



# SBA Elevates Women-Owned Small Businesses

By SBA Administrator Jovita Carranza

Did you know that just three decades ago, women were still required to have a male cosigner on a loan?

While women business owners still face some barriers and challenges, tremendous inroads have been made in the struggle for equal rights and access to opportunity. The United States Small Business Administration (SBA) is proud to have played a role in supporting women entrepreneurs and helping to enable women-owned businesses to grow at twice the rate of all businesses nationwide.

There are 9.9 million women-owned small businesses in the US, according to the SBA data. On some of the most important metrics—business starts, revenue growth, job creation, and the number of years in business—women entrepreneurs have either achieved parity or surpassed businesses owned by men. A 2019 report shows that 21 percent of employer businesses have majority female ownership, employing 9.4 million workers and amassing \$1.5 trillion in total annual receipts.

This has been an extraordinarily challenging year for the small business sector, and women-owned businesses, in particular. The SBA, with the full backing and support of the White House and the Treasury Department, launched the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), which has helped stabilize hundreds of thousands of women-owned businesses, helping put them on a path to recovery.

This August, we are marking Women's Suffrage Centennial, and Women's Equality Day appropriately falls on the day the Nineteenth Amendment became law, which granted women the right to vote a century ago. In honor of this monumental and historic progression toward equality, the SBA is highlighting women business owners who have benefitted from SBA mentorship and financial resources.

**Superstition Meadery, LLC (Prescott, AZ):** Jennifer Herbert (CEO) and her husband, Jeff Herbert (CSO), started their meadery in 2012 after Jeff took a mead-making course. With SBA financial assistance and counseling, they gradually grew their business to 20 employees and extended their reach into international markets.



In 2019, Jennifer and Jeff were named SBA National Small Business Persons of the Year. When COVID-19 struck, Superstition Meadery applied for a PPP loan, which helped them cover payroll, rent, and more.

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# Sub-Bid Requests

**GREEN LINE EXTENSION PROJECT**

**SEEKING DBE FIRMS FOR SUBCONTRACTING OPPORTUNITIES**

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FOR REQUESTS OR ASSISTANCE:  
[Alexandra.Cann@GLXConstruct.com](mailto:Alexandra.Cann@GLXConstruct.com)

**SKANSKA POSILICO MICHELS**  
SKANSKA POSILICO MICHELS BP JOINT VENTURE

IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK STATE CERTIFIED M/WBE AND SDVOB SUBCONTRACTORS/VENDORS FOR THE

**Bay Park Conveyance Project**  
NYSDEC and Nassau County Department of Public Works Contract  
Bid Date: September 28, 2020

**Description of project:**  
This innovative project will divert treated effluent from the Bay Park Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) which currently discharges an average of fifty million gallons per day (50 MGD) of treated effluent into Reynolds Channel. This treated effluent will be conveyed via the construction of a 2-mile-long force main from the Bay Park facility to an existing aqueduct under the Sunrise Highway, whereby rehabilitation of a 7.3-mile stretch of the aqueduct, and construction of an approximately 1.6-mile-long force main will connect to the existing Cedar Creek Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) outfall. The project will utilize the existing outfall to diffuse the treated effluent three miles offshore into the Atlantic Ocean. The project will include construction of a new pump station at Bay Park STP, modifications to the Cedar Creek WPCP, 15 microtunnel support shafts, and a series of access pits along Sunrise Highway.

**Many bidding opportunities available:** microtunnel, slip line, rebar, concrete redimix, concrete pumping, curb and sidewalks, paving, landscaping, parkwork, clear and grubbing, utilities, soil testing, concrete demolition, miscellaneous metals, CMU, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, mechanical, jet grout, piles, secants, painting, skylight, insulation, structural steel, roofing, doors, steel tank, geotech monitoring, vibration monitoring, trucking, containers, cleaning, trailers, security guard, dewatering, MPT, excavation, support of excavation, instrumentation and controls, testing and commissioning, fire protection, precast, castings, pipe, valves, ground improvement, and ladders.

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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**NORTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS**

**2020**

**Federal Contracting for Veterans and Service Disabled Veterans Webinar**  
Tuesday, September 1, 2020, 11:00 am–12:30 pm Online  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration, The Women's Business Centre at The Helen Gordon Davis Centre for Women  
Contact: Jessica Vega-Eugene, 813-251-8437, [jvega.eugene@thecentre.org](mailto:jvega.eugene@thecentre.org)  
Fee: Free; registration required  
This class provides an overview of the Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOB) Federal Contracting Program as well as veteran-owned small business eligibility requirements. All small businesses that are interested in submitting an offer on a solicitation that has been set aside under the SDVOB program must complete this certification prior to submitting the offer. Joining the disabled veterans' business program makes your business eligible to compete for the program's set-aside contracts. You can still compete for contract awards under other socio-economic programs you qualify for. The federal government spent \$20.65 billion on SDVOB contracts in 2018.

**Cash Flow and Credit Webinar**  
Wednesday, September 9, 2020, 11:30 am–12:30 pm Online  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration, University of South Carolina Aiken Small Business Development Center

**Contact: Brent Hoover, 803-641-3468, [brentho@usca.edu](mailto:brentho@usca.edu)**  
Fee: Free; registration required  
Cash flow may be king, but don't underestimate credit, especially when it comes time to obtain a business loan. How do you score in these categories? Can you define good credit? What about bad credit? How can you improve? Above all, how does COVID-19 impact these factors? Whether you're expanding, working on day-to-day operations, or simply starting out, join SBDC Business Consultant Brent Hoover and First Citizens Bank on September 9 for an informative Zoom webinar regarding the importance of cash flow and building credit.

**Getting Back on Track—SBA Loan Programs and Technical Assistance Programs Webinar**  
Tuesday, September 15, 2020, 2:00 pm–3:30 pm Online  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration  
Contact: Bill Card, 207-622-8555, [william.card@sba.gov](mailto:william.card@sba.gov)  
Fee: Free; registration required  
If you are thinking about starting your own business, or already own a small business and want it to grow, then please join us for this no-cost informative webinar. Representatives from the Small Business Administration's Maine District Office will discuss; recognizing good ideas for a business, deciding if your business idea will work, the steps to take to get started, and what lenders are looking for from borrowers. If you already have a business and are looking to grow, this webinar will also discuss ways to increase sales through targeted marketing, and introduce you to no-cost partners who can help you achieve ongoing success in your venture.

