

# NEWSLETTER

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINORITY CONTRACTORS WASHINGTON CHAPTER



The National Association of Minority Contractors of Washington (NAMC of WA.) is a nonprofit trade association that was established in 2010 to address the needs and concerns of minority contractors.

While membership is open to people of all races and ethnic backgrounds, the organization's mandate, "Building Bridges - Crossing Barriers," focuses on construction industry concerns common to African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Native Americans.

visit us at [www.namcwa.com](http://www.namcwa.com)

### NAMC National Weighs in on Changes to SBA Size Standards

Wendell Stemley, Past-President of NAMC National and Emeritus Board Member, sent a letter to Representative Nydia Velázquez, Chair of the House Small Business Committee, and Elaine Chao, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation, expressing concern that the SBA was proposing to increase the size standards for small businesses without addressing the significant disparities that remain for African-American and Hispanic women business owners. The increase in size standards would mean a business may earn nearly \$40 million annually or \$200 million over 5 years and still be classified as a "small business". The SBA projects increase the number of small businesses that can remain in the program, rather than graduating, by 8%. Stemley said in his letter the change in standards would allow "...more financially capable firms and more non-minority male-owned companies, to enter [or stay] in the small business program, while failing to address the existing disparities of socioeconomically disadvantaged women-owned small business enterprises." Stemley said NAMC would "like to work with the House Small Business Committee to explore methods of providing socioeconomically disadvantaged women-owned small business enterprises with a path forward to increase their inclusion numbers in the program." Stemley warned that failing to address this issue will mean such businesses will "be left to fall even further behind their non-minority male counterparts."

#### MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:

First Thursday of each month. 6:00pm–8:00pm

Tukwila Community Center  
12424 42nd Ave S. Tukwila, WA 98168

## Sound Transit Gets Ready for Major Engineering Contracts

Sound Transit has issued a Notice of Intent to Negotiate a contract for general engineering consulting services with WSP, Inc. for a projected related to the Downtown Seattle Transit Tunnel (“DSTT”). The range of the contract value is listed as being from \$5,000,000 to \$25,000,000.

Also, in the next 2 months, Sound Transit is expected to issue RFPs for other major professional services contracts, including the following:

- On-Call General Engineering Consultant to support its Bus Rapid Transit Project;
- Planning and environmental services to support the Everett Line Extensions & a north-end Operations & Maintenance Facility;
- A Design-Build Project Management team for a new bus base in the north-end

If you’re just now hearing about these projects, it could be too late. WSP, Inc. already has a core team for its work and teams are already formed for the upcoming pursuits. However, there could still be opportunities for you, if you start hustling now. If you are interested in learning how, contact Jan Keiser, NAMC Secretary at [jan@keisergroup.com](mailto:jan@keisergroup.com) or Linda Womack, NAMC Director and MBDA Director

### SAVE THE DATE!

Friday, October 4th, 2019 4–8:30pm

NAMC of Washington

MBE Awards Gala & Plenary Session

4:00pm Marketing Plenary Session

5:00pm Networking social hour

6:00pm Gala Awards Banquet

## Multi-Agency Finance Workshop

Sound Transit, the Minority Business Development Agency and the NW Small Business Transportation Resource Center are collaborating to host a free workshop called “Access to Capital and Financing for Small Businesses” on Wednesday, September 25, from 10:30AM – 2:00 PM at the Tukwila Community Center, 12424 42nd Ave S, Tukwila. Small businesses will learn about access to capital, credit recovery/repair and how to make sense of the funding landscape. Topics to be covered include how to build relationships with lenders, use credit wisely, and mitigate barriers to capital.

## City of Seattle Hosts Transportation Workshop

The City of Seattle is hosting a workshop called Working with SDOT: Ready to Prime on September 16, 2019 at 9:30 AM in the Bertha Knight Landes Room at Seattle City Hall. This event will feature information on key similarities/differences between working on SDOT projects as a sub and a prime, according to Viviana Garza, SDOT’s WMBE Advisor. In particular, the workshop will feature information on key expectations and requirements for successful contracting with SDOT. There will also be opportunities to network with SDOT project managers and leadership. For more information, contact Viviana Garza at [Viviana.Garza@seattle.gov](mailto:Viviana.Garza@seattle.gov) or 206-684-5188.

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# NAMC MWBE Awards Gala & Plenary Session

## FRIDAY October 4<sup>th</sup>

### Courtyard Marriott (Seatac Airport)

16038 W. Vally Hwy. Tukwila, WA 98188

**Corporate & Public Agency Sponsorship Available**

**\$125 per person Non-member**  
**\$100 per person NAMC WA member**

4pm Plenary Session

5pm Reception & Raffle

6pm Awards Dinner

**Business attire encouraged**

**Register at [NAMCWA.com](http://NAMCWA.com) or email [admin@NAMCWA.com](mailto:admin@NAMCWA.com)**

*No tickets will be issued at the venue. Limited seating capacity.*

Registration ends September 15th, 2019



## WSDOT Hosts Outreach for SR 509 Project

WSDOT is seeking teams for the SR 509 Stage 1b project, a \$310-\$350 million Design-Build project scheduled to begin construction in late 2020 and take about four years to complete. This project connects I-5, cutting across the City of Des Moines, with the City of Burien. The project involves the full array of heavy highway-related disciplines. It will be the first of two design-build projects required to complete the SR 509 Corridor over the next nine years. Due to federal funding, a mandatory federal DBE and SBE goals will be applied. A networking session is planned for Wednesday, September 11, 2019, from 1–3:00 PM, at the Federal Way Community Center, 876 S. 333rd Street, Federal Way. For more information, contact Bobby Forch, at [forchb@consultant.wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:forchb@consultant.wsdot.wa.gov) or 206-805-5418.

## Hensel Phelps wins Diversity Award

NAMC Corporate Member Hensel-Phelps, has been awarded the AGC's 2019 "Champion of Diversity Award" for its continuous efforts to promote and support the AGC's "Culture of CARE", a program which encourages and facilitates business inclusion and workforce diversity in the construction industry. Shannon Gustine, Hensel-Phelps' Director of Operations, said, "At Hensel Phelps, diversity and inclusion are not set-asides, but are equal to safety and quality" as corporate values. She also said the award was not something they applied for, so it was a bit of a surprise when it was announced. Hensel-Phelps is a signatory to the AGC's Culture of Care Pledge and has been one of NAMC's most steadfast sponsors, on local and national level, for many years. NAMC congratulates Hensel-Phelps for this prestigious award and looks forward to continuing our long and fruitful relationship with this company of excellence!

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## Port of Seattle seeking bids for its SeaTac Baggage Optimization Project – Phase 2

SeaTac International Airport is undergoing a major upgrade and renovation to its baggage handling systems. NAMC Member Port of Seattle is advertising bids for Phase 2, which will expand the centralized baggage handling screening area in the airport's Central Terminal. The time allocated for the work is 1,185 calendar days. Hensel-Phelps, another NAMC member, is pursuing the work and held an outreach meeting on August 28. The Port held a pre-bid meeting on August 29. If you're interested in this project but missed the meetings, contact Ron Nobel, Senior Estimator, Hensel-Phelps, at [RNobel@henselphelps](mailto:RNobel@henselphelps) and/or the Port for more information about potential opportunities for firm.

If you're new to airport work, keep in mind the work will be performed in the airport's secure area, which means you and your employees will need to obtain security badges, comply with restrictions about driving around an active airport, and otherwise comply with strict security requirements. In addition to reading the fine print in your subcontract, be sure to read the Port's Project Manual, available on the PRMS, the Port's on-line procurement portal, which contain contract requirements related to quality, security and safety that all contractors, regardless of tier, must follow. The good news is that Hensel-Phelps is very experienced with SeaTac systems and is well-positioned to provide leadership and guidance.