

October 2025

"Advancing Excellence, Building Diverse Legacies Together"



Your monthly news & updates

Four Pillars of the MPMSDC
Certify~~Connect~~Develop~~Advocate

[Visit our Website](#)

What does the Mountain Plains MSDC do?

The Mountain Plains Minority Supplier Development Council (**MPMSDC**) provides solutions for corporations that want to partner with the Council to leverage talent, capabilities, and markets that minority suppliers represent. The MPMSDC certifies minority suppliers.

We certify minority suppliers so that Corporate America can maximize and measure the impact of minority suppliers have on communities of color and ethnicity.

[Mountain Plains MSDC](#)

**Executive Vice President's
Corner**

[Get Connected.](#)
[Stay Connected.](#)



Belinda Hooks
Mountain Plains MSDC
Executive Vice President



Greetings and Welcome to October

Hello MBEs, Corporate Members, and Strategic Partners!

We have a full and exciting month ahead! □

We're looking forward to connecting with everyone at the **Colorado Business Summit on October 24**, where we'll hear from incredible leaders, celebrate our corporate and MBE partnerships, and continue building momentum toward new opportunities. Then, join us online for the **Virtual Corporate Roundtable on October 28**, where Dr. Andrea Hendricks will lead a discussion focused on quantifying the value of procurement and connecting sourcing decisions to measurable impact.

We also had a wonderful time on the greens at Arrowhead Golf Course during our Annual MPMSDC Golf Tournament! □ The weather was chilly Fall weather, the teams were competitive, and the camaraderie was unmatched. **Check out the photos below** to relive a few great moments.

This month's newsletter is packed with valuable information — be sure to scroll through and take a look at:

- Meet the Primes in Kansas City
- 2026 ESB Mentor-Protégé Program with CDOT
- 18th Annual Veterans Small Business Conference
- City of Omaha ONEBiz Platform details

Just to name a few! Please take a few minutes to explore these updates and **share this newsletter with your network** — there's something for everyone.

Thank you for being part of our community. Your commitment to advancing inclusive procurement and supplier development continues to inspire us.

Belinda Hooks

□ 2025 MPMSDC Annual Golf Tournament Recap

What a tee-rific day at Arrowhead Golf Course for the Mountain Plains MSDC Annual Golf Tournament! □♀□♂

Despite a brisk start, the energy was high, the camaraderie was strong, and the competition was friendly! □ The day wrapped up with a hearty BBQ luncheon □, exciting raffle prizes □, and plenty of laughs shared among corporate members, MBEs, and community partners.

A heartfelt thank-you to all our sponsors, volunteers, and players who made this event a success. We can't wait to see you on the greens again next year! □



2025 Programming & Events from the Mountain Plains Council



Charter
COMMUNICATIONS

WWW.MPMSDC.ORG



Mountain Plains
Minority Supplier
Development Council

Colorado Business Enterprise Summit & Luncheon



Theme: Staying the Course

"Advancing Excellence, Building Diverse Legacies Together"

REGISTER TODAY!



Friday, October 24th



9:30a- Check In

10:00a-3:00p-
Program & Luncheon



Charter Communications
6350 S. Fiddlers Green Cir.
Greenwood Village 80111

Only 10 Days Until the Colorado Business Enterprise Summit & Luncheon!

Program Highlights

AM Keynote Speaker: *Steve Boice*, Manager of Business Finance, CHFA

PM Keynote Speaker: *Dr. Plashan McCune, Ph.D.*, Executive Director, Higher Level U

Special Virtual Address: *Carlton Oneal*, National MBEIC Chairperson

Special Video Recording: *Donald R. Cravins Jr.*, Interim CEO & President, National MSDC

Engaging Panel Discussions

MBE Panel – Minority business leaders share their journeys, lessons, and strategies for *staying the course*

Corporate Member Panel – Corporate leaders discuss supplier inclusion, resilience, and adapting in today's climate

BEAR – Business Enterprise Advocates Roundtable

Our streamlined version of the Connection Zone, where MBEs rotate among tables to share their capability statements and business cards directly with Business Advocates.



Register now and secure your spot – we're just 10 days away!

CERTIFY | DEVELOP | CONNECT | ADVOCATE

COLORADO

Speakers & Panel Members



Mountain Plains
Minority Supplier
Development Council

"Advancing Excellence, Building Diverse Legacies Together"



Guest Speaker Afternoon
Dr. Plashan McCune, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Higher Learning U Inc.



Guest Speaker Morning
Steve Boice
Manager of Business
Finance
**Colorado Housing &
Finance Authority (CHFA)**



Virtual Guest Speaker
Carlton Oneal
Chairperson
National MBEIC



Video Guest Speaker
Donald Cravins Jr.
Interim CEO & President
**National Minority
Supplier Development
Council (NMSDC)**



Lindsay Brown
Community Relations
Liaison
Swinerton



Lorena Calderon
Project Coordination
Ryan Companies, Inc



Patrick Mullen
Area Director-Distribution
Border States



MBE Panel Moderator
Marcy Ybarra
Administration &
Diversity Director
Metrix Inspection Group

CERTIFY | DEVELOP | CONNECT | ADVOCATE



Speakers & Panel Members



Mountain Plains
Minority Supplier
Development Council

"Advancing Excellence, Building Diverse Legacies Together"



Noel Bernal
Chief Executive Officer &
Founder
Main Street Public Financial



Lili Han
Chief Executive Office
Anna Snow, LLC



Leon Cerna
President & Founder
HR Birdie



Ivan Drinks Sr.
Chief Executive Officer
Reality Technology, Inc.

-  **Business Enterprise Advocates Roundtable (BEAR)**
-  **Confirmed Participants to Date:**
-  **Small Business Administration (SBA)**
-  **Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA)**
-  **National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)**
-  **Denver Public Schools (DPS)**
-  **Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade (OEDIT)**
-  **Department of Personnel & Administration (DPA)**
-  **Swinerton**
-  Join these leading organizations for a powerful hour of **direct engagement, connections, and opportunity** with MBEs across Colorado and the Mountain Plains region!

CERTIFY | DEVELOP | CONNECT | ADVOCATE



REGISTER HERE



WWW.MPMSSDC.ORG



Mountain Plains
Minority Supplier
Development Council

Virtual October 2025

90 Minute

Corporate Roundtable

"Advancing Excellence, Building Diverse Legacies Together"

 Mountain Plains MSDC Corporate Roundtable – 2025

An exclusive educational forum designed for corporate members and strategic partners to engage in meaningful discussions on key business topics.

Join us as we foster collaboration, share best practices, and drive impactful change in supplier diversity and economic inclusion.



Tuesday, October 28th



10:00a-11:30 MST
11:00a-12:30p CST
(90-minute webinar)



Microsoft Teams Link



Your virtual hostess:
Dr. Andrea Hendricks



★ Ideal for:

- ✓ Supplier Engagement
- ✓ Procurement & Supply Chain Leaders
- ✓ Corporate Members & Strategic Partners



TOPIC: From Sourcing to Impact-

Quantifying the Value of Procurement :



Procurement is more than a transactional function — it's a catalyst for measurable economic and social value.



Join this thought-provoking Corporate Roundtable to explore how procurement leaders are connecting sourcing decisions to tangible community outcomes and strengthening stakeholder narratives.



Discover strategies that drive organizational impact, elevate visibility with executives and boards, and showcase the measurable results of inclusive procurement.



Walk away with best-practice insights to kickstart, reframe, or enhance your current team's efforts.

CERTIFY | DEVELOP | CONNECT | ADVOCATE

VIRTUAL

REGISTER HERE FOR VIRTUAL CORPORATE
ROUNDTABLE

Stay informed about the latest events and engagements organized by the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC). If you're eager to expand your network, gain valuable insights, and connect with industry leaders, look no further!

To discover a diverse range of upcoming events and to secure your spot, we invite you to click on the NMSDC Events Calendar. This invaluable resource is your gateway to a world of professional growth, innovation, and collaboration within the NMSDC community.



**Stay Connected with
the National Council!**

**There are many
events to attend each
month:**

[Events Calendar](#)

**Strengthening Our Network:
All 23 Affiliate Agreements Executed**

Dear NMSDC Stakeholders,

I am thrilled to share with you a significant milestone in our journey to unifying our valued network --- we now have 23 fully executed Affiliate Agreements --- representing all Affiliates across our network.

This milestone represents more than completed agreements—it reflects our unity of purpose and the deep commitment of our Affiliates and the national office to advance economic opportunity for minority business enterprises. Unified with the Affiliates, we are better positioned to deliver consistent value, strengthen thoughtful collaboration, and chart a bold path together that is future focused.

On behalf of the entire NMSDC team, thank you to the Affiliate leadership for your continued partnership and support. Together, we are building a stronger and more cohesive network to meet the challenges and opportunities of our new economy while creating value for our certified suppliers and corporate members.

We can't wait to welcome you to **[Miami, November 2–5, for our Annual Conference](#)** as we navigate our new economy together. If you have not registered, please **[click here to complete your registration today.](#)**

With gratitude,

Don Cravins, Jr.
Interim President & CEO

Stay informed on what our strategic partners and friends of the MPMSDC are doing!

□ Don't Miss Out! Stay Connected to Our Community

See what our Strategic Partners and Corporate Members are doing across the region! Discover upcoming events, business opportunities, and valuable resources designed to help you grow and connect.

□ Click the logos, links or flyers below to view full details and registration links — you won't want to miss what's happening!

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS from Our Strategic Partners & Friends of MPMSDC



The SBA has opened nominations for various categories of small businesses. **The nomination deadline is December 8, 2025.** There are several categories where a company might be able to submit themselves for consideration.

1. **Small Business Exporter of the Year** | U.S. Small Business Administration
2. Small Business Manufacturer of the Year - A small business in the manufacturing sector that has demonstrated exceptional performance, innovation and growth. This award celebrates the vital role small

manufacturers play in restoring American economic dominance, technological advancements, national security and more.

3. Rural Small Business of the Year - A small business that has demonstrated exceptional performance and growth in a rural community. This award celebrates the vital role small businesses play in our rural communities. To be eligible for this award, the business must be located at an address designated as rural by the [U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Property Eligibility search tool](#).
4. Blue Collar Small Business of the Year - A small business in a blue-collar industry that has demonstrated exceptional performance and growth. This award celebrates the vital role blue-collar small businesses play in our economy, communities, and day-to-day lives. To be eligible for this award, the small business must operate in an industry characterized by workers using physical skill and energy involving manual labor, a trade, or a vocational skill such as, but not limited to, construction, roofing, welding, painting, heating and air conditioning, carpentry, plumbing, auto repair, and/or electrical work.

For items 2, 3 and 4, nominations can be submitted here – [2026 Colorado District Office NSBW Nominations](#). Additional information on all awards can be found

1. [Colorado District Office Awards | U.S. Small Business Administration](#)
2. [National Small Business Week Awards | U.S. Small Business Administration](#)

Please feel free to share with companies or partners. Happy to answer any questions.

Patty Brewer

Export Finance Manager for Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, Utah, and Wyoming

Office of Manufacturing & Trade

U.S. Small Business Administration

721 19th Street

Denver, CO 80202

Phone: 720-556-4664

Email: patricia.brewer@sba.gov

Applications are now open for the 2026 CDOT Mentor-Protégé program. CDOT is looking for small businesses in highway design or construction that want to learn and build capacity with the help of an industry mentor and CDOT support.

To help facilitate teaming connections, we're hosting an in-person Info + Speed Networking event in downtown Denver next week. Please help us promote the event by sharing with your networks. Thank you!

CDOT Mentor-Protégé Program & Application

- Mentor and Protege teams self-match and jointly apply
- Proteges must be ESB certified - not required to attend the Speed Networking. There is still time to get certified before applications are due.
- **Applications due November 3.**
- Two-year program starting January 2026
- **Application:** tinyurl.com/cdot-esb-mp



2026 ESB Mentor-Protégé Program



Applications Open

Tues Sept 16

tinyurl.com/esb-mp-app

Info + Speed Networking

Thurs Sept 25

3pm - 5pm

tinyurl.com/mp-event

Applications Due

Mon Nov 3

2026 Kick-Off Event

Thurs Jan 29



Questions?

dot-civilrights@state.co.us
303.757.9234

tinyurl.com/cdot-esb-mp

CDOT's ESB Mentor-Protégé Program is part of a holistic effort to develop the competitive capacity of small contractors and consultants in Colorado.

By fostering professional collaborations between Emerging Small Businesses and more established firms, CDOT aims to ensure that ESBs seeking to build their capabilities in highway design and construction have the peer coaching and support needed for sustained success.



CDOT's Mentor-Protégé Program is for two years and self-select. CDOT does not match Mentors with Protégés.

Evaluation Criteria

- Readiness of the Team to make progress against identified goals
- Complementary nature of the services the Team provides
- Commitment to fostering and developing small business capacity

Program Benefits

- Preferential scoring on CDOT design contracts
- New client relationships for mentors and protégés
- Exclusive networking events with CDOT leadership
- Complimentary access to Connect2DOT events
- Customized business development workshops
- Access to business coaching in addition to mentoring



COLORADO
Department of Transportation

Meet the Primes event at the Kansas City Data Center Project, taking place on **Wednesday, October 29th at 8:00 AM**. This event is an opportunity for your membership to build relationships with the prime contractors on the project as well as learn more about continued opportunities.

You are Invited

to a **MEET THE PRIMES EVENT**

Wednesday, October 29th

8:00 am - 9:30 am

The Kansas City Data Center

12600 Outer Road, Kansas City, MO 64165

Join the Turner Construction, Alexander Mechanical, and LM2 Partnership team for Meet the Primes – a networking and informational event to learn more about continued opportunities at the Kansas City Data Center Project.

This event will give local and small business trade partners the chance to meet the prime contractors, build relationships, and stay connected with continued opportunities. A brief presentation will begin at 8:30 AM. Light breakfast and refreshments will be provided.



Questions? Contact Stephanie Conner, Community & Citizenship Director, sconner@tcco.com



COLORADO

Office of Economic Development & International Trade

New Construction Bond Assistance Training

The State of Colorado launched a new construction bond training program (in English and Spanish) that equips contractors with the knowledge and skills necessary to understand, obtain, and manage bonds for State construction projects. The training is available on-demand on both partner websites. Get started on the training and create a free account [here](#):

- [Construction Bond Assistance Online Course \(English\)](#)
- [Curso en línea de asistencia para fianzas de construcción \(español\)](#)

This training was produced by the Statewide Equity Office's [Bond Assistance Program](#) at the Colorado Department of Personnel & Administration in collaboration with the [Colorado Minority Business Office](#) at the Office of Economic Development & International Trade in response to a 2020 Disparity Study, which identified the need to support contractors with construction bond assistance and because construction bonds are required for performance on State contracts.

The Statewide Equity Office's [Bond Assistance Program](#) offers collateral for new contractors working with the State on general construction and bridge and highway construction projects. The program is also working on a guide for contractors to understand entry points and opportunities for working on State construction projects.

This announcement comes shortly after the successful launch of the [Colorado Supplier Diversity Directory](#), where businesses can apply to be listed for FREE and have their business designations verified as a HUBZone, small, diverse-owned, and/or veteran-owned business. This helps buyers in the State connect with Colorado businesses, resulting in the best value to the State and ensuring that tax dollars spent by the State government are supporting local businesses. Partners at the Minority Business Office will work with businesses seeking certifications.

Those interested in learning more about this training, the Statewide Bond Assistance program, or applying for a FREE listing on the business directory are encouraged to contact the Colorado Supplier Diversity Navigator by calling 303-866-5765, emailing [**DPA_SupplierDiversityHelp@state.co.us**](mailto:DPA_SupplierDiversityHelp@state.co.us), or by visiting dhr.colorado.gov/sd.

Connect, Learn and Level Up

The 18th Annual Veterans Small Business Conference is your chance to connect, learn, and level up! Dive into expert-led sessions, explore business growth strategies and discover

government contracting opportunities. This year, veteran-owned businesses can also sign up for a vendor table to showcase and sell products! Network with national speakers, visit targeted exhibitors and get real-world advice from roundtable experts ready to support your success.

The poster features a dark blue background with a textured, brush-stroke-like pattern. In the top left corner is a QR code. In the top right corner is a logo that reads "VETERANS small business conference". The main title, "18TH ANNUAL Veterans Small Business Conference", is prominently displayed in white and yellow text. Below the title, the date "November 7, 2025" and time "7 am – 4:30 pm" are listed, along with the location "Great Wolf Lodge, 9494 Federal Dr., Colorado Springs". Registration fees are also provided: "\$89/ticket before Oct. 10 (increases to \$129)" and "\$225/vendor table for veteran-owned businesses". A paragraph of text describes the conference's purpose, and a closing statement encourages veterans to participate. The website "VeteransSmallBusinessConference.com" is at the bottom. The background image shows a close-up of a military uniform with a "VETERANS" patch and silhouettes of people in the foreground.



VETERANS
small business conference

18TH ANNUAL
**Veterans
Small
Business
Conference**

November 7, 2025
7 am – 4:30 pm
Great Wolf Lodge
9494 Federal Dr.
Colorado Springs

Registration Fees
\$89/ticket before Oct. 10
(increases to \$129)
\$225/vendor table for
veteran-owned businesses

From the nation's founding to today, service and entrepreneurship have gone hand-in-hand. Veterans have always been at the forefront of building America—first through military service, now through business ownership.

This year's conference celebrates that legacy and equips you for the future. Join fellow veteran entrepreneurs for a full day of learning, networking, and inspiration designed to strengthen your business, your community, and your mission.

Veterans have always built America—first through service, now through business. Don't miss your chance to honor that legacy and empower your future.

VeteransSmallBusinessConference.com



The Colorado SBDC is a proud member of the National Association of Small Business Development Centers.

Drive Clean Colorado's Summit & Expo on Thursday, October 23rd at Empower Field at Mile High!

This exciting event is designed to bring together small business owners, fleet operators, and community leaders to explore how clean transportation can save money, strengthen local economies, and

improve air quality in our communities.

□ Don't miss the Small Business Roundtable!

This interactive session will center the voices of local entrepreneurs and small fleet operators who are leading the way in sustainable business practices. Participants will share experiences, discuss real challenges, and learn about new incentives, grants, and resources available to help transition to electric vehicles and clean technologies.

What to Expect Throughout the Day:

- Ride & Drive Experience – Get behind the wheel of over 25 electric vehicles and equipment
- Networking with industry leaders and Colorado's clean mobility champions
- Practical education and panels for businesses, municipalities, and community organizations
- Innovation Showcase – Explore 30+ exhibitors featuring cutting-edge clean transportation solutions. We will have a booth featuring the latest state incentives for business owners!

The graphic features a large green arrow pointing right, composed of three parallel lines. Inside the arrow are three photos: a large audience in a hall, a white SUV parked outdoors, and three people talking. To the right of the arrow is the text "DRIVE CLEAN Summit + Expo" in blue, with the tagline "Keep Going: Scaling What Works. Powering What's Next." below it. Further right is the date "October 23, 2025" and the location "Empower Field at Mile High". At the bottom right is a blue button that says "REGISTER TODAY!". At the bottom left of the arrow is the "DRIVE CLEAN COLORADO" logo, which includes a stylized car icon.

DRIVE CLEAN
Summit + Expo

Keep Going: Scaling What Works. Powering What's Next.

October 23, 2025
Empower Field
at Mile High

REGISTER TODAY!

DRIVE CLEAN
COLORADO



**Urban League of
Nebraska**

Hi NOE Collaborators and Nebraska Small Businesses,

Following last week's social media announcement about the Urban League of Nebraska's leadership transition (CEO Wayne Brown will resign effective December 3, 2025), I've received several calls about the stability of the Nebraska Opportunity

Exchange (NOE). I appreciate the outreach and want to reassure you directly.

NOE remains stable, active, and fully operational. In coordination with Urban League staff during this transition, I continue to manage program delivery, partnerships, capital access, and outcomes without interruption. All trainings, office hours, and partner-facing activities remain on schedule.

What's staying the same

- **Programs & calendar:** All trainings, clinics, technical assistance, and events will proceed as planned.
- **Capital access:** Microloans, investment-readiness support, coaching, and referrals continue on current timelines.
- **Engagements & commitments:** MOUs, sponsorships, and partner deliverables remain unchanged.
- **Point of contact:** Communications and coordination continue to be **led by April Hibbler, Executive Program Lead.**

Continuity measures

- **Operational coverage:** Staff and contractor coverage, including backup facilitation, is confirmed.
- **Data & compliance:** Participant applications and partner records remain secured under existing protocols.
- **Reporting & timelines:** Vendor and funder deliverables and reporting schedules are unchanged.

Our commitments

- **Transparency:** If a structural adjustment becomes necessary, we will communicate early and clearly, with timelines and straightforward options to ensure seamless continuity.
- **Outcomes:** NOE remains focused on contract-readiness, procurement opportunities, and access to capital for Nebraska entrepreneurs.



ONEBiz

"ONEBiz is a dynamic platform developed to fill a gap in small business creation and development. It supports new and existing businesses in the fundamentals of business establishment, growth, and navigation of Omaha's community resource ecosystem and local government services. By connecting entrepreneurs with essential tools, guidance, and partnerships, ONEBiz streamlines access to vital resources for growth and success. Whether you are launching a startup or expanding an established business, ONEBiz serves as a bridge to opportunities within the City of Omaha."

Do you want to...

Start a Business?

ONEBiz connects entrepreneurs with partner organizations that offer financial assistance, business development support, mentorship, and technical assistance.

Grow your Business?

ONEBiz can connect you to resources to hire staff, applications to access capital, contract with the City, and connect with the existing business community in Omaha.

Manage a Development Project?

ONEBiz guides you through the process of managing a development project, from assembling teams, accessing economic development incentives and working with the City.



ONEBiz



Scan here!

Do you want to...

Start a Business?

ONEBiz connects entrepreneurs with partner organizations that offer financial assistance, business development support, mentorship, and technical assistance.

Grow your Business?

ONEBiz can connect you to resources to hire staff, applications to access capital, contract with the City, and connect with the existing business community in Omaha.

Manage a Development Project?

ONEBiz guides you through the process of managing a development project, from assembling teams, accessing economic development incentives and working with the City.



ONEBiz



Scan here!



CITY OF
OMAHA
HUMAN
RIGHTS
& RELATIONS
DEPARTMENT

ADVANCING OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL



CITY OF
OMAHA
HUMAN
RIGHTS
& RELATIONS
DEPARTMENT

ADVANCING OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

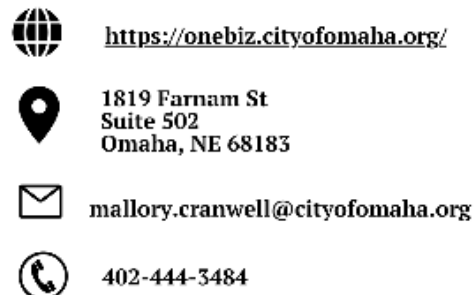
WORK WITH THE CITY

The City of Omaha Small and Emerging Business (SEB) program provides an opportunity for developing businesses to jumpstart their earning with City contracts. ONEBiz is the hub to learn how to become a vendor with the City, authorize as a SEB, and navigate the City bidding system.

OUR PARTNERS



CONTACT US



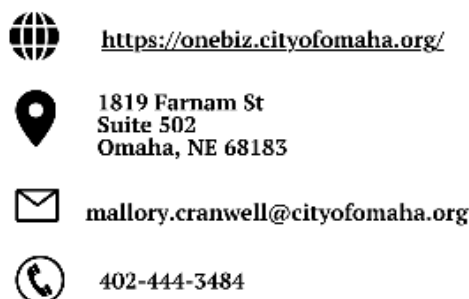
WORK WITH THE CITY

The City of Omaha Small and Emerging Business (SEB) program provides an opportunity for developing businesses to jumpstart their earning with City contracts. ONEBiz is the hub to learn how to become a vendor with the City, authorize as a SEB, and navigate the City bidding system.

OUR PARTNERS



CONTACT US



In today's unpredictable business climate, most great business owners have succeeded because of a mentor; someone who believed in their potential and helped them navigate the complex world of entrepreneurship. This rings especially true for the owners of small, diverse businesses, who often face many barriers to success.

Our latest edition of **Together By Design** highlights two companies that have benefited from our Accelerate mentorship program, a joint venture with Evergy and Ralph G. Moore & Associates. Read about our Accelerate graduates and see how mentorship is making an impact.

BURNS  McDONNELL

TOGETHER BY DESIGN

Business Diversity
Newsletter

CLICK HERE TO READ FULL BURNS &
McDONNELL NEWSLETTER



****BID OPPORTUNITY****
BID OPPORTUNITYBID OPPORTUNITY****
BID OPPORTUNITY**

Exciting News from Hickman Mills C-1 School District!

We are thrilled to announce that Hickman Mills C-1 School District is seeking proposals for a variety of exciting projects and initiatives. This is your chance to collaborate with us and make a meaningful impact on our school community.

Stay tuned and keep checking back regularly to discover the latest opportunities. Don't miss out on the chance to be part of something amazing!

Bid Webpage



Startups + Industry
Innovate With NREL

We serve our private and public funding partners by leveraging the capabilities at NREL and activating our network of startups, investors, incubators, foundations, and industry partners.

[Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center | NREL](#)

[Events | Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center | NREL](#)



☐ **Partner with Denver Public Schools (DPS)! ☐**

☐ Learn How to Do Business with DPS

DPS offers monthly workshops to help potential contractors and vendors navigate the bidding process and discover opportunities within the district.

☐ Workshop Details:

- When: Every second Thursday of the month, from 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM
 - Where: Acoma Campus, 1617 S. Acoma Street, Denver, CO 80223
 - Virtual Option: Available upon request. Contact Jennifer Malpiede at jennifer_malpiede@dpsk12.org for virtual attendance.
- ☐ Why Attend?
 - Gain a comprehensive overview of the DPS bidding process.
 - Learn what's needed to become a business partner.
 - Stay informed on your application status and upcoming bid opportunities through the Office of Business Diversity (OBD).
 - ☐ Contact Us:
 - Phone: 720-423-1920
 - Email: Business Diversity
 - ☐ Take the first step toward partnering with DPS and unlocking exciting opportunities!

2025 Workshop Series

- November 13th
- December 11th

DPS Calendar of Events

- ☐ **Attention MBEs: Explore Procurement Opportunities with Denver Public Schools!**
 - ☐ Discover New Projects: Access the Denver Public Schools (DPS) bid page to explore a wide range of projects tailored for diverse businesses.
 - ☐ Expand Your Business: DPS offers incredible procurement opportunities—don't miss out on these chances to grow and collaborate!
 - ☐ Get Started: Visit the DPS bid page today and position your business for success.
 - ☐ Act Now: These opportunities won't last long. Be sure to check the bid page regularly for updates!
 - ☐ Your next big project could be just a click away!

DPS BID PAGE



Making Learning Real Through K-12 Education & Industry Partnerships

Denver Public Schools is looking to engage with new companies in Metro Denver through its Career Development Programs!

The district's K-12 work-based learning initiatives offers students the chance to explore their career identity, visualize what's possible, and gain hands-on experience within their pathway of interest.

By collaborating with local businesses, DPS is committed to broadening opportunities for youth while strengthening a local homegrown talent pipeline in the community. Programs include industry exploration events, career mentorships, high school internships, and more.

Promote your company and industry to the next generation of our workforce in 2025 by submitting a **Partner Interest Form**.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions or need additional info.

And thank you so much for giving my team a platform to help promote these impactful initiatives in support of DPS students! ☐



BUSINESS CONSORTIUM FUND

THE SUPPLIER DIVERSITY CDFI

MISSION

The Business Consortium Fund, Inc. (BCF) exists to empower entrepreneurs by advancing equitable capital access for business owners of color. We provide funding and advice to certified minority businesses operating in the supply chains of the nation's largest corporations, as well as the supply chains of government organizations.

VISION

We envision a thriving economy with equitable capital access for business owners of color, including eliminating the racial wealth gap.

100% of
loans made
to business
owners of
color

\$228M of
loans since
1987

950
businesses
served

119 years of
combined
experience

Loans sized
\$15K to
\$1.125M

Deeply
embedded in
the supplier
diversity
ecosystem

OFFERINGS

LOAN TYPES

-  Short term working capital (1 to 5 years)
-  Long term debt (5 to 10 years)
-  Receivables financing
-  Purchase order financing
-  Equipment financing
-  Micro loans from \$10K to \$100K

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

-  Past 3 years financial statements
-  Past 3 years filed business and personal tax returns
-  Personal financial statement for the owner
-  Accounts receivable and payable aging reports
-  6 months of business bank statements
-  Bios for company owners and key employees
-  Personal guarantee from owners 10% or greater

APPLY AT: bcfcapital.com

*Access to supplier
contracts is a proven
path for growth to small
business owners.*

CONTACT US



Camellia Loojune | Director of Small Business Lending
cloojune@bcfcapital.com
212.243.7360 x 206



Ruben Rodriguez | Chief Lending Officer
rrodriguez@bcfcapital.com
212.243.7360 x 203

2025 MBEIC UPDATES

What is the MBEIC?

Each affiliate regional council has a Minority Business Enterprise Input Committee (**MBEIC**) that consists of owners/executives of minority businesses elected by local NMSDC- certified MBEs. As a standing committee of the affiliate regional council's Board of Directors, the MBEIC provides constructive input, promotes council events and activities, develops programs and serves as the liaison between corporate members, staff and MBEs.

NEWS from the MBEIC

October 2025

□ About the MBE Input Committee (MBEIC)

Standing for the Interests of Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs)

The National Minority Business Enterprise Input Committee (NMBEIC) serves as a vital voice for more than 17,000 certified MBEs across the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC) network. As a standing committee of NMSDC's Board of Directors, the NMBEIC works in partnership with national leadership, affiliate council presidents, and board chairs to ensure that the perspectives and priorities of MBEs remain central to the network's mission.

The committee plays an active role in shaping strategies and initiatives that support NMSDC's purpose — advancing business opportunities for certified MBEs and connecting them with corporate members — while driving measurable economic growth and community impact.

Throughout the year, NMBEIC members gather at Network Leadership Meetings and during the NMSDC Annual Conference & Exchange, where they host the Opportunity Accelerator — a flagship event focused on connection, capacity building, and collaboration. These meetings provide a forum for MBEIC chairs from across the country to:

- Discuss emerging issues and challenges within their regions
- Share best practices for engaging MBEs and corporations
- Develop meaningful programming that promotes professional and business growth

At the Mountain Plains MSDC, our local MBEIC continues this mission regionally — creating opportunities for MBEs to engage, learn, and expand their reach through networking, advocacy, and peer collaboration.

The 2025 NMSDC Annual Conference & Exchange is coming

up November 2–5 in Miami, and it's one you won't want to miss. This national event is your opportunity to connect with hundreds of corporate partners, engage in targeted matchmaking, and gain insights that can truly shift the trajectory of your business. Learn more and stay updated at nmsdcconference.org/2025.

Mark your calendar for this year's Opportunity Accelerator (OA) in Miami!

Join us on **Sunday, November 2, 2025, from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.**, for an energizing afternoon designed to ignite ideas, forge meaningful connections, and position your business for success throughout the NMSDC Annual Conference & Exchange. *Hosted annually by the National MBE Input Committee (NMBEIC), the Opportunity Accelerator is a dynamic pre-conference experience created **by MBEs, for MBEs**. This **FREE** event brings together minority business enterprises, NMSDC corporate members, and regional affiliate staff in a space built for connection, insight, and momentum.*

The MBEIC is here to support you every step of the way. Whether you need guidance navigating a certification, making strategic connections, or simply staying informed about contract trends - we're committed to helping our MBE community thrive. Let this summer be a season of momentum!

Stay tuned for more ways the MBEIC is working to advocate for and support our certified businesses throughout the region.

Stay engaged, stay empowered, and let's rise to the challenge—together.
– **The MBEIC Committee**

October
"MBE Spotlight"



Name of Company: Anna Snow LLC/BabyLuck

Owner Name: Lili Han

About the Company:

Anna Snow LLC / BabyLuck delivers compliant, cost-effective supply solutions to procurement professionals, federal agencies, and institutional clients. Known for speedy fulfillment, competitive pricing, and a commitment to sustainability, the company offers a versatile range of products spanning multiple industries:

- ☐ Food Distribution: Fresh meat, dairy, produce, canned goods, snacks, and beverages
- ☐ Cleaning & Maintenance: Industrial cleaning agents, sanitizers, and safety products
- ☐ Institutional Goods: Personal care, hygiene, and health supplies
- ☐ Office & Educational Supplies: General office, lab, and digital materials
- ☐ Gym, Kitchen & Bedding Products: From equipment to linens and cookware
- ☐ Steel Wiring: For construction, manufacturing, and automotive use

Anna Snow LLC / BabyLuck is proud to support diverse operational needs with integrity, quality, and reliability.

Contact: 719-755-4881

Website: [BabyLuck Retail](#)

Mountain Plains MSDC Board of Directors

**To meet our entire Board of Directors please
check our website:**

We're grateful to our Officers, Executive Committee and Board of Directors for their thought leadership, service and support in making a difference towards minority business enterprises economic inclusion and parity.



*****Mountain Plains MSDC new hires and promotions*****

To meet our entire staff please check our website:

The Council is uniquely positioned to offer management and technical services relevant for a dynamic marketplace including: business consulting, matchmaking, contract opportunity sourcing, finance sourcing and access to international markets.

Reminders to Check the following:

--	--



[Click Here for
Current Opportunities](#)

Our bid opportunity page updates daily! **This is password protected and ONLY for certified MBEs.** If you need the updated password, please contact us at 303-623-3037 or communications@mpmsdc.org



**Keep checking our
calendar of events page
to register for upcoming
events!**

Mountain Plains Minority Supplier Development Council | 6025 S. Quebec St. Suite 135 |
Centennial, CO 80111 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)