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*Advocating, Informing and Promoting Small & Minority Owned Businesses*

## City of Columbus Minority Plan Room Open

The City of Columbus Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Department of Development and Department of Finance and Management will partner the Ohio Business Development Center to operate a construction plan room. The Minority Plan Room will serve as a central hub for MWBE seeking support with certification, understanding contract guidelines and giving access to training workshops and networking events. The plan room will open July 1 at 1393 E. Broad St., Room 104. Visit OhBDC.org for more information and hours of operation.

## Central & Southern Ohio Small Businesses Received \$2.2 billion in Federal Contracts in FY 2018

*Nationally, Small Businesses Secured a Record-Breaking \$120.8 Billion in Prime Federal Contracts, Supporting More Than 638,000 Jobs*

The U.S. Small Business Administration's release of the Fiscal Year 2018 Small Business Federal Procurement Scorecard (<http://bit.ly/2LuKzPW>) shows a record-breaking \$120.8 billion in prime federal contracts – 25.05% of the federal contracting dollars - were awarded to small businesses. The FY 18 numbers are an increase of nearly \$15 billion over the previous fiscal year and mark the sixth consecutive year the federal government exceeded its small business contracting goal. Small businesses in SBA's Columbus District Office area, which covers 60 counties in central and southern Ohio, received \$2.2 billion in federal contracts.

"These record-breaking national numbers are a win-win, as, along with supplying the government with the goods and services needed to operate, they support our nation's small businesses and entrepreneurs, as well as their employees and local communities," SBA's Great Lakes Regional Administrator Rob Scott said. "The accomplishments here in the Columbus District are a direct result of our continuous government-wide focus on increasing small business contracting opportunities. This focus starts at the top with the President's commitment to small businesses and funnels through to our field offices' outreach efforts focused on helping them start, grow and expand."



Frank Harris  
President of John Cecil Construction

The value of a federal contract is illustrated by Columbus-based John Cecil Construction's success in recent years. In 2018, owner Frank Harris secured a \$434,300 federal contract with the

*See SBA on page 3*

**Media's  
responsibility  
is to  
challenge  
government**

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OhioMBE welcomes letters to the editor from readers. Typed letters of 200 words or less are preferred; all might be edited. Each letter must include name, home address and daytime phone number. Some letter may appear on our website.

The 912 Group is an Ohio certified Minority Owned and EDGE business. The 912 Group is a certified FBE with the City of Columbus.

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Hashtag: [#ohiombe](https://twitter.com/ohiombe)

## Franklin County seeks to develop/expand MWBEs in Whitehall & King Lincoln-Bronzeville

Franklin County Forward Cities is a new initiative whose mission is to increase the number of successful small business owners and entrepreneurs in the areas of King Lincoln-Bronzeville and Whitehall (with an emphasis on minority and women-owned businesses).

We are looking for entrepreneurs who live, work, have current clients, or are interested in growing their clientele in these two neighborhoods to take a brief survey sharing their perspective on the barriers faced by entrepreneurs!

Survey link: <http://bit.ly/FranklinEntrepreneurSurvey> (Password: FC2019)

Our survey takes 15-20 minutes to complete and not only will respondents be lending their voice and perspective to valuable research that will guide small business investment in their community, they will also receive a \$10 Amazon gift card as a token of appreciation for their time.

Deadline to complete the survey is Sunday, July 7.

## Congresswoman Joyce Beatty's Facebook cover photo contest

Do you live in the Third Congressional District of Ohio and consider yourself an amateur or up-and-coming photographer? If so, Congresswoman Joyce Beatty invites you to submit your favorite photo(s) to her 2019 Facebook Cover Photo Contest.



From now through July 9<sup>th</sup>, her office is accepting submissions (three photos maximum) of images/scenery that you think best reflects her district. Photos should be emailed to [beattycoverphoto@gmail.com](mailto:beattycoverphoto@gmail.com) and can be of any color and subject, so long as it was taken by you in and around the Third Congressional District of Ohio.

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, submissions will be posted on her official Facebook page, and users will determine the winner(s) based on total number of likes. Judging will end at midnight, Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>. Winning photograph(s) will be the featured cover photo for one month.

## Prime Day is July 15 & 16

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# publisher's note

## Kudos to the City of Columbus for increasing purchasing with MWBEs

*Damita R. Brown is an asset to the City of Columbus Office of Diversity & Inclusion*

By Ronda Watson Barber  
Publisher

Congratulations to the City of Columbus for increasing its purchasing spend with women and minority owned businesses in 2018. Mayor Andrew Ginther and his team are deliberately including all segments of the Central Ohio community in workforce development and supplier diversity. The recently released Inclusion Report proposes and illustrates economic opportunities for all.

Special kudos to the City's Chief Diversity Officer Damita R. Brown. As the Director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Ms. Brown is providing access to contracting opportunities to micro-enterprises and others not included in the purchasing scheme. Additionally, she is increasing the capacity of MWBEs with programming and services.

OhioMBE enthusiastically supports her continued stewardship of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. Ms. Brown is an accomplished diversity and inclusion executive. She is a dedicated and innovative diversity and inclusion professional with over 15 years of experience in organizational leadership, strategic planning and community, and government relations.

The strong business and community relationships she has established are an asset to the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the MWBEs it serves.

Just my thoughts...rwb

Ohio National Guard. As a result of its work with the U.S. government, John Cecil Construction, which is in a Historically Underutilized Business Zone ([HUBZone](#)), has brought revitalization to the area, generating 15 local positions that include estimators, project managers and construction workers.

"The \$2.2 billion that small businesses in central and southern Ohio secured in federal contracts represents an incredible impact to our economy and supports job creation, innovation, and growth," SBA's Columbus District Director Everett Woodel said. "Frank Harris is an example of the many hardworking entrepreneurs who have utilized these set-aside programs to spur local economic development while delivering a needed service to federal customers."

The measured socio-economic categories also achieved historic highs this year nationally. Small disadvantaged businesses received 9.65%, or \$46.5 billion of all small business eligible contracting dollars, the highest percentage since 2016. Service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses received \$20.6 billion (4.27% of all eligible contracting dollars) and women-owned small businesses received \$23 billion of eligible contracting dollars – the highest amount ever. HUBZone small businesses received about \$10 billion of all eligible funds, representing 2.05%, the highest achievement in the last six years.

In its efforts to help small businesses secure federal contracts, the SBA promotes its programs to procuring federal agencies and small businesses, frequently holding training sessions across the country to educate contracting officers on the requirements for SBA's 8(a) Business Development, HUBZone, women-owned and service-disabled veteran-owned small business programs. It also works closely with the National 8(a) Association, Native American Contractors Association, Native Hawaiian Organization Association, Women Impacting Public Policy, American Express and other national and local organizations on contracting outreach efforts.

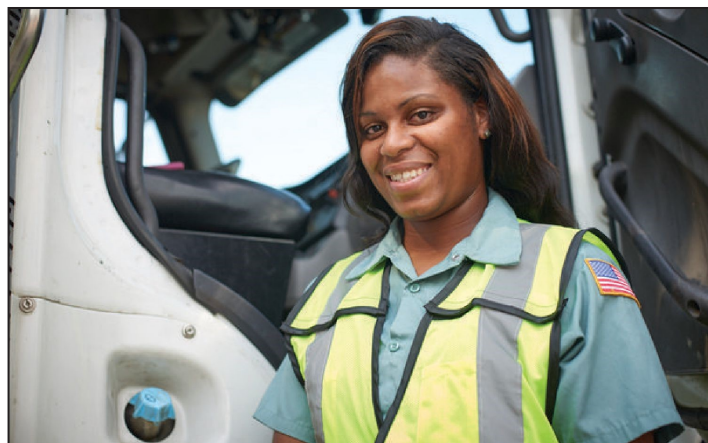
### **Small Business Federal Procurement Scorecard Overview**

The annual Procurement Scorecard is an assessment tool to: (1) measure how well federal agencies reach their small business and socio-economic prime contracting and subcontracting goals; (2) provide accurate and transparent contracting data and (3) report agency-specific progress. The prime and subcontracting component goals include goals for small businesses, small businesses owned by women, small disadvantaged businesses, service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses, and small businesses in HUBZones.

Every fiscal year, the SBA works with each agency to set its small business prime and subcontracting goals (each agency has different goals) and the agency's performance is based on the agreed upon goals. The SBA ensures that the sum total of

*See SBA on page 9*





## Waste Management is Now Hiring in Columbus, Ohio

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Triad Residential Solutions is seeking to fill multiple positions including direct support professionals as well as a full time, salaried Residential Manager for their Toledo area. The Residential Manager will oversee the operations of 5-6 homes with individuals with disabilities.

Supervisory experience is preferred and experience working with people with disabilities is a must. For more information, please contact Wendy Bejaige:

[wbejaige@triadresidentialolutions.net](mailto:wbejaige@triadresidentialolutions.net)

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# bid opportunities

To post a bid notice, call 614-522-9122 or email [news@ohiombe.com](mailto:news@ohiombe.com)



Columbus City Schools issues solicitations on a regular basis for goods & services related to food, construction, technology, curriculum, & transportation. Interested vendors should periodically check our website at <http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us/rfp>

THE CITY OF  
**COLUMBUS**  
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF  
DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Development has contracting opportunities in the below areas. Please reach out for more information and bidding requirements.

- Graffiti Removal and Arborist Services. Contact Eric Voorhees (614-645-7934 or [eavorhees@columbus.gov](mailto:eavorhees@columbus.gov)).
- Grass Cutting and Solid Waste Removal. Contact Mike Schwab (614-645-7122 or [mfschwab@columbus.gov](mailto:mfschwab@columbus.gov)).
- Demolition and Asbestos Abatement. Contact Mike Farrenkopf (614- 679-5873 or [mlfarrenkopf@columbus.gov](mailto:mlfarrenkopf@columbus.gov)) or Seth Brehm (614-645-5659 or [swhbrehm@columbus.gov](mailto:swhbrehm@columbus.gov)).
- Property Maintenance and Miscellaneous Services in November 2019. Contact Audrea Hickman (614-645-8907 or [aeihickman@columbus.gov](mailto:aeihickman@columbus.gov)).
- Construction trades including: General Construction, Home Improvement, Electrical, HVAC, and Plumbing. Contact Tim Tilton (614- 724-3009 or [twilton@columbus.gov](mailto:twilton@columbus.gov)).
- Lead abatement. Contact Erica Hudson (614- 645-6739 or [ejhudson@columbus.gov](mailto:ejhudson@columbus.gov)).

To register for notifications on upcoming bid opportunities, please visit <http://vendors.columbus.gov/sites/public>.

## Get Bid Notices Delivered to your inbox

1. Visit [www.OhioMBE.com](http://www.OhioMBE.com)
2. Click on the Advertise link
3. Add your email address
4. Select your desired list



### INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed bid proposals will be received by the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority at 100 West Cedar Street, Akron, Ohio 44307 until 2:00 p.m. local time on TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2019 at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for:



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Specifications can be purchased at SE Blueprint, Inc. located at 520 South Main Street, Suite 2411, Akron, Ohio 44311 (330) 376-1689. Please email ([akron@seblueprint.com](mailto:akron@seblueprint.com)) or call with quantity requests and notice will be provided when documents are available for pick-up.

An email link for the above mentioned specifications is available at the Subcontractors Association NEO, 637 Vernon Odom Blvd., Akron, Ohio; Akron Urban League, Minority Business Assistance Center, 440 Vernon Odom Blvd., Akron, Ohio; the Builders Exchange of Canton, 5080 Aultman Rd., North Canton, Ohio; Builders Exchange of Cleveland, 9555 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Cleveland, Ohio; and the Ohio Construction News, 7261 Engle Road, Suite 304, Cleveland, Ohio. A list of plan holders can be obtained from SE Blueprint's website @ [www.seblueprint.com](http://www.seblueprint.com)

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held by the Housing Authority at the AMHA Administration Building, 100 West Cedar Street, Akron, Ohio 44307, on TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019 at 2:00 P.M.

View complete bid notice at  
<https://ohiombe.com/archives/12772>

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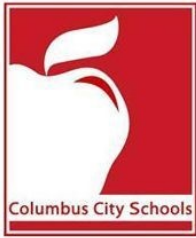
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## LEGAL NOTICE

### REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES

The Columbus City School District announces a Request for Qualifications for the following projects: Building Envelope Repairs in "Design-Build Delivery Model". The work

will consist of one Design-Build contract consisting of: CCS Project No.19011 – Package No.1. The scope of work includes, but is not limited to, Roof and window replacement and masonry repairs and stabilization related work required to complete the project. Criteria services for the project will be provided by Schooley Caldwell Associates. An Informational meeting covering the projects will be held on Thursday, July 11, 2019, at 2:00 PM at the Capital Improvements Office located at 889 E. 17th Avenue, Columbus OH 43211 – Conference Room No.4.

Submittals will be evaluated pursuant to ORC Chapter 153, including relevant past work of prospective firm(s), professional and other applicable consultants, quality control, response to CCS Community Inclusion Policy (Local Economically Disadvantaged Enterprise goal is 20% participation) and location of primary firm relative to project location. More information can be found at <http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us/rfp>

Responding firms are to submit three (3) hard copies and one electronic copy (in pdf format) of their qualifications on the OFCC F110-330 Statement of Qualifications Form (most recent version can be downloaded at <http://ofcc.ohio.gov/Documents/Forms>) to Capital Improvements, Columbus City Schools, 889 E.17th Ave., Columbus OH 43211.

Part 1 is limited to 30 pages. EDGE requirements do not apply to this RFQ. Deadline for submissions is Thursday, August 1, 2019 by 2:00 PM.

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Prevailing wage Rates do not apply to this project. Direct questions to Melinda Shah at [mshah@schooleycaldwell.com](mailto:mshah@schooleycaldwell.com).



The Columbus Regional Airport Authority values diversity and inclusion and the impact small and minority-owned firms have on the Central Ohio economy. The Columbus Regional Airport Authority invites you to access the following link: <https://columbusairports.com/doing-business-with-us/solicitation-opportunities> to sign-up for RSS feeds to automatically receive notifications of new bid opportunities and results. Email [BusinessDiversity@ColumbusAirports.com](mailto:BusinessDiversity@ColumbusAirports.com) for questions about the Diversity Programs at Columbus Regional Airport Authority.



Building Crafts, Inc., an equal opportunity employer, is soliciting bids from EDGE and ODOT certified DBE, MBE, and WBE

subcontractors and suppliers for the West Union New Wastewater Treatment Plant in West Union, OH which bids on July 9, 2019.

This project consists of selective demolition of the existing WWTP and the construction of a new WWTP on an adjacent site. Items of work to be subcontracted or supplied include, but are not limited to the following: demolition, saw cutting/coring, asphalt paving, seeding and mulching, reinforcing steel supply/erection, concrete, block and brick masonry, precast roof planks, rough carpentry framing, roofing, caulking and sealants, miscellaneous metals, overhead doors, doors and windows, painting, instrumentation & controls, process piping, plumbing, HVAC, and electrical.

Bidding documents can be examined at Building Crafts, Inc., 2 Rosewood Dr., Wilder, KY 41076 or by calling Ben Call at (859) 781-9500 to make arrangements to view documents electronically. Submit quotes by 8 AM on July 9, 2019, by email to [estimating@buildingcrafts.com](mailto:estimating@buildingcrafts.com) or by fax at (859) 781-9505. All DBE, MBE or WBE bids should include a completed Form 6100-3 DBE Subcontractor Performance Form.



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority is requesting proposals for Tree

or Shrub Trimming and Removal, Landscape Enhancements, and Related Work at Various AMHA Locations within Summit County, Ohio.

A pre-proposal conference will be held on Thursday, July 11, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. at 100 West Cedar Street, Akron, Ohio 44307.

Those interested in submitting a proposal for the aforementioned work may obtain the instructions/information package by contacting SE Blueprint, 520 South Main Street, Suite 2411, Akron, Ohio 44311. (330) 376-1689 [akron@seblueprint.com](mailto:akron@seblueprint.com)

Proposals, to be considered, must be submitted in accordance with the requirements of the RFP and received by AMHA no later than 4:00 p.m. (local time) on Wednesday, July 24, 2019.

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[columbus.gov/odi](http://columbus.gov/odi)



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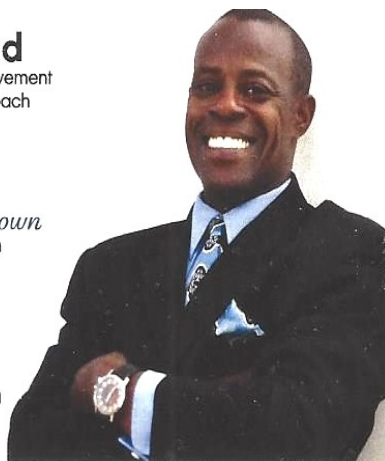
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# Ohio Diversity Network

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- *Department of Job and Family Services*
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- *Social Security Administration*
- *Franklin County Child Support*
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- *Legal Aid Society of Columbus*



Columbus-Franklin County



Department of Rehabilitation & Correction



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- Voting • Mentoring •
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### Hosting a business event?

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post it on  
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Email: [news@ohiombe.com](mailto:news@ohiombe.com)  
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*OhioDiversityNetwork.com is  
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THE CITY OF  
**COLUMBUS**  
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

OFFICE OF DIVERSITY  
AND INCLUSION



*SBA from page 3*

all of the goals exceed the 23% target for the federal government as well as the socio-economic goals established by law.

While each federal agency is responsible for ensuring the quality of its own contracting data, the SBA conducts additional analyses to help agencies identify potential data anomalies. As part of its ongoing data quality efforts, the SBA works with federal agency procurement staff to provide analysis and tools to facilitate review of data, implement improvements to procurement systems, and conduct training to improve accuracy.

# Why you should get your business certified?

There are several reasons why you should get your business certified:

1. Some entities have purchasing goals. Only certified businesses can participate.
2. Certification adds legitimacy to your business. You have gone through a process that has determined that your business is owned and controlled by a minority, woman or disadvantaged business.
3. Certification can afford your loan and bonding opportunities. The State of Ohio has loan and bonding programs specifically for certified minority owned businesses.
4. Certification can be a marketing tool for your business. You can add your certifications to your marketing materials, business cards, website, etc. Many consumers like doing business with a veteran, minority or woman owned businesses.
5. Certification can be used in the private sector. Many companies don't have a certifying program but in an effort to have supplier diversity, will accept the certifications from some governmental agencies.



Attend a class and learn how to get your business certified. Visit [912group.eventbrite.com](http://912group.eventbrite.com) for the upcoming class schedule. For more information on certification, call 614.522.9122 or attend a certification class.





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## First Amendment:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.



**H. Lee Thompson**  
*Attorney at Law*

## The Thompson Law Firm

85 E. Gay Street—Suite 810  
Columbus, OH 43215  
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# #bidnotices

# Save the Date

## OCTOBER 1- 2, 2019

Mayor Andrew J. Ginther and The Mayor's Office of Diversity and Inclusion are Proud to Present

# CONNECTUS<sup>★</sup>

## Small Business Conference & Expo

*Empowering people,  
expanding opportunity*

### THIS CONFERENCE WILL INCLUDE:

- Business best practices from nationally recognized leaders
- Learn how to do business with the City of Columbus and private-sector entities
- How to become a certified small business enterprise
- Business expo featuring local and statewide organizations

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Ohio certified and uncertified business owners
- Aspiring entrepreneurs
- Small, minority and women-owned business enterprises
- Procurement officers from public and private sectors
- Diversity professionals



ANDREW J. GINTHER  
Mayor  
City of Columbus

Defined by you.  
*Made for*  
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**COLUMBUS**  
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR  
OFFICE OF DIVERSITY  
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