

AWMB

Association of **W**omen
and **M**inority **B**usinesses

Presents

4th Annual NW CONTRACTORS' DAY

In Collaboration with:

The Black Collective
Tacoma-Pierce County



National Association of Minority
Contractors Washington Chapter



April 30, 2026 | 8am - 2:35pm

**Emerald Queen Casino
Tacoma, WA**

Theme

Resilience in Times of Uncertainty

Event Purpose

Foster economic vitality in WA state and the NW region through Diversity, Equity & Inclusion while advocating for the increased utilization of certified women, minority, DBE, BIPOC and veteran owned businesses in all procurement endeavors.

Welcome all businesses:

Goods & Services, Public Works, Private Entities,
Consultants, MWBE, WBE, DBE & MBE



Irene Reyes

Welcome to our 4th Contractors' Day. Time has flown by. As Chairwoman and Founder of AWMB, I've seen firsthand that like any organization, especially a growing nonprofit we face our share of challenges and barriers. Through it all, we remain focused on what we do best: delivering value to our members and advocates.

We may be a small organization, but our impact continues to grow. It is both exhausting and deeply rewarding to see tangible results from policy improvements to contract opportunities made possible through consistent outreach and collaboration.

Our mission remains clear: to increase the net worth and long-term capacity of small, women and minority-owned businesses, and to advocate for diversity, equity, inclusion, and transparency with every agency, contractor, and partner we engage.

Today's program is simple, intentional, and designed to create real connections bringing together Washington State partners, public agencies, general contractors, and companies that believe in this work. ***I encourage you to ask questions, share your capabilities, explore upcoming projects, and make introductions that lead to lasting partnerships.***

Congratulations to all of today's award recipients. This recognition is both well-deserved and long overdue—a reflection of your dedication, perseverance, and the meaningful impact you have made through your leadership and service.

Thank you to our sponsors, exhibitors, volunteers, attendees, presenters, and friends, your support makes this event possible. Most importantly, our sincerest gratitude to our speaker, Attorney General Nick Brown, for accepting our invitation and making this a momentous event. Enjoy the rest of Contractors' Day, and leave with at least one new ***relationship*** and ***one new opportunity to pursue.***

Irene Reyes



Nick Brown

WA State Attorney General

Keynote Speaker

Nick Brown is Washington State's 19th Attorney General, elected into office in November 2024. Nick believes the Attorney General's role is to serve as the people's advocate, and is committed to using the legal tools and the power of the AG's Office to uphold and enforce Washington's laws, to protect people's rights, to stand up for our shared values, and to keep people safe.

Having grown up in Steilacoom, Nick is a proud product of public schools and the son of public servants. Determined to follow his parents' example, Nick joined ROTC to help pay for college, graduating from Morehouse and then going on to attain a law degree from Harvard University.

AG Brown then served in Iraq in the Army JAG corps, where he gained experience as both a prosecutor and defense lawyer. He went on to serve as general counsel to Gov. Jay Inslee and was appointed by President Joe Biden to serve as U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Washington.

As Attorney General, his key areas of focus include protecting public safety, advancing environmental and worker protections, standing up for civil rights, and holding the powerful to account when they violate our laws and harm the people of our state.



Nick Brown

*WA State Attorney General
Keynote Speaker*



Atty. Jesse Wineberry

*Former WA State Representative
Master of Ceremonies*



Victoria Woodards

*Former Tacoma Mayor
Introduction of Keynote Speaker*

***Thank-you to our
Speakers & Presenters***

Speakers & Presenters

Jackie Bayne, Deputy Director WA State OEER, WSDOT

Sharon Harvey Hughes, Legislative and Policy Director, OMWBE

Denelle Baker, Customer Service Manager, OMWBE

Sarah Erdmann, Business Diversity Program Manager, WA DES

Becky Thornton, Sr. Program Manager Economic Development Engagement, Sound Transit

Edson Zavala, Deputy Executive Director, Economic Development, Sound Transit

Heidi Iyall, Communications and Engagement Specialist, DFI

Theresa Gonzales, Roster Coordinator, MRSC

Janie Sacco, Market Outreach, SBA

Lavonne Northcutt, American Underwriters Insurance

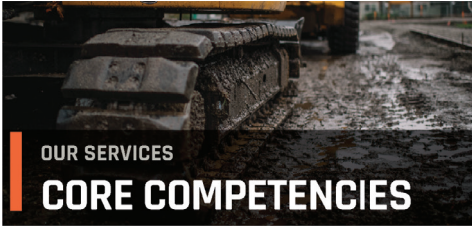
Jermene Easterlin, Principal Consultant, Shift The Momentum

Elisa Young, Director of Diversity Equity & Inclusion - Senior Consultant Corporate Services, Parametrix

Panelists: WSDOT, Sound Transit, Port of Seattle, DES, OMWBE

Facilitator: Former Tacoma Mayor **Victoria Woodards**

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- HABITAT RESTORATION
- FISH PASSAGES
- RIVER BANK STABILIZATION
- CREEK & RIVER DIVERSION
- AST/UST REMOVAL
- HAZARDOUS WASTE REMEDIATION
- LEVEE REHAB



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- NATION WIDE EQUIPMENT RENTAL
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ADVANTAGE



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- **OVER 50 YEARS** OF CONSTRUCTION PEDIGREE
- **VAST FLEET OF EQUIPMENT** RESOURCES WITH NATIONAL DBE RENTAL CAPABILITIES
- **A PROVEN TRACK RECORD** IN THE PACIFIC NORTH WEST REGION

\$200M BONDING CAPACITY, \$150M SINGLE

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\$80M EQUIPMENT INVENTORY WITH DBE RENTAL CAPABILITIES

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ENTERPRISE SERVICES



*How to work
with the state*



*Public works
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www.portseattle.org



Unlock Opportunity Get Certified

Learn more at omwbe.wa.gov/certification

The Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (OMWBE) certifies small minority- and women-owned businesses, to increase access to government contracting opportunities.



Questions about the Interim Final Rule (IFR) and Personal Narrative?

←← Visit our FAQ!

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NW Contractors Day

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Washington State Department of Transportation

Proud partner of the **Association of Women and Minority Businesses**

The Washington State Department of Transportation helps with the contracting efforts of our small, certified businesses, including members of the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Public Works Small Business Enterprise programs.

It is WSDOT's goal as a **People First** agency to stay committed to preventing discrimination in state and federally assisted highway, transit and airport contracts.



Sign up for weekly updates and opportunities from
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Learn more:

11 wsdot.wa.gov/business-wsdot/equal-opportunity-contracting

Thank-you to our Collaborators

The Black Collective Tacoma-Pierce County



National Association of Minority
Contractors Washington Chapter



Meets via Zoom every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 4-5:30pm

The Association of Women and Minority Businesses (AWMB)'s mission is to increase the net worth of women and minority businesses while advocating with organizations we engage and do business with for diversity, equity, inclusion, and transparency. It is an organization that serves as an accelerator, incubator and amplifier for women, minority and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) owned small businesses.

Founded on the premise for a more coordinated approach and bridging the gap in serving a wider network of under-served businesses in the contracting community. AWMB board members come from various backgrounds, industries and extensive experience advocating for small, women and minority owned businesses throughout their careers and the uniqueness of the common passion and faith in BIPOC small businesses.

For additional information on how to become a member, volunteer, or an advocate visit our website awmbwa.org

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