



# July 4: The Birth of American Independence

**By History Channel**

Variously known as the Fourth of July and Independence Day, July 4 has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the eighteenth century and the American Revolution (1775 to 1783).

In June of 1776, representatives of the thirteen colonies then fighting in the revolutionary struggle weighed a resolution that would declare their independence from Great Britain. On July 2, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later its delegates adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson.

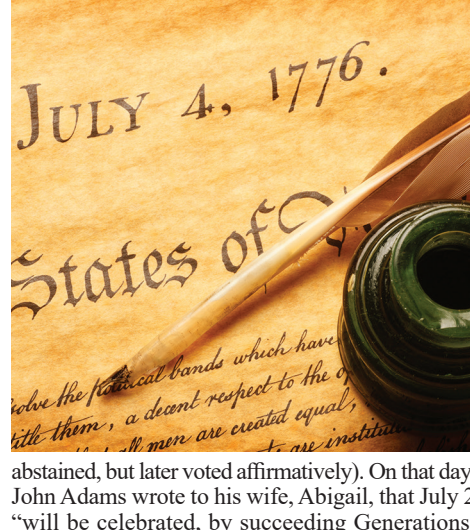
From 1776 until the present day, July Fourth has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with typical festivities ranging from fireworks, parades, and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

When the initial battles in the Revolutionary War broke out in April 1775, few colonists desired

complete independence from Great Britain, and those who did were considered radical. By the middle of the following year, however, many more colonists had come to favor independence, thanks to growing hostility against Britain and the spread of revolutionary sentiments such as those expressed in Thomas Paine's bestselling pamphlet *Common Sense*, published in early 1776.

On June 7, when the Continental Congress met at the Pennsylvania State House (later called Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, the Virginia delegate Richard Henry Lee introduced a motion calling for the colonies' independence. Amid heated debate, Congress postponed the vote on Lee's resolution, but appointed a five-man committee—including Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, John Adams of Massachusetts, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania, and Robert R. Livingston of New York—to draft a formal statement justifying the break with Great Britain.

On July 2, the Continental Congress voted in favor of Lee's resolution for independence in a near-unanimous vote (the New York delegation



abstained, but later voted affirmatively). On that day, John Adams wrote to his wife, Abigail, that July 2 "will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival" and that the celebration should include "Pomp and Parade . . .

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**IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK STATE MWBE SUBCONTRACTORS/VENDORS FOR:**

**WP-0112 Replacement of Main Sewage Pump System at Coney Island WWTP Project**  
 NYC DEP Contract No: CI-119  
 Bid Date: July 23, 2020

**Description of Project:**  
 The CI-119 project consists of the replacement of the Main Sewage Pumps and other ancillary equipment and structures at the Coney Island Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) in Brooklyn, New York. Work includes demolition of six existing Main Sewage Pumps (MSPs), shafts, motors, drives, and piping, and replacement with vertical centrifugal dry pit pumps, 600 HP motors and eddy current drives, and vertical shaft; demolition and replacement of the MSP seal water system, actuated sluice gates, sump pump system; installation of a new Flood Recovery Pump system; demolition of the decommissioned chemical storage tanks, piping, pumps, and appurtenances in the chemical and dechlorination rooms; also structural, MPT, architectural, electrical, instrumentation and controls, HVAC and plumbing, and fire protection work to support the pump replacement.

**Many bidding opportunities are available:** demolition, sitework, rebar install, trucking, fill supply, hauling and demolition, paint, masonry, doors, drywall, roof, tile, windows, overhead doors, metals, plumbing, HVAC, electrical, and indirect items.

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



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**IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM PANYNJ MWBE AND SDVOB AND LOCAL SUBCONTRACTORS/VENDORS FOR:**

**JFK Airport Bergen Electrical Substation Project**  
 PANYNJ RFP No: 60765  
 Bid Date: July 27, 2020

**Description of Project:**  
 The Bergen Substation Replacement Project ("project") will replace the existing Bergen and Van Wyck 5-kilovolt (5KV) electrical substations at John F. Kennedy International Airport with a new, single Bergen 5KV Substation. The Bergen Substation is a critical component of the electrical power distribution system at JFK and assists in supplying power to JFK airside-landside facilities and associated supporting infrastructure. The project also includes the decommissioning and demolition of the existing Bergen and Van Wyck substations following commissioning of the new, replacement facility.

The project for the new Bergen Substation will include the design and construction of a new, single substation that would replace the existing Bergen and Van Wyck substations. The scope of work for the project will include new switchgears, feeders, associated electrical equipment, and a new concrete building to house the substation equipment and associated building systems. Decommissioning, demolition, and site restoration at the existing Bergen and Van Wyck substation sites is also included in the scope of services.

**Many bidding opportunities are available:** furnish and install rebar, ready-mix concrete supply, masonry, structural steel, miscellaneous metals, waterproofing, building insulation, metal wall paneling, roofing, green roofing, fire proofing, doors, overhead coiling doors, windows, glazing, gypsum board, ceramic tiling, painting, sprinklers, plumbing, HVAC, piles/micropiles, pavement milling, sawcutting, asphalt concrete paving, mpt materials, fill material, line striping, fencing, landscaping, drainage piping, manholes, electrical, electrical materials and equipment, photography, portable toilets, dumpsters, office trailers, soil borings, soil testing, commissioning.

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**IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM PANYNJ CERTIFIED M/WBE AND SDVOB SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS**

**PATH Exchange Place Station 9 Car Program and West Corridor Project**  
 PANYNJ Contract No: PAT-024.233  
 Bid Date: July 16, 2020

**Description of project:**  
 A general description of the project work includes the following:  
 Generally of excavation of cross corridor passage, including installation of structural supports, architectural finishes, and mechanical and electrical appurtenances and related work at PATH Exchange Place Station and the vicinity thereof, Jersey City, New Jersey.

**Many bidding opportunities are available.**

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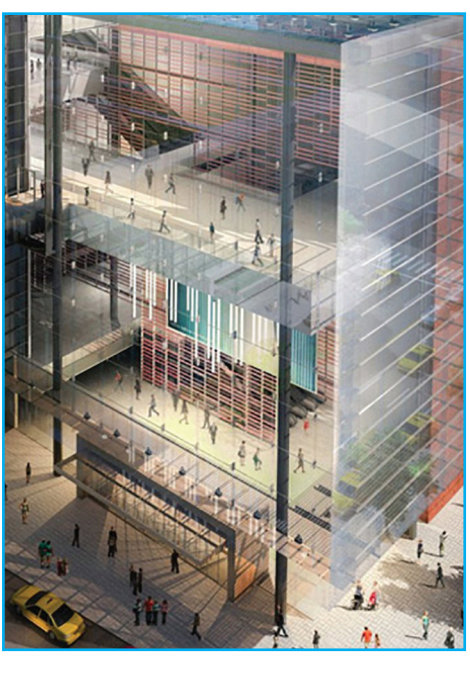
**IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM DBE AND SBE SUBCONTRACTORS/VENDORS FOR:**

**Amtrak Washington Terminal Yard HSR Ready Track Expansion Project, Washington, DC**  
 Amtrak Contract  
 Bid Date: July 16, 2020

**Description of Project:**  
 Overall, the project includes four (4) new tracks within the service yard (3 electrified and 1 non-electrified) to support the needs of the Acela 21 program. Amtrak Forces will complete the installation of all track work (approximately 5,000 LF of new track), including installation of seven (7) new turnouts. Additionally, the catenary wire work will be completed by Amtrak Forces (approximately 7,250 LF of new messenger and contact wire), including installation of 21 catenary poles. The work by the contractor includes new underground duct bank and site utility installation necessary for the new work, including complete installation of five (5) new high mast light poles with associated wiring and foundations, complete installation of 21 new catenary foundations, as well as fabrication and delivery of the 21 catenary poles, as well as upgrades to electric service to support new 480V wayside power.

**Many bidding opportunities are available:** miscellaneous metals, structural steel, caissons, fencing, survey, saw cutting, selective demolition, trucking, haul and disposal, concrete reinforcing steel, electrical, CPM scheduling.

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**IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM DBE AND SBE SUBCONTRACTORS/VENDORS FOR:**

**Amtrak Baltimore Penn Station NGSR Station Renovations Project, Baltimore**  
 Amtrak Contract  
 Bid Date: July 24, 2020

**Description of Project:**  
 This station is Amtrak's eighth busiest station nationally with approximately three million passengers per year utilizing approximately 150 Amtrak intercity and Maryland Transit Administrations MARC commuter trains each day. Ridership is forecast to increase significantly at this principal station along the Northeast Corridor. To accommodate this increase, Amtrak plans to introduce its high-speed train (HST) fleet to increase the train frequency along the corridor. MARC also plans to increase the frequency of its service to correspond to its commuter passenger increasing volume.

The project also includes other significant improvements such as:

- Reconstruction of a side level boarding platform (48' above top of rail). Platform 2 reconstruction will bring the architectural elements back to their original beauty while making the functional and ADA-compliant enhancements of a side boarding with an elevator, an escalator, and refurbished stairs.
- Construction of a new Platform 5, which will be approximately 1,000 feet long and constructed with precast concrete panels.
- A new canopy including lighting, signage, drain leaders, electrical outlets, video surveillance cameras, and passenger information display systems (PIDS) which include audio-visual messaging and speakers.
- A new pedestrian bridge will extend from the Concourse elevator lobby, over Tracks 7 and F.

**Many bidding opportunities are available:** miscellaneous metals, structural steel, miscellaneous metals, precast concrete, roofing, skylights, curtainwall, wall panels, gypsum board, masonry, paint, tile, terrazzo, tactile warning surfacing, elevator, escalator, HVAC, fire protection, plumbing, electrical, signage, sitework, fencing, landscaping.

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**IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM DBE AND SBE SUBCONTRACTORS/VENDORS FOR:**

**Amtrak Emergency Service Building Relocation Project, Manhattan**  
 Amtrak Contract  
 Bid Date: July 28, 2020

**Description of Project:**  
 The Emergency Services Building (ESB) project (the Project) consists of the construction within the secured site of the LIRR West Side Storage Yard (Fenced Area Yard) of a new electrical substation, emergency generator, and control panel within a fenced area as a temporary replacement for the ESB while it is demolished in favor of a new substation that is not a part of this contract, and moving an existing SCADA cabinet to a location adjacent to the aforesaid fenced area. This equipment will be located near the northwest corner of 11th Avenue and West 30th Street, north of the High Line structure. The Project also includes communications and electrical boxes, and cables related to the foregoing; fire alarm work related to the foregoing, a new water meter vault, and related civil work, all between the existing LIRR Access Road and West 30th Street.

**Many bidding opportunities are available:** Pipe materials, ready-mix concrete, rebar fabrication, rebar installation, erosion control materials, chain link fence, fill materials, haul and disposal, structural steel, metal deck, and miscellaneous metals.

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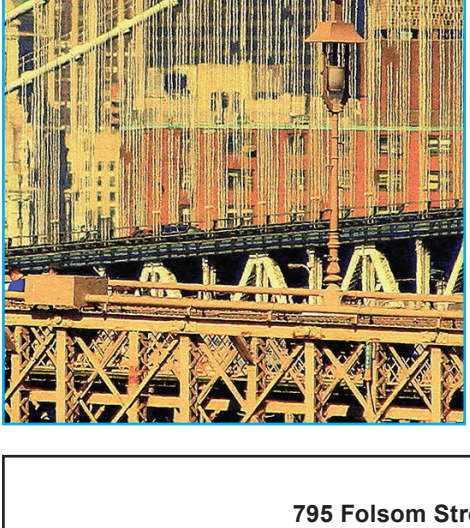
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**Connect with Customers and Manage Your Business Remotely Webinar**  
 Thursday, July 16, 2020, 1:00 pm–2:00 pm  
**Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration, SCORE Association**  
 Contact: SCORE Association, 800-634-0245, [www.score.org/live-webinars](http://www.score.org/live-webinars)  
 Fee: Free; registration required

Can your business effectively stay connected to customers while working from home during the coronavirus outbreak? With the right tools and communication plan, you can build long lasting connections with your clients and customers, from any location. This webinar, presented by digital marketing expert Randi Penfil, will introduce digital tools that can help business owners strengthen connections while working and managing their business remotely. We'll discuss how to: update critical business information online; keep customers informed; conduct virtual meetings; access important files from anywhere; plus, get insights on more online and timely resources for small businesses. Randi Penfil is a speaker for the Grow with Google partner program. She has more than 20 years of experience helping small businesses and nonprofits improve their digital marketing.

**Government Contracting 8a Business Development Webinar**  
 Thursday, July 23, 2020, 9:00 am–10:30 am

**Online Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration**  
 Contact: Susan Lourie, 617-565-5590, [susan.lourie@sba.gov](mailto:susan.lourie@sba.gov)  
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The SBA Massachusetts District Office presents a webinar on SBA's 8(a) Business Development Program. Expand and grow your business by selling your product or service to the federal government. Government agencies reserve contracts for small businesses certified in SBA's programs. Find out if you are qualified and ready for certification. For more information, go to: <https://www.sba.gov/offices/district/ma/boston>

The SBA is an independent agency of the federal government created to aid, counsel, assist, and protect the interests of small business concerns, to preserve free competitive enterprise, and to maintain and strengthen the overall economic of our nation. The SBA Massachusetts District Office in Boston is responsible for the delivery of SBA's many programs and services throughout the state.

**How to Access the Woman-Owned Small Business Federal Contract Program Repository Webinar**  
 Tuesday, July 28, 2020, 2:00 pm–3:00 pm  
**Online Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration**  
 Contact: Patrice Dozier, 404-331-0118, [patrice.dozier@sba.gov](mailto:patrice.dozier@sba.gov)  
 Fee: Free; registration required

Once you register, you will be sent the link for the webinar. Before you can participate in the women's contracting program, you must either use the SBA FREE online application or be third-party certified. Both methods require you to use the certified.SBA.gov website. Webinar access information will be forwarded via email.