPRISE SERVER
11/15/2021 02:00 PM EST

WMATA-0000008542
RFP
WAYSIDE EQUIPMENT CONFIGURATION, I
11/05/2021 12:00 PM EDT

WMATA-0000008493
IFB
CYBERSECURITY CODE ANALYZER PURCHASE
11/04/2021 02:00 PM EDT

WMATA-0000008225
RFP
GENERAL ENGINEER CONSULTANT

WMATA-0000008538
RFP
ALGOSEC EXPANSION AND SUPPORT RENEWAL
11/15/2021 12:00 PM EST

WMATA-0000008490
IFB
7K SMP TRUCK OVERHAUL KITS
11/19/2021 05:00 PM EST

WMATA-0000008527
RFP
DULLES PHASE II - ETS TELEPHONES
11/11/2021 12:00 PM EST

WMATA-0000008461
RFP
ACCOUNTING IDIQ STAFF AUG CONTRACT
11/01/2021 05:00 PM EDT



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT METRO'S NEW MBE, SBP and MBP PROGRAMS

- The MBE, SBP and MBP programs were created for the purpose of providing additional contracting opportunities for small, women and minority owned businesses.
- MBE, SBP and MBP requirements will apply to any contract that is non-federal funds. DBE and SBE requirements cannot apply to these funds, as no federal funds are involved.
- All Metro departments that utilize non-federal contract funding must comply with MBE/SBP/MBP requirements.
- Minority, women-owned, and small/micro-businesses will be identified as such in the CLM system.
- As is the case with the DBE program, MBE subcontracting goals will be established based on the specific work to be performed under the contract and the number/availability of certified MBEs to do the work. Initially, Metro will not set an overall aspirational goal percentage. However, as the programs begin to grow and contracting activity increases, an overall target may be set.
- The MBE program will mirror Metro's existing DBE program with respect to processes and procedures. However, there will be separate procurement forms and solicitation language to distinguish DBE versus MBE procurement submittals and contract compliance requirements.
- The SBP is a race-neutral, local business-focused set aside component of the MBE program. Any small business that is headquartered in MD, DC or VA, and that meets the program's business size criteria, can be considered for small business certification by Metro. Small business size caps are smaller than those established for the MBE program.
- There is a separate micro-business certification that is meant to target very small businesses and the business size caps are smaller than those established for the SBP program.
- All dedicated funding procurements and purchases must be evaluated for small or micro-business set aside, regardless of project size. Set aside determinations will be primarily based on the number of certified small or micro-businesses that provide specific product or service being sought.
- Under the SBP, a small business set aside is mandatory if the contract value is at least \$50K but no more than \$1M, with the Chief Procurement Officer (CPRO) discretion, and there are a minimum of three small businesses identified.
- Micro-business set aside is mandatory for contracts up to \$50K when there are at least three micro-businesses that have been identified and the pool supports the set aside.
- Existing contracts that are being performed by a small or micro-business must be set aside for a small or micro-business when it is time to renew the contract.
- Departments will be required to track and report on their MBE, SBP and MBP contracting activity, including credit card purchases.



CERTIFICATION

NEWLY CERTIFIED FIRMS

MAY 2021-AUGUST 2021

Chad O'L Public Relations & Events LLC
J L Terrell Construction, LLC

INITIAL INTERSTATE CERTIFICATION

MAY 2021-AUGUST 2021

Parkinson Construction Company
Mayoka Services, LLC
DORMAN GROUP HOLDINGS
Rigelonetechnic
DESIGN DEPICTIONS STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING
Ikumba Lifestyle Concepts, LLC
SURE, LLC
iFem Wireless, Inc
KBN Corporation
Interstate Steel Sales, Inc.
CDT Solutions LLC
AMERICAN HOME SERVICES INC
Reliance Engineers LLC
BARROW WISE CONSULTING, LLC
American Contractors of Baltimore, Inc.
Bengal Engineers LLC
Cross Industry Solutions Inc.
TAG Construction LLC
Safety Environmental Company of New York
E & F Landscaping LLC
MD Construction Services LLC
Agile Government Services, Inc
Smith's Epoxy Coatings
Williams Construction & Meter Service
HQ Financial
KGP Design Studio, LLC
Performance Controls, LLC
Dhillon Engineering, Inc.
S. Q. Consultants, Inc
T&D Engineering and Supply
The Kazi-Khan Chowdhury Limited Company
Aurora Electric Incorporated
Bulldog Distribution Trucking, LLC
Commercial Demolition LLC
Old Dominion Electrical Supply
FDT Structural Specialties, LLC

THREE YEAR REVIEW

MAY 2021-AUGUST 2021

New Barbet Corporation
NMP Engineering Consultants, Inc.
SRB Communications, LLC.
RUFF NEX LLC
Myles Trucking
CRADLE SYSTEMS, LLC
Doliveira Systems LLC
Best Fence, LLC
Dimensional Products, Inc.
Integrated Strategic Resources, LLC
Executive Personnel Services, Inc.
Atlantic Concrete Cutting Inc.
RJM Engineering, Inc
Jenson Fire Protection, Inc.
PDK Commercial Photographers, Ltd DBA B
Mcv Associates, Inc.
RCE Construction LLC
JMD Building Products LLC
Hardscapes Construction, Inc.
Procon Consulting LLC
Clarence Butts Photography
Belstar, Inc.
SBP Consulting, LLC
Ingenuity Consulting, Inc.
Plexus Installations, Inc.
Advanced Integration Group, Inc.
Waste Solutions, LLC
Structural Engineering Group, Inc.
CST Engineering, Inc.
Admiral Elevator Co., Inc.
HSA, Inc.
Nova Consulting Inc
WFT Engineering, Inc.
Attila's EPS LLC
Everlights, Inc.
Marco Enterprises, Inc.
Geo Trans, LLC
The Dirt Express Company

ADDITIONAL NAICS

MAY 2021-AUGUST 2021

236220 Structural Engineering Group, Inc.
238990 Ruff Nex, LLC
335313 Advanced Integration Group
541614 Integrated Strategic Resources

**To address any concerns or questions regarding Metro's
Small Business Programs, contact our SBPO Hotline at
SBPOHotline@wmata.com or 202-963-6493.**

BUSINESS PARTNERS OUTREACH EVENTS

Bank of America Access To Capital Directory

Bank of America just announced the launch of its “Access To Capital” directory. The directory features a searchable database that allows women seeking capital to sort potential funding options by type - including seed funding as well as grants and debt capital. [Access the directory here.](#)

Tory Burch Foundation Fellow Program

The Tory Burch Foundation Fellows program is now accepting applications. It is open to women-identifying entrepreneurs who own the largest or equal stake in a majority women-owned business. Applicants need to be legal residents of the US and the business must be for-profit. Applications are due by November 12, 2021. [Learn more here.](#)

Magenta Edge

Magenta Edge (sponsored by T-Mobile) is a growing library of content for American small business owners with a focus on Black-Owned small businesses. Their website offers educational programming, original stories, and insights for entrepreneurs. [Learn more here.](#)

37 Angels

37 Angels is a community of women angel investors. They have a great resource page for female founders. [Learn more here.](#)

ByBlack

ByBlack is an extensive national Black business directory developed by the US Black Chambers designed to provide Black entrepreneurs a way to reach new customers and get access to valuable business resources. All eligible Black-owned businesses can apply at no cost. [Learn more here.](#)

Funding For Women, Minority, and LGBTQ+ Business Owners

The NBA and LegalZoom have teamed up to help underserved small business owners with \$6 million in grants. This is a multi-year partnership, with the grant opportunity as the first official initiative. They'll be made available twice per year for the next three years. Mentorship and job training are also available. The companies say the grants will specifically serve women, minorities, immigrants, and LGBTQ+ owned businesses. Applications are due by November 23. [Learn more here.](#)

Funding for Women of Color Business Owners

Hello Alice in collaboration with Project Entrepreneur has launched “Democratizing the Friends & Family Round for Female Founders of Color”. Eligible female founders of color can apply. Thirty recipients will each receive a \$25,000 grant plus access to virtual coaching and skill-building opportunities. Applications close November 10, 2021, at 6 p.m. ET. [Learn more here.](#)

Opportunity For Undergraduate/Graduate Students Interested in Food Systems

Cultivate Tomorrow is the first cellular and acellular agriculture focused hackathon. This event will allow students to network with companies, investors, academic institutions, and students all working towards the same goal of creating a sustainable future. The hackathon is sponsored by Merck, Ginkgo Bioworks, TurtleTree Labs, and has over 20 mentors from start-ups across the US. The event will take place in a hybrid (virtual and in-person) format on February 12, 2022. Applications are open until November 1st, 2021. There is also a chance to win a \$2000 cash prize! [Learn more here.](#)

For Product Managers (or Non-Profits Who Need Help with Product Management)

The Product League is hosting an online event on Monday, November 1, 2021 at 12pm ET. At this event, Product Managers from all around the world, help and consult Not for Profit organizations, with their Product Management challenges, for free. The event will also feature a product-changing talk with Adam Stevens, VP Product and co-founder at Luna. Apply as either a Product Manager (if you have services to share) or a Non-Profit (if you need help). [Learn more here.](#)

General Resources For Business Owners

Some of these sites also include links to grants.

- [Hello Alice Black-Owned Business Resource Center](#)
- [Hello Alice Hispanic/Latino-Owned Business Resource Center](#)
- [Hello Alice Military Connected Business Resource Center](#)

Virtual Webinar: Renegotiating Your Lease & Brief Panel Q&A - Bilingual 11/3/2021 @ 10:00 am

Leasing commercial space is one of the most important decisions that a business owner will make. Commercial real estate expert Meredith Mears will demystify the complex and confusing and offer practical tips for achieving win-win outcomes. BUT WAIT: THERE'S MORE! Maryland-based small businesses will also have the opportunity to sign up for a NO-COST consultation with Meredith. [Click here to register.](#)

