

Diversity in Contracting

Diversity in Contracting 2026 Q2 Newsletter

July 23, 2026

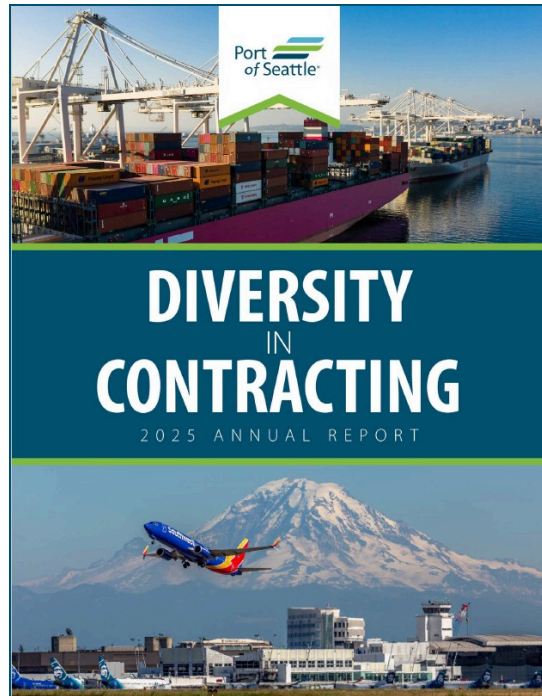
2025 Diversity in Contracting Annual Report

2025 marked the first year in Diversity in Contracting's new five-year policy goals and the momentum we saw from 2024 carried over into 2025! We are excited to bring to you the 2025 annual report which highlights the Port's continued commitment to support diverse businesses and what led to a record setting year in WMBE contracting for the Port!

Report Highlights:

- Contract Expenditure: 15.3% (\$151M) of the Port's \$990M went to WMBE Firms
- Firms Utilized: 400 WMBE firms contracted with the Port

This marks an all-time high in both WMBE expenditure and firm utilization in the Port's History!



[Read the Full 2025 Report](#)

Inaugural Port Architecture & Engineering Industry Day



We want to thank you all again for joining our inaugural Port Architecture & Engineering Industry Day event! With over 260 people joining us virtually in the morning and over 230 people joining us in the afternoon at Pier 69, attendees had an opportunity to hear from Port leaders and small business owners that have scored contracts with the Port, and to meet with some of the Port's key consultants to get one step closer to a contract!

We are thankful for the five panelists that shared their Port contracting experiences with us, the 11 prime contractors who met with businesses for one-on-one meet and greets for three hours straight, the 17 key consultants who set up booths for the exhibitor walk, and the 30+ incredible Port of Seattle staff that volunteered their time to make our Architecture & Engineering Industry Day event a huge success!

We look forward to making this event even better next year!

Access the Powerpoint presentation here: [A&E Industry Day](#)
View the recording of the presentation by clicking the thumbnail below:



Blog Posts

Eunice and Danny Lee, Owners of Kawaii Treats - Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander Heritage Month

With May being AANHPI Heritage Month, the Diversity in Contracting team had an opportunity to interview Eunice and Danny Lee, owners of Kawaii Treats.

"Celebrating AANHPI month reminds us of our childhood. It's a healthy refresher of our collective cultures and customs that we're not exposed to as regularly because we live in a different context... We curate our products around Asian holidays like Lunar New Year or Chinese New Year, and incorporate fun things like chocolate gold coins, and red envelopes. We got in this business to embrace our culture. When businesses like ours do well, customers get to experience the communal culture of our people, and we continue to provide legacy to our children through our culture." - Eunice and Danny Lee



Read the full interview on the [Diversity in Contracting website!](#)

Q2 Outreach Report

Q2 Outreach Statistics:

- PortGen Events: 2 events
 - PortGen Connects (6/2/26): [A&E Industry Day](#)
 - PortGen First Look (6/17/26): [ICT Contracts \(presentation\)](#), [Recording \(YouTube\)](#)

- Total PortGen Attendance: 412 attendees
- PortGen Unique Business Attendance: 321 Firms
 - 178 WMBE Firms
 - 124 DBE Firms
 - 205 SBE Firms
 - 15 VOB Firms
- Collaborative Presentations & Tabling Events: 2 events
 - AWMB NW Contractors Day (4/30/26)
 - City of Seattle Reverse Vendor Trade Show (6/3/26)

Please check out our [How to do Business with the Port](#) page to view all presentations, recordings, and registrants lists for our events

Upcoming Events

Business Accelerator Mentorship Program
Apply by July 31st!

**Grow your business with the
Port of Seattle Business Accelerator**
Applications Are Now Open - Apply By July 31, 2026

This free program supports small businesses, especially Women, Minority, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in Architecture, Engineering, Construction, Energy, Aviation, Maritime, and Corporate sectors — with priority given to businesses in South King County.



**Professional one-on-one
mentorship**



**Access to Port of Seattle
procurement staff**



**Government contracting &
business growth curriculum**



**Gain insights on upcoming
Port opportunities**



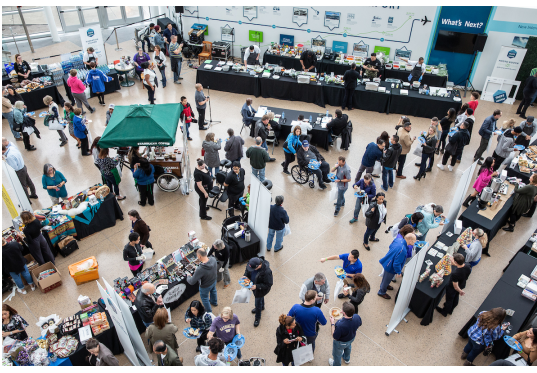
Scan the QR code to
learn more or visit
www.nwmmcdc.org/port

Scan the QR Code or click the flyer above to learn more and apply today!

The Council will be holding an information session on Friday, July 24th from 11am-12pm! We highly encourage you to attend the info session so you can best determine if this opportunity is the right fit for you and to have your lingering questions about the program answered!

Register for Virtual Info Session!

Inaugural Port Goods and Services Vendors Day



Are you a diverse or small business supplier or service provider? If so, join us at our Port headquarters for our inaugural Port Goods and Services Vendors Day for an opportunity to meet and connect with purchasers from across the Port, and share with them your incredible products and services!

**Tuesday, September 29th
Pier 69
2711 Alaskan Way Seattle, WA**

Save the Date!

Western Regional Contracting Forum 2026

One of the largest government-led outreach and networking forums, the Regional Contracting Forum is a distinguished networking event with a focus on small, women, minority, and veteran-owned businesses. The event provides the space and opportunity for such businesses to connect with prime contractors, government agencies, local jurisdictions/municipalities, schools and transportation agencies. **Sign up today!**

More Info and Registration



**Wednesday, October 7th from 8AM – 3PM
Muckleshoot Casino Resort (2402 Auburn Way S Auburn, WA)**

End of Year Celebration & Accelerator Graduation



Celebrate the success of small businesses with us at our End of Year Celebration & Accelerator Graduation!

During this event we'll celebrate our 2026 Business Accelerator cohort, recognize 2026 Port WMBE partners, and preview 2027 opportunities!

Save the Date!

**Tuesday, December 15th
Pier 69
2711 Alaskan Way Seattle, WA**

In Case You Missed It



The first week of June was quite the week for the DC team as we attended the City of Seattle Reverse Vendor Trade Show the day after our A&E Industry Day event. Thankfully, we were accompanied by our amazing Central Procurement Officers who helped inform trade show attendees about upcoming contracting opportunities!

[**All Current
Solicitations**](#)[**Future
Solicitations**](#)[**Sign on to our
Mailing List**](#)

About the Port

Founded in 1911 by a vote of the people as a special purpose government, the Port of Seattle's mission is to promote economic opportunities and quality of life in the region by advancing trade, travel, commerce and job creation in an equitable, accountable and environmentally responsible manner. In 2025, Port Commissioners adopted a new Diversity in Contracting (DC) policy, Resolution 3836, building upon our previous policy directive from 2018, Resolution 3737. Our directives seek to drive equity in Port contracting. Last year we established new five-year goals from 2025-2029 to increase the number of women and minority owned businesses doing business with the Port to 500 firms, and to increase the amount of spend on WMBE contracts to 16%.





Try email marketing for free today!