

Take Part!

A PWD resource for business diversity on PWD projects

January 2015

Bond Education Program graduates 13 businesses

PWD has placed great emphasis on supporting programs that help the minority, women, green and small business community grow. PWD's commitment is to increase participation and assist companies in addressing issues around performance, business development capability, capital bonding, business planning, and technical support. To achieve this task, PWD partnered with the Mid-Atlantic Small Business Transportation Resource Center to provide a six-week hands-on, multi-component program designed to address what businesses need to become bond-ready.

Businesses met with local surety bonding professionals to help in assembling the materials necessary for a complete bond application. This program was tailored to businesses competing for transportation-related contracts with SEPTA, the Philadelphia Streets Department, the Philadelphia Water Department, and PennDOT. The curriculum was packed with topics that included: construction related business planning and management, construction accounting and financial management, financing and credit, project management, workforce, field operations, claims and dispute resolution, estimating, bidding, joint venturing/teaming, and one-on-one consultation with bonding agents.

PWD is proud to announce that 13 participants graduated from the Bond Education Program, resulting in three companies getting bonded and two pending bond applications. These participants committed three hours every Wednesday evening for six weeks.

Participants included owners from the following businesses:

Nesmith & Company Inc.
Tinamarie's C&R Services, LLC
Gracie Painting LLC
Mid Atlantic Land Surveyors LLC
Deem Construction

Atrium International, Inc.
AM Painting, LLC
BKC Industries, Inc.
DKJ Construction INC

Mario's Electrical Contractor
Journey Into Wellness, LLC
Gerard Carr Forms & Application Services
Weathertite Construction Group

PWD would like to thank our partners for their commitment and support of this program. Specifically, Ms. Nyime Gilchrist, the National Bonding Education Program Manager from the United States Department of Transportation Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (US DOT OSDBU). Ms. Gilchrist approved PWD's participation in the Bond Education Program recognizing that we partner with many transportation entities. Ms. Della Clark is the President of The Enterprise Center and provided classroom space to host sessions every Wednesday evening for the six weeks. Ms. Iola Harper is the Director of the Mid-Atlantic Small Business Transportation Resource Center and Craig Campbell is the Outreach Manager. Ms. Harper and Mr. Campbell coordinated the Bonding Education Program details and logistics. In addition, this program wouldn't have been possible without the following program partners that included Greg Myers from the SEPTA DBE Office, Philadelphia Streets Commissioner David J. Perri, and Mark Corbin from the DBE & SBE Supportive Services Center at Cheyney University.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Bond Education Program graduates 13 businesses
- Venice Island Underground Storage Tank and Recreation Center Ribbon Cutting
- On the Horizon
- Upcoming Opportunities
- Small Business Resources and Events
- Contact Information of Resource Partners



Graduates of the Bond Education Program

Venice Island Underground Storage Tank and Recreation Center Ribbon Cutting

The Venice Island Underground Storage Tank and Recreation Center Project is finally complete! The site is located between the Manayunk Canal and the Schuylkill River, between the Lock and Cotton Street bridges in the Manayunk neighborhood of Philadelphia. The ribbon cutting and official opening of Venice Island occurred on October 7, 2014, which celebrated the visionary project and partnership between PWD, Philadelphia Parks and Recreation, the Manayunk Development Corporation and the Manayunk community. Venice Island is now a place for community events, an after-school haven for city kids and a spot for community theatre. It's also a hub for waterfront activities and a model of stormwater management. Venice Island boasts a state-of-the-art, 250-seat performing arts and recreation center, a spray park, an outdoor amphitheater, basketball court, green roof and rain gardens, underground storage basin and more.

Venice Island is representative of PWD's approach to partnerships. Parks and Recreation saw an opportunity to revitalize a popular but aging recreation center in a cost-effective way when PWD identified Venice Island as the ideal site for an underground basin to temporarily store stormwater runoff and keep sewage overflow out of the Schuylkill. The underground storage basin is 400 feet long, 75 feet wide and 25 feet deep, capable of holding nearly four million gallons of water, thus avoiding overflows directly into the Schuylkill River. The pump house is topped with a highly-visible, sloped green roof. The complementary canal improvements will also greatly benefit the area by creating more flow through the canal, improving water quality. Other green infrastructure on the site includes a rain garden, porous pavement and tree trenches, creating a site that embodies Philadelphia's innovative Green City, Clean Waters plan.

This project had an Economic Opportunity Plan with a Project Labor Agreement. Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) can provide opportunities for the City, contractors, and labor organizations to make progress in meeting their respective goals for worker diversity and local employment. PLAs can ensure that a building or construction work projects are completed at the lowest reasonable cost by the highest quality and most professional workforce in a timely manner without labor disruptions such as strikes, lockouts, and slowdowns. The City of Philadelphia has determined that certain projects, because of their size, complexity, need for a variety of craft labor, and critical deadlines are generally appropriate for PLAs. The \$45 million Venice Island project is an excellent example of a PLA working well.

The Prime Contractors on the Project were Daniel J. Keating (General Contractor), Riggs Distler & Co. (Electrical), and Five Star (Plumbing and HVAC).

M/W/DSBE contractors that participated on this project included:

Brass Roots Insulation, Inc (WBE)
CNS Construction Corp (MBE)
Decision Distribution, LLC (MBE)
Disposal Corporation of America (MWBE)
Labe Sales, Inc (WBE)
Lake Glenn Enterprises, Inc (MBE)
Manna Supply, Inc (MWBE)
Minority Contractors, Inc (MBE)
MJK Electrical Corp (MBE)
Labov Plumbing & Heating Supply, Inc (WBE)
Thomas Building Group, Inc (WBE)
Tierra Construction Services, LLC (MBE)
Trijay Systems, Inc (MBE)



This project achieved 30% in contract participation. The workforce diversity of this project shows workforce participation in the following categories:

Minority Journeypersons: 30%
Minority Apprentices: 28%
Female Journeypersons: 5%
Female Apprentices: 9%
Local Journeypersons: 43%
Local Apprentices: 44%

On the Horizon

PWD currently has two active projects that have Economic Opportunity Plans with Project Labor Agreements. They are:

Belmont Raw Water Basin – This is an \$18.5 million project to make improvements to the coffer dam and overall health of the basin. The project is expected to be complete in Fall 2015.

Northern Liberties Flood Relief – This is a \$19 million project to relieve stormwater overflow in the Northern Liberties section of the city. This project is expected to be completed in December 2017.

Both projects have construction and workforce goals with an established oversight committee that will meet quarterly to discuss progress related to economic inclusion. PWD is following a best practice model from our experience and lessons learned from the Venice Island project to monitor our initiatives. We will continue to provide updates on both projects in our subsequent issues.



Proposed Upcoming Opportunities

PROPOSED UPCOMING PLANT LETTINGS

Description	Work Type
East Park Reservoir Project	General Construction
Emergency Access to S. Filter Bldg. Basement @ Belmont WTP	General Construction
Roll-Up Door and HVAC at QL Raw Water Pumping Station	Mechanical/HVAC
Replace Freight Elevator in PTB	Mechanical
Exterior Siding Panels - Torresdale Filter Water Pumping Station	General Construction
New 10MG Concrete CWB tanks at Baxter	General Construction

PROPOSED UPCOMING STREET LETTINGS

Description	Work Type
Cobbs Creek Intercepting Sewer Lining Phase 2 Sewer Lining Replacement	Water/Sewer/Lining
Storm Flood Relief - Moore Street	Water Main Replacement
Fuller/Rhawn/Stanwood/Tabor Ave	Water & Sewer Replacement
Woodward ST/Winchester Ave	Water Main Replacement

Disclaimer

PWD has provided this newsletter and its contents as an informational service only. Your receipt or review of this document does not construe any promise of special consideration, assistance or endorsement for successfully bidding on any Public Works contracts issued by the Department. PWD follows the fair bidding practices and protocol set forth by the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter.

Small Business Resources & Events

The U.S. Small Business Administration sponsors a myriad of FREE and low-cost workshops and webinars that highlight small business counseling services, access to capital programs, and federal contracting opportunities. All interested small businesses and entrepreneurs can access the SBA's Philadelphia District event details at <https://www.sba.gov/offices/district/pa/king-of-prussia>. (The "Find Events and Workshops in Your Area" Calendar is located on the right side of this website)

The Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia has continuing education grants for members (up to \$5k/year/business) to take courses and attend conferences such as the upcoming Accredited Organic Land Care Professionals course and February's Mid-Atlantic Hardscaping Trade Show. Educational opportunities abound, including Interlocking Concrete Pavers Institute certification and a special designation for permeable paver installation taking place February 16-17, 2015. GSI Partners receive 75% in grant funding towards the cost of these and other opportunities to support ongoing professional development and continuing education. More information at <https://www.icpi.org/atlanticcitcity>.

Join the **Greater Philadelphia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** for the 25th anniversary celebration at the 2015 Alegría Ball; Puerto Rico: del Mar y el Sol2 on January 16, 2015 at Vie in Philadelphia.

The largest Latino business gathering in the region, the **2015 Alegría Ball** will bring together people of varied ethnic, professional, business and geographical backgrounds to achieve a common goal -- support of local Hispanic business development and educational programs provided by the GPHCC. The proceeds of the event support the Small Business Development and Education program offering workshops, seminars, minority business services, technical assistance and business development opportunities for Latino businesses and entrepreneurs across the region. GPHCC works to promote, develop and advocate for Hispanic business in the Greater Philadelphia region. For more information, visit <http://www.philahispanicchamber.org/>.



Stormwater Planters and Pump House with Green Roof at Venice Island in Manayunk

Contact Information of Resource Partners

The Office of Business Services

215-683-2000

www.phila.gov/commerce

This office provides businesses with information on:

- Business start-up or expansion
- Help with license and permit matters
- Financial resources
- Preparing for City inspections

The Office of Economic Opportunity

Philadelphia Department of Commerce

215-683-2057

www.phila.gov/oeo

This office provides assistance to minority, woman and disabled-owned businesses with:

- Resources for obtaining MWDS-BE certification
- Registration with the City of Philadelphia
- Networking for business partnerships with larger companies
- Addressing prompt payment issues for current City contractors

City of Philadelphia Procurement Department

<http://mbec.phila.gov/procurement>

This site lists contracts currently eligible for bid and tips for navigating the City contract process.

PWD Projects Control Unit

(215) 685-6337

<http://www.phila.gov/water>

This office can provide plans and specifications for PWD Public Works projects. There is a fee for these documents, ranging from \$10, to \$25 or more.

Office of Labor Standards

(215) 686-3501

www.phila.gov/commerce

This office can provide information on prevailing wage requirements and other labor standards for all Public Works projects.