

HOW DO WE INCREASE DIVERSITY IN CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT?

SOUTHERN MASSACHUSETTS REGIONAL FORUM

MAY 5, 2022



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Webinar Logistics

- Attendees are muted.
- Chat comments will go to the host and panel only.
- Please use Q&A for questions; questions will be directed to host and panel.
- We will respond to clarifying questions after each segment. General questions will be held for the Q & A discussion at the end.
- Presentation materials will be shared after the webinar.

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Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions: *Rob Corley, CEO, NeighborWorks Housing Solutions*
- Context and Agenda Review: *Noelle Humphries, Associate Real Estate Development Director, NeighborWorks Housing Solutions*
- State Agency Expectations; Qualified Application Plan MBE/WBE Participation Goals & Checklist:
Will Morgan, Affordable Housing Project Manager, Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation
- MHIC Recommendations and Resources:
Travis Watson, Director of Racial Equity and Community Engagement, Massachusetts Housing Investment Corporation
- Hiring Minority & Women Business Enterprises (MWBES) on a Local Level:
Robert Jenkins, Executive Director, Brockton Redevelopment Authority
- General Contractor Strategies, Best Practices, and Challenges:
 - Curtis Construction: *John Curtis, President*
 - NEI General Contracting: *André Barbour, Diversity & Inclusion Director, and Ben Coulehan, Director of Preconstruction*
- Questions & Answers, Discussion: *NeighborWorks Housing Solutions Team*
- Recap and Wrap-up: *Tim Doherty, Director of Real Estate Development, NeighborWorks Housing Solutions*

Useful Links Related to Increasing Diversity in Construction and Development

State Guidelines and Offices

- Massachusetts Qualified Allocation Plan, Appendix C: M/WBE Checklist (page 73)
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/2022-2023-qap/download>
- Massachusetts State Office of Minority And Women Business Assistance 425 CMR 2.00: Certification
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/425-cmr-state-office-of-minority-and-women-business-assistance-425-cmr-200-certification/download>
- Executive Order No. 565: Reaffirming and Expanding the Massachusetts Supplier Diversity Program
<https://www.mass.gov/executive-orders/no-565-reaffirming-and-expanding-the-massachusetts-supplier-diversity-program>

Directories

- MHIC Access and Opportunity Network including MBE Database
https://www.mhic.com/interest_accoppnetwork.cfm
- MassHousing Diverse Business Engagement- Resources for Multifamily Partners including Diverse Business Directory
<https://masshousing.com/en/programs-outreach/diverse-business-engagement/diversity-partners>
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts Office of Supplier Diversity Directory of Certified Businesses
<https://www.sdo.osd.state.ma.us/BusinessDirectory/BusinessDirectory.aspx>
- HUD Section 3 Opportunity Portal- The Portal helps match Section 3 Workers to jobs and training opportunities and Section 3 Businesses to contracting opportunities.
<https://hudapps.hud.gov/OpportunityPortal/index.action>

From the Forum Panelists and Attendees
More Links Related to Increasing Diversity in Construction and Development

- **Workforce Opportunity Resource Center (WORC2)**- WORC2 provides cost-free resources, training, technical support, and valuable connections for all local workers and minority-owned subcontractors.
<https://www.worc2.org/about-us>
- **Builders of Color Coalition**- The coalition's purpose is to increase access and diversity in Boston's commercial real estate sector to promote the economic well-being of minority businesses and the communities it serves. See the Institute tab for the BCC Core Fellowship program.
<https://buildersofcolor.com/>
- **Planners of Color**– An affinity group comprised of Massachusetts professionals of color within urban planning, architecture, development, community organizing, GC, consulting, finance, and other affordable housing sectors
<https://www.plannersofcolor.org/>
- **MassHire Greater Brockton Career Center**- The GBCC is part of a statewide network of MassHire Career Centers that provides resources and links to connect businesses and the workforce.
<https://masshiregbcc.org/>
- **Northeastern Center for Tradewomen's Equity (NCTE)**- A program that's dedicated to helping women find careers in the union building trades.
<https://buildalifema.org/>

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Thank you to our presenters!



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