
**Diversity / Apprenticeship / Training**

Student projects are physically complete. Data below is provided to WSDOT by the project contractors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE)</th>
<th>Apprentice</th>
<th>Training Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Companies</td>
<td>Date Updated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Position Construction</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>12/31/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastside Transit and HOV</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>6/30/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Connection Bridge</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11/31/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floating Bridge and Landings</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>2/28/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Approach Bridge North</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>2/28/2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>DIS Subtotal</th>
<th>Vendors</th>
<th>Date Updated</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Achieved</th>
<th>Date Updated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diverse Bay Area</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12/31/2016</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIS Subtotal</td>
<td>$115,177,834</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Architectural and Engineering (A&E)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Companies</th>
<th>Date Updated</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corridor Plan</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6/30/2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR 520 Program</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3/31/2017</td>
<td>2016-2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SR 520 Program Total**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>DBE %</th>
<th>Companies</th>
<th>Date Updated</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>97%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6/30/2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
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**Upcoming events**

**Regional Contracting Forum**
- **Date**: Wednesday, April 12, 2017
- **Time**: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **Location**: Washington State Convention Center, Seattle, WA
- **Cost**: Free
- **Purpose**: A must-attend event for businesses looking for contracting opportunities.

**A&E Consultant Networking Event with OMWBE**
- **Date**: Saturday, June 17, 2017
- **Time**: 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Location**: Sound Transit headquarters, Union Station, Seattle, WA
- **Cost**: Free
- **Register**: [http://omwbe.wa.gov/event/a-e-consultant-networking-event](http://omwbe.wa.gov/event/a-e-consultant-networking-event)
- **Purpose**: Sound Transit, King County, City of Seattle, and University of Washington invite Architecture and Engineering (A&E) small businesses including minority, women-owned, and disadvantaged businesses (DBE) to a networking event to learn about upcoming subcontracting opportunities.

**Conceptual rendering of community open space in the Montlake area when the next construction phase is complete.**

WSDOT plans to publish the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and Request for Proposals (RFP), and award the contract this year, and begin construction in 2018.

Please stay tuned for more information as it becomes available, which will be posted on the WSDOT Ad and Award website:

[www.wsdot.wa.gov/biz/contaa/Contracts/Montlake](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/biz/contaa/Contracts/Montlake)

**SR 520 Contact:** Regina Glenn
**SR 520 Diversity and Inclusion Manager**
**Phone:** 206-770-3520 **Email:** GlennRe@consultant.wsdot.wa.gov
Diversity and Inclusive Contracting: SR 520 Quarterly Progress Report

Agency Partner: OMWBE

Teresa Berntsen — OMWBE Director

Minority and women business owners are often encouraged to “certify” their businesses with the Washington State Office of Minority and Women’s Business Enterprises (OMWBE). OMWBE Director Teresa Berntsen explains the benefits this way, “While we can’t guarantee certification will get you work, it definitely increases a business’s visibility and marketability with government agencies, contractors, and private-sector companies who have goals to contract with minority and woman owned businesses.”

In addition, agencies (such as WSDOT) that receive funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation are required to set and meet supplier diversity goals. By becoming certified, agencies can count spending with those businesses toward state and federal goals. Still, for some eligible business owners, the certification process can be onerous. Berntsen acknowledges this issue. “Our job is to ensure the business is owned and controlled by a minority or a woman. But we don’t want to make certification unnecessarily difficult. We have gone through our processes and forms and taken a hard look at what we’re requiring and reduced processing times.” OMWBE created a “Short Form” for firms which already have federal certification and for firms applying for both state and federal certification at the same time. The new three-page form was originally 19 pages.

When you call OMWBE’s main line you get a live person. The office also has a staff member on call every day during business hours to walk people through the process. Berntsen, who has been on the job a little more than a year, encourages minority and women-owned business owners to fill out the application and, “If they have any questions at all, to call us before they send it in.” The cost for an OMWBE certification is $50 to $100 depending on the structure of the business. Federal certification is $25.

OMWBE’s phone number is: 360-664-9750. Website: omwbe.wa.gov

Firm spotlight: Jill Irwin Writing/Editing

Jill Irwin Writing/Editing

Founded: October 2003

Key Areas of Expertise: Technical writing, editing

If you have been tempted to jump on a cruise ship and “get away from it all,” the prose that sent you dreaming of distant shores may have been written by Jill Irwin. In addition to writing and editing environmental impact statements (EISs) and other technical documents, she writes cruise line brochures. “My primary niche is technical writing and editing, but it’s fun to mix it up,” Irwin says.

She started her business in 2003 and began working on the Draft EIS for the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program a year later. She became certified as a Women’s Business Enterprise (WBE) and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) in 2006 and remained a consultant to WSDOT until 2011. “I really enjoyed being part of that great blended team. It was very rewarding to be so integrally involved with the SR 520 program,” Irwin says she stayed in touch with colleagues on the Pontoon Construction Project to keep her network active. She attended a WSDOT open house in 2015 and reconnected with other SR 520 colleagues at that time.

Now Irwin Writing/Editing is back on the project. Jill Irwin will help develop project management plans for the Rest of the West. That will include working on the Montlake-area preconstruction and construction phases.

“I’m looking forward to re-establishing these working relationships. It’s good to reconnect and it feels like we didn’t skip a beat.”

OMWBE

The Office of Minority and Women Owned Businesses Enterprises (OMWBE) strives to provide equity in contracting and procurement opportunities with local, state and federal governments. OMWBE certifies small businesses owned and controlled by minority, women, and socially and economically disadvantaged persons. However, even if your firm is not minority- or woman-owned, you may still receive federal certification as a small business enterprise (SBE) firm with OMWBE.

Benefits of OMWBE small business certification:

- Provides the official certification from the state of Washington for contracting eligibility with local, state or federal projects that are federally funded.
- Includes a trusted review of companies’ financial information to verify them as a small business.
- Increases visibility through listings on databases of certified firms and active bids throughout the state.
- Provides private-sector companies another opportunity to meet their own supplier diversity goals.
- Allows companies to be counted towards voluntary small business goals by public agencies.

You can find further information on the following website: www.omwbe.wa.gov/certification/

WEBS

Washington’s Electronic Business Solution (known as WEBS) is a free internet vendor registration and public solicitation posting and notification system provided by the Department of Enterprise Services. WEBS allows businesses that qualify to self-certify as a Washington small business, mini-business, or micro-business.

Benefits of WEBS small business self-certification:

- Immediate results for firms wishing to self-certify as a small business.
- Opportunity to be listed as a small business interested in future contracting opportunities. The WEBS list is used by many prime firms.
- Visibility to scores of public agencies, cities, universities, and other organizations that use WEBS to find small businesses (these groups sign no-cost master contracts usage agreements with the state).
- Access for veterans who own businesses, who can use this free service to request a Washington State Veteran Business Certification from the State Department of Veterans Affairs.

Here are a few things you need to have ready to sign up for WEBS: company information, i.e. your federal employer identification number, Social Security number, contact information, ownership information.

Details available at www.des.wa.gov/services/contracting-purchasing/doing-business-state/webs-registration-search-tips

Additional Resources

Below we highlight several established organizations that help their members work on major contracts. The mission of these groups is to connect small, minority- and women-owned businesses with government and private sector decision-makers.

1. Women’s Transportation Seminar (WTS), Puget Sound/Seattle: wtsinternational.org
   Contact: Yingle Jiang, president, 206-254-7965
2. Tabor 100: tabor100.org
   Contact: Kalea Perry, 425-882-4800 ext.104
3. Northwest Mountain Minority Supplier Development Council: nwmtnmsdc.org
   Contact: Alex Llorente, marketing and communications manager, 253-243-6959 Ext. 109
4. Contractors Designers & Entrepreneurs (CDE)
   Contact: Edwina Martin-Arnold, 206-494-5482 or edwina.Martin-Arnold@skanska.com
5. National Association of Minority Contractors: namcnational.org
   Contact: Bob Armstead, president, 425-444-2706
6. National Association for Women in Construction: navicpugsequent.org
   Contact: Jackie Lacktorin, president, 206-579-2165 or Laura Rannow, South Sound Chapter (Tacoma), 206-436-5200

January - March 2017