



Opportunity in Uncertainty

By Johnny Bradigan

The United States construction industry in 2025 looks like it will have both challenges and opportunities for businesses. ConstructConnect predicts construction spending will grow by 5.2 percent this year, but there's still uncertainty about what's next. Here's what's behind the uncertainty and where you might find opportunities.

Why is spending expected to grow?

United States construction starts, or projects that officially began, dropped by 3.5 percent last year. However, spending is expected to bounce back in 2025 for two main reasons: easing financial regulations and potential interest rate cuts.

Michael Guckes, ConstructConnect chief economist, says, "Lower interest rates will function as a first and necessary step in reinvigorating nonresidential construction activity, allowing more nonresidential construction projects to pencil out."

Additionally, lower interest rates could make housing more affordable, which could lead to

a rise in residential construction. According to ConstructConnect, total nonresidential construction spending may grow by 5.7 percent this year, while residential spending could increase by 3.6 percent.

What projects could grow the most?

The demand for power generation is expected to be a driving force in the industry. This is due to the rise of electric vehicles and tech devices, an increase in the need for data centers, and progress in artificial intelligence.

Spending on projects like wind and nuclear energy is predicted to reach record highs, boosting heavy engineering and civil construction. Further, strong growth is expected in manufacturing construction, which could rise 13.4 percent in 2025.

On the residential side, falling mortgage rates could help increase both single-family and multi-family housing projects after a 9 percent decline in 2024.

How could tariffs affect the market?

Even with growth predicted, tariffs on imported goods may still have a big impact. Higher material

Small Business Exchange joins in mourning Pope Francis and acknowledges the leadership spoken in his message on Easter Sunday.

"On this day, I would like all of us to hope anew and to revive our trust in others, including those who are different than ourselves, or who come from distant lands, bringing unfamiliar customs, ways of life and ideas! For all of us are children of God!"
 ~ Pope Francis ~

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RFP FOR BUILDING SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS

A BROOKLYN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM CERTIFIED MWBE AND OTHER CONTRACTORS AND VENDORS

Advanced Building Security Enhancements Project, Brooklyn, New York RFP Contract(s)
 Expression of Interest Due: April 18, 2025

Description of project:
 Our nonprofit organization in Brownstone Brooklyn is seeking vendors and companies with a background in security enhancements for a project to upgrade our building. The advanced security measures we are implementing focus on strengthening our building's perimeter and securing all vulnerable entry points. This includes ballistic-grade proofing for windows and doors, security cameras and emergency alarm systems, as well as modifications to our main entrances and security station to improve access control. We are looking to partner with contractors and vendors that have expertise in ballistic protection and customized solutions, while offering cost-effective proposals that align with our existing security systems and adhere to the projected work schedule. Experience working with places of worship and/or historical buildings is strongly preferred, as is a certified Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) vendor.

All interested firms should contact bhssecops@gmail.com by Friday, April 18, for specifications and bid requirements, which are to be made through a sealed bidding process.

Register

Federal Contracting Policy & Advocacy Conference
 May 5 - 7, 2025

Annie Dodge Wauneka Event Center
 Navajo Nation Washington Office - Washington, D.C.

NACA 2025

Tutor Perini COWI
 DESIGN-BUILD JOINT VENTURE
 TUTOR PERINI CORPORATION DESIGNER, AN EEO EMPLOYER, AND COWI CONSULTING INC.

IS CURRENTLY SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM QUALIFIED AND CERTIFIED M/WBE AND SDVOB SUBCONTRACTORS, VENDORS, SERVICE PROVIDERS

Design-Build Services for the Main Cable Dehumidification at the Verrazano Narrows Bridge in the Borough of New York Project
 MTA Construction and Development Contract No. VN-8Q
 Bid Date: April 23, 2025

Description of work:

1. Installation of a main cable dehumidification system on the four cables of the Verrazano Narrows Bridge;
2. Replacement of the cable band bolts throughout all four main cables;
3. Internal main cable inspection of 12 panels;
4. Internal inspection of four additional main cable panels as directed by the PCEO;
5. Replacement of the messenger cables on the main cables;
6. Replacement of the aerial obstruction lights and supports on the main cables;
7. Installation and removal of temporary main cable access platforms necessary to perform the work;
8. Provide maintenance and protection of traffic throughout the project;
9. Installation of an acoustic monitoring system on all four cables;
10. Replacement and painting of all hand ropes and stanchions on all four cables;
11. Maintenance and monitoring of the main cable dehumidification system for five (5) years after commissioning and system acceptance; and
12. Maintenance and monitoring of the acoustic monitoring system for 5 years after commissioning and system acceptance.

Goals: 15% MBE, 15% WBE, 6% SDVOB

ALL QUOTATIONS ARE DUE BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS Friday, April 18, 2025.
 Proposal bid date April 23, 2025. For further information concerning subcontracting and/or purchasing opportunities, and to register as a subcontractor or vendor, please respond to solicitations@tutorperini.com or contact Arlene McBayne at (914) 739-1908. Come and join our team!



SKANSKA
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IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK STATE DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS

Design-Build Services for LIRR West Side Yard Flood Mitigation Measures
 MTA Construction and Development Contract No. 6401
 Bid Date: June 27, 2025

Description of project:
 Design, furnish, construct, and install concrete perimeter flood walls, seepage cut-off barriers below the concrete flood walls, flood gates, deployable flood barriers, sump pumps, a tide gate chamber, drainage system improvements, workable aisles and a diesel generator, an automatic transfer switch, ancillary electrical equipment, and required communications.

This project will develop flood protection solutions for the West Side Yard in order to prevent and mitigate flooding of the LIRR Tunnels. The flood protection along the WSY perimeter will be accomplished via a combination of permanent flood walls and deployable flood barriers.

Many bidding opportunities are available: deep foundations, minipiles, jetgrout, sheeting, rebar installation, concrete supply, site work, electrical work, painting, paving, curb and sidewalk, site utilities.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Diversity and Outreach Coordinator: Aislinn.Speranza@skanska.com • EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled

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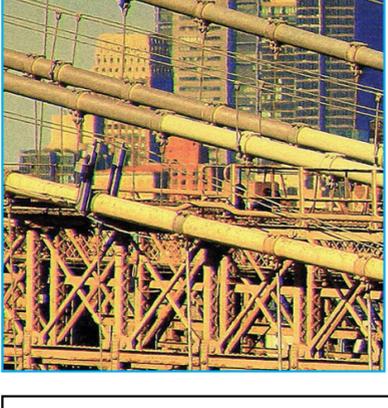
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NORTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS 2025

Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Certification Program Webinar
 Tuesday, May 20, 2025, 2:00 pm–4:00 pm
 Online
 Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
 Contact: [Patrice Dozier, patrice.dozier@sba.gov](mailto:Patrice.Dozier@sba.gov)
 Fee: Free; registration required

SBA is creating a space for Woman-Owned Small Businesses, via WOSB certification! Are you a woman owner of a small business? The federal government's goal is to award at least five percent of all federal contracting dollars to woman-owned small businesses each year. Join us for training on how to register for SBA's Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) program, which helps eligible small businesses to qualify for federal contracting opportunities. The monthly sessions include an overview of the self-certification process, and a discussion of the NAICS codes that qualify as WOSB or EDWOSB. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/woman-owned-small-business-wosb-certification-program-tickets-1117070520999>

8(a) Orientation and SAM Registration Webinar
 Wednesday, May 21, 2025, 10:30 am–12:00 pm
 Online
 Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
 Contact: SBA Illinois District Office, 312-353-4528, illinois.do@sba.gov
 Fee: Free; registration required

Join the Small Business Administration (SBA)

Illinois District Office for a virtual workshop providing an overview of the 8(a) Business Development program, eligibility requirements, and program benefits. Also learn how to increase your potential for federal contract opportunities through System for Award Management (SAM) registration, including information that you need for the registration process. SBA presenters will offer additional tips, address FAQs, give directions on where to get further assistance, and answer your other questions. For this and other events, one goal is to better address the needs of attending current and soon-to-be business owners. To register for this event webinar, visit <https://www.sba.gov/event/65219>

Selling to the Federal Government Webinar
 Thursday, May 22, 2025, 1:00 pm–4:00 pm
 Online
 Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
 Contact: [George Tapia, 610-382-3086, george.tapia@sba.gov](mailto:George.Tapia, 610-382-3086, george.tapia@sba.gov)
 Fee: Free; registration required

Did you know that the federal government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world? Interested in learning how your business can market your services or goods to the federal government? Register online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/how-to-sell-to-the-federal-government-tickets-21790713611> SBA helps to ensure small businesses get fair opportunities to share federal government prime contracts. Topics will include: How to Register, Small Business Certifications, Finding Opportunities, Marketing Your Firm, Federal Supply Schedules, Getting Paid, Tips to Prepare Your Offer, How to Seek Additional Assistance. All training sessions are held via Microsoft Teams Meeting.