

# THE BALTIMORE TIMES

Vol. 34 No. 18

February 28 - March 5, 2020

A Baltimore Times/Times of Baltimore Publication

## ‘Community Conversations Series’ begins with meaningful discussion on housing



*The Baltimore Times* opened its three-part Community Conversations series with a forum entitled “Baltimore’s Future: A Conversation on Baltimore’s Changing Neighborhoods” on February 22, 2020 at Impact Hub Baltimore. Community members, stakeholders, real estate investors and nonprofit leaders convened along with the editorial staff of the *Baltimore Times* to participate in a session centered around the importance of fair and affordable housing, home ownership and real estate investment. Standing: Nneka Nnamdi of Fight Blight Bmore, panelist; and Cassandra N. Vincent, Vincent Media & Consulting, Inc., facilitator for the discussion. Seated: Chris Ryer, director of the Baltimore City Department of Planning, presenter; Khalil Uqдах and Kyara Gray of Charm City Buyers, panelists; Joy Bramble, publisher, *The Baltimore Times*; Pamela Curtis of Park Heights Renaissance Inc., panelist; and LaQuida Chancey of Smallmore Homes, panelist. (See article on page 10) Photo: Dr. David Marshall, Morgan State Strategic Communication Chair and Professor

# Driven with power, aligned with purpose

By Nikki Abraham  
Nucleus Team Member  
Positively Caviar, Inc.

My favorite line from Poet, Rumi, would be, “Set your life on fire and seek those who fan your flames.” There is so much power in this statement as life without passion can feel worthless. It is so important to live passionately and boldly in the direction of the dreams that are calling you. When you live passionately, you will be called to others and them to you to support your personal and collective evolution. There is power in community and purpose and together we not only can set our lives on fire but we can light up the world.

It was close of business on a Monday and my co-worker leaned over and asked me, “Is it Friday yet?” While I laughed, this question allowed me to reevaluate. If you come into your place of work on a Monday longing for Friday there is something wrong. That ultimately means the passion for the work you are putting in isn’t 100 percent and it may be time to reevaluate. Evaluation



**Nikki Abraham**  
Nucleus Team Member  
Positively Caviar, Inc.  
Courtesy Photo

and internal conversations are so important. Through daily prayer, I ask for alignment to make sure I’m serving my purpose and everything that God wants for me.

In life there will always be haters who may not believe in your vision and people around you who aren’t driven at your level. This may be easier said than done but you can’t let that affect or distract you from your purpose. Remember that this life is yours and today is also yours so, own it. Rise above the naysayers and separate yourself from others who t bring you down and do not have the same passion about life as you do. You owe yourself a lot in this lifetime— be relentless with your alignment and remember that you set the pace.

“Who you’re around is who you become,” is one of the most accurate statements and I’ve learned this through personal experiences. Over the past year, I made an effort to build meaningful relationships and surround myself with likeminded souls who are driven in spirituality, uplift me, have purpose, and that has made all the difference. Be picky with your inner circle.

In life, you will go through situations that may throw you off track and make you feel worthless or devalued. Growing in spirituality and self-confidence has given me the power to take a step back and say to myself, “It’s not me, it’s you.” I realized that I would often allow the implications of others, how they treated me and viewed me to ultimately impacted how I saw myself, my drive and the way I moved in life. Over time I also realized that comparison is the thief of

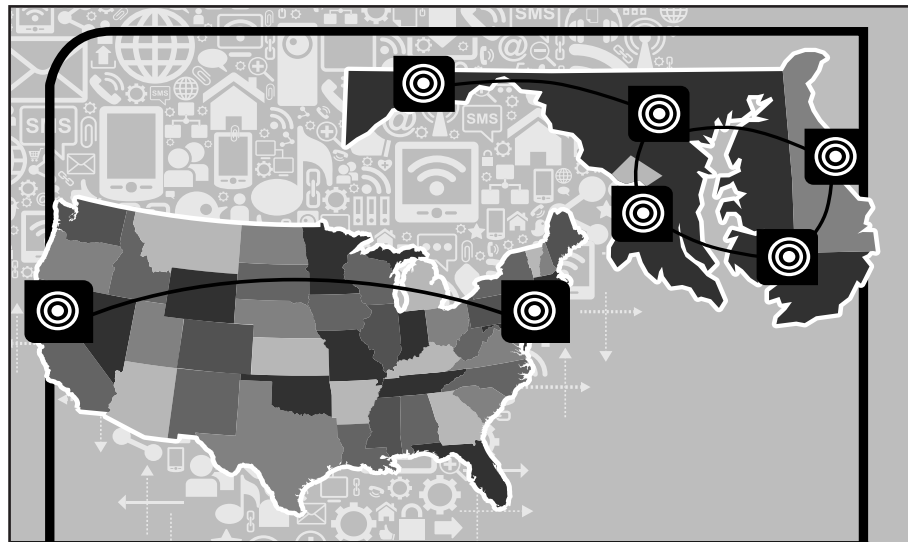
joy and there is only one me. Through that I made the conscious decision of no longer allow others to devalue my worth staying strong in my power.

Affirmations are necessary and important. According to PsychologyToday.com, affirmations are used to reprogram the subconscious mind, to encourage us to believe certain things about ourselves or about the world and our place within it. Manifestation is the key because once you believe it all is possible.

Start here: wake up every morning and give yourself reminders, “I am beautiful, I am powerful, I am worthy, I deserve the most.” Personalize your affirmations, write them down and make it plain, and watch these words come to life. Your mind is powerful, and you must fill it with purposeful thoughts.

There is power in purpose. Live a purpose driven life.

*Positively Caviar, Inc. (PCI) is a grassroots nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization focused on instilling mental resilience by way of positive thinking and optimism. Each month, a member of their Nucleus Team will feature a column focused on mental and physical health tips, scientific studies, nutrition facts and stories that are positive in nature to support a positive and healthy lifestyle. To learn more about how you can support, volunteer, or donate to Positively Caviar, Inc. visit: [staybasedandpositive.com](http://staybasedandpositive.com).*



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(USPS 5840) is published every Friday by *The Baltimore Times*, 2513 N. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218. Subscriptions by mail \$60 per year. Standard bulk postage paid at Baltimore, MD 21233. Postmaster send address changes to:

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# Guest Editorials/Letters

## Katherine Johnson, a pioneering NASA mathematician featured in "Hidden Figures," dies at 101

By Lauren Victoria Burke, NNPA Newswire Contributor

Katherine Johnson, the legendary NASA physicist and mathematician whose work played a key role in the early successes of the U.S. space program, passed away at 101 years old on the morning of February 24, 2020 in Newport News, Va. Johnson played a pivotal role in helping the U.S. land men on the moon during the space race in the 1960s and was portrayed by actress Taraji P. Henson in the 2017 film "Hidden Figures." The book based on the film by the same name was written by Margot Lee Shetterly.

With little more than a pencil and a slide rule Johnson calculated the exact trajectories for Apollo 11 land on the moon in 1969. And, after Neil Johnson worked in a world where errors were fatal.

The lives of three brilliant African American women were featured in the book and subsequent film. They were Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, who passed in 2008, and Mary Jackson who passed in 2005. Vaughan and Jackson were from Hampton, Va. and Johnson was from West Virginia. Johnson graduated from West Virginia State University and West Virginia University. Johnson was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal on November 8, 2019, after House Science Committee Chairwoman Chairwoman Eddie Bernice Johnson's passed legislation to honor her.

"We're saddened by the passing of celebrated #HiddenFigures mathematician Katherine Johnson. Today, we celebrate her 101 years of life and honor her legacy of excellence that broke down racial and social barriers," tweeted NASA after news of Johnson's passing.

In September 1960 mathematician Katherine Johnson published NASA's first scientific paper to name a woman as author. Johnson's trajectory calculations were vital to the US space missions. "There were no textbooks, so we had to write them," Johnson said.

"It is with deep sadness that I learned of the passing of Katherine Johnson, a truly brilliant mathematician and pioneer. She broke down barriers as one of the few African-American women mathematicians working at the Flight Dynamics and Control Division at NASA Langley," wrote Congressman Bobby Scott who represents Newport News, Va. "Her work helped put the first Americans in space and send the Apollo 11 astronauts to the moon, thereby helping the United States win the Space Race. While I knew Katherine Johnson and her family personally for many years, like so many Americans I never fully appreciated the work that she, Dorothy Vaughn, Mary Jackson, Christine Darden and the many other African American women at NASA, trailblazed for so many until their untold story was revealed in Hidden Figures. Mrs. Johnson was a true American hero, and we were so proud to have her call Hampton Roads home. I want to send my deepest condolences to her family and friends, and to everyone who was inspired by her remarkable life and work."

"Today we mourn the loss of an American hero and a pioneer for women and African Americans in STEM fields. Katherine Johnson played a pivotal role in the outcome of the space race during her 35-year career at NASA and its predecessor, NACA. Without her accomplishments and those of her fellow Hidden Figures, which went largely unrecognized until the last decade, the outcome of the Space Race may have been quite different. Her achievements and impacts on our country are great, and her loss will be felt by many. I send my heartfelt condolences to her loved ones and colleagues," NASA said in a statement.

Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent journalist for NNPA and the host of the podcast BURKEFILE. She may be contacted at [LBurke007@gmail.com](mailto:LBurke007@gmail.com) and on twitter at [@LVBurke](https://twitter.com/LVBurke)



## Letters to the Editor:

**Editor:**

**Re: No Good Presidential Candidates**

President Trump continued the economic recovery and reinvigorated our military with increases in defense spending. Conversely, he weakened environmental regulations; moved funds from military construction projects to fund the border wall; and hurt our standing in the world, including our relationship with friendly countries. Trump continually lies about events and policies, and demeans the Presidency with his derogatory comments and gutterly uncivilized language. He garners attention with his negativity.

Trump has weakened our national security by attacking the FBI and intelligence agencies. These attacks are launched when he personally disagrees with the findings of the agencies.

I don't see any viable Democratic pres-

idential candidates. Sanders, a Socialist, and Warren, a fake Indian, hold radical views supported by leftists in their party.

Buttigieg is a former small city mayor with no national experience, and he showed poor judgement when he declared victory in the Iowa caucuses before the official results were in.

Klobuchar cannot generate a national following. Steyer and Bloomberg are looked down upon for trying to buy the election and Biden, who is highly qualified to be president, is aging.

Some of them are running to garner name recognition for other races.

We need Independents to run for President to represent Independents across the country.

**Donald Moskowitz**  
Londonderry, NH

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## Only time will tell whether Opportunity Zones live up to their promise

By Christopher G. Cox  
Publisher and managing editor  
www.realesavvy.com

The potential for Opportunity Zones to reinvigorate thousands of communities throughout the United States is regularly, praised by civic leaders and politicians, including President Trump during his State of the Union Address.

While Opportunity Zones clearly hold significant promise for attracting investment in otherwise neglected neighborhoods, it is still too soon to say they will be an unqualified success, according to Venroy July, a Baltimore-based attorney and partner with Miles & Stockbridge.

“I think Opportunity Zones are good, but you are not going to see if they live up to their real potential until later in the cycle,” July said. The first investors to take advantage of this tax-saving

opportunity, according to July, will be wealthy individuals who want to make major investments in “super attractive” projects.

“It will take time to see if capital goes into the next layer of projects and into areas that are not as attractive,” July added. “Once we get into the second and third layer investments, we’ll begin

An example of a Baltimore-area Opportunity Zone that July is familiar with is Yard 56, which is converting a former industrial site into a 20-acre, mixed-use project. In its first phase—expected to open this year—Yard 56 will have a retail center, grocery store and fitness facility, among other shops and restaurants.

a result of investment in Opportunity Zones,” July predicts. “Early investors are not going to be looking to do small investment projects; they will be looking to participate in huge projects that will be very capital intensive. If you put a big project in these neighborhoods that have been historically underinvested, in some cases the communities are going to be overwhelmed.”

July believes the real power of Opportunity Zones will be seen when smaller investments of several hundred thousand dollars, as opposed to tens of millions of dollars, create a significant benefit by “building on what is already in neighborhoods.” He would like to see minority participation in such projects pursued by churches, fraternities, sororities and other organizations that can pool their resources and invest in their own communities.

“There is already a trust relationship within these organizations,” July notes. “If they plan strategically, members can put together a well-thought-out plan for urban renewal in the communities where they live, without bringing about displacement. Such investments can actually enhance these communities, while also helping to create generational wealth for African Americans and others.”

Christopher G. Cox is the publisher and managing editor of  
www.realesavvy.com

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***“One frequently voiced concern, even among the staunchest supporters of Opportunity Zones, is the potential they have for causing gentrification in communities that see a sudden infusion of investment capital.”***

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to see the true potential of what Opportunity Zones can accomplish.”

Opportunity Zones were created as a component of the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act passed in December of 2017. Their purpose is to encourage investment in economically distressed communities by making it possible for investors to receive preferential tax treatment for investments made in businesses operating within nearly 9,000 Zones that have designated in every state in the United States, as well as in the District of Columbia and five U.S. territories.

Plans for Phase II include a variety of office spaces, residential units, more retail stores, and a hotel. Located near the Johns Hopkins Bayview medical campus, Yard 56 is being developed by P. David Bramble, principal with MCB Real Estate LLC, and his partner Peter Pinkard.

One frequently voiced concern, even among the staunchest supporters of Opportunity Zones, is the potential they have for causing gentrification in communities that see a sudden infusion of investment capital.

“Gentrification is going to happen as

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# Maryland Live! Casino celebrates Black History Heroes during Black History Month

By Timothy Cox

An enthusiastic throng of about 300 well-dressed folks gathered at the Center Stage area of Maryland Live! Casino in celebration of Black History Month on Thursday, February 20, 2020. Ten Maryland and District of Columbia business and community leaders were recognized for their contributions to their communities in a positive way at the 7th Annual Black History Heroes Awards.

Hosted by Live! Casino & Hotel along with the Maryland-Washington Minority Companies Association (MWMCA), the special affair saluted Luther "Luke" Atkinson, former Negro league Baseball Star, Satchel Paige All Stars; Adrienne A. Jones, Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates, District 10; David L. Gadis, CEO and General Manager, DC Water; Joseph T. Jones, Jr., president and CEO, Center for Urban Families; Roz Hamlett, director of Multimedia Communications, Anne Arundel County; Le Gretta Ross-Rawlins, Baltimore Postmaster, United States Post Office; Bert J. Hash, Jr., former president and CEO, Municipal Employees Credit Union (MECU); Warner H. Session, Esq., principal and board member, Session Law Firm, P.C./Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA); Janice Hayes-Williams, coordinator, Cultural Resources, Department of Planning and Zoning, Anne Arundel County; and Dr. David Wilson, president, Morgan State University.

Each honoree received a special plaque denoting their individual awards.

In a special commendation letter Maryland Governor Larry Hogan stated: "This celebration seeks to honor and recognize Black History Heroes. Maryland is steeped in African-American history.

Numerous African American leaders have called Maryland home, including Frederick Douglass, Benjamin Banneker and Har-



*The 2020 Black History Heroes honorees: (Front row, left to right) Roz Hamlett, director, Multimedia Communications, Anne Arundel County; Janice Hayes-Williams, coordinator, Cultural Resources, Dept. of Planning and Zoning, Anne Arundel County; Luther "Luke" Atkinson, former Negro League Baseball Star, Satchel Paige All Stars; Adrienne A. Jones, Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates; Le Gretta Ross-Rawlins, Baltimore Postmaster, United States Post Office. (Back row, left to right) Joseph T. Jones, Jr., Center for Urban Families; Bert J. Hash, Jr., former president, MECU; David L. Gadis, CEO/General Manager, DC Water; Warner H. Session, Esq., principal and senior board member, Session Law Firm, P.C./Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority; and David Wilson, president, Morgan State University. Photo by Timothy Cox*

riet Tubman. We are proud to celebrate these and other historical heroes here in Annapolis, and across our state."

The Rev. Jerome Stephens, community outreach director for Senator Benjamin Cardin, delivered the prayer and described the ceremony as "a worthy tribute to our leaders, past and present."

Several of the honorees gave remarks during the ceremony, including the Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates, Adrienne Jones, who discussed the

importance of educating future generations about influential African-American leaders in our nation's history. She urged the crowd to take time to visit the two newly unveiled statues of Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass in the Old House of Delegates Chamber at the Maryland State House.

Former Negro League infielder Luther "Luke" Atkinson, 82, served as keynote speaker and offered insight into his playing days under the tutelage of legendary

Hall of Fame pitcher, Leroy "Satchell" Paige. Atkinson also discussed the racism that he and his teammates faced on a daily basis, the poor playing conditions and the meager salaries that players of his generation had to endure.

"Although my teammates knew what we were up against, we persevered. We all played for tomorrow and for the love of the game," Atkinson said.

Atkinson now volunteers for the Hubert V. Simmons Museum of Negro League Baseball Inc., located in Owings Mills, Maryland where Rayner "Ray" Banks is exhibits manager and hall of fame co-founder. He pointed out that 2020 as the 100th anniversary of Negro Leagues Baseball.

Live! Casino & Hotel, part of The Cordish Companies is committed to diversity and inclusion is recognized as one of the top corporate philanthropists in the region. The Cordish Companies is committed to being a leader in the areas of diversity and inclusiveness. We embrace the diversity within the communities we serve nationwide, and we work with non-profit groups, civic leaders and civil rights organizations that, like us, are committed to ensuring the growth and vibrancy of their communities, according to the company's website.

"We are incredibly honored to host the seventh installment of the Black History Heroes Awards at Live! Casino & Hotel, honoring African-American community leaders across Baltimore and DC," said Zed Smith, COO, The Cordish Companies. "Commitment to diversity and inclusion is core to our company culture, so this event is very special for our team. The honorees being recognized are influencers that are impacting change for future generations and creating lasting legacy as we enter into a new decade. This celebration is just a small token of our appreciation for all of their efforts to positively impact the lives of others."

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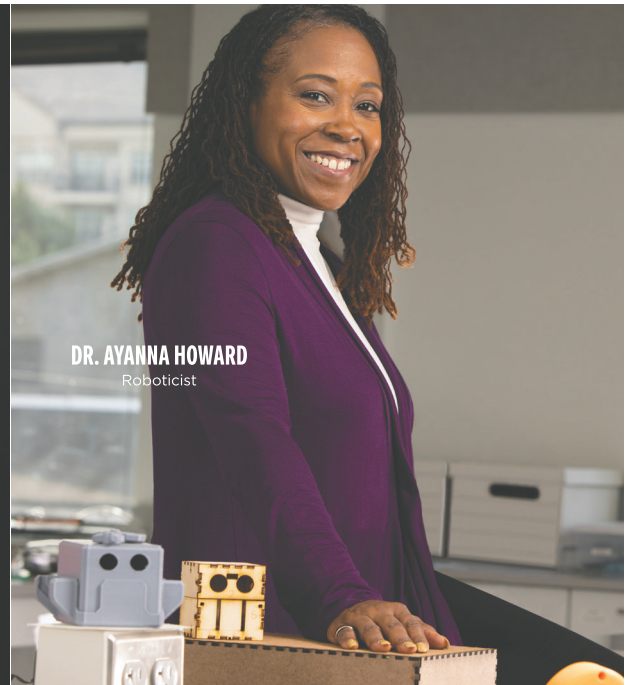
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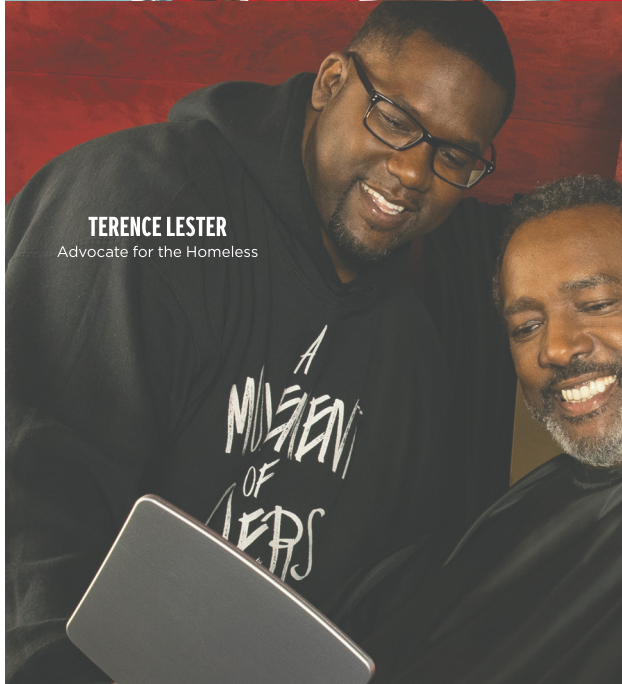
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# Criminal justice lawyer. Activist, Just Mercy author Bryan Stevenson talks what everyone can do to protect their rights

By Nadine Matthews

Longtime criminal justice activist Bryan Stevenson emphasizes the importance of everyone getting involved and doing all they can to combat the changes that the two hundred and seven judges Donald Trump has appointed are sure to bring to the US judicial system. "It's a critical issue," he says. "There is a lot at stake."

Stevenson, whose thirty-year old non-profit Equal Justice Initiative is based in Alabama, stressed, "Without a commitment from our courts to enforcing rights for people who are often disfavored, we become much more imperiled."

The law has always loomed large in the lives of black Americans; literally defining who they are as people. Going back to the 1640 John Punch decision to the 1967 Loving decision allowing interracial marriages black Americans' freedom, mobility, and very existence is determined by who makes and enforces America's laws.

Harvard-educated Stevenson has been working as a defense lawyer and criminal justice crusader for over twenty years, freeing innocent men such as Walter McMillan from death row after many years. A major aspect of his work is keeping a spotlight on the gross racial disparities in the criminal justice system. His bestselling book "Just Mercy," chronicling his efforts, was recently made into a movie starring Jamie Foxx and Michael B. Jordan.

In addition to voting for a president who then nominates federal judges, many local judges are also elected. All must be treated with the same urgency. Stevenson emphasizes that absolutely everyone must vote in all these elections. There is no other option. "You do not have the luxury of not voting," he stated.

Stevenson also reminds us it's crucial to know who shapes the local judicial and justice systems. What often gets overlooked are the officials at the local level who ensure our rights are protected. For example, he says, every citizen should know who their district



*Bryan Stevenson in front of Lynching Exhibit at Legacy Museum in Alabama.*

**Photo credit: HBO**

attorney is. Stevenson states, "People need to know what type of policies are being implemented. In a lot of states you vote for judges, and most people don't have a clue. That has to change."

To find out the names of your district attorney just find a web browser and "Go to your county website and search for the district attorney."

Another important thing to do is find out if they have a Conviction Integrity Unit. "A lot of the most significant exonerations of the past years have been from Conviction Integrity Units." Find out what your prosecutor is doing to low-level, non-violent offenders. Finally, find out their stance on extreme sentencing such as subjecting children to sentences of life without parole.

We arrived at massive inequities in the criminal justice system, Stevenson believes, by people's ignorance either feigned or real. "We have to educate people and once we do that, people can't say they didn't know." To that end, Stevenson has branched out from solely being an actor in the criminal justice system to using culture to frame the narrative around America's criminal justice system, which includes the history from which it's derived.

Also located in Alabama, The National Peace and Justice Memorial and just steps away, the Legacy Museum, provides a symbolic thruway showing the connection from slavery to the disparities in law enforcement we see today. It is according to its website, "The nation's first memorial dedicated to the legacy of enslaved black people, people terrorized by lynching, African Americans humiliated by racial segregation and Jim Crow, and people of color burdened with contemporary presumptions of guilt and police violence. Says Stevenson, "It's shameful that it's the 21st century before we actually have cultural institutions that even talk about slavery or lynching."

Suggesting coffins, are 805 hanging steel rectangles inside the museum.. These name and represent each of the counties (and their states) where a documented lynching took place in the United States. Outside are corresponding temporary markers which each state is encouraged to retrieve and use for their own commemorations of lynching. Maryland has retrieved theirs. "There's been a pretty active movement in Maryland and the state legislatures actually commissioned people so there's this group of people working across the state

to erect markers on lynching sites. We've worked with people in Wicomico County, Anne Arundel County, Prince George's County. There is a pretty active community of people who are working on this."

The memorial is meant to raise awareness and frame the narrative and remove plausible deniability from the broader public. Stevenson stated, "The first challenge is to create institutions and to use our capacities to speak this truth to power, and then to hold people accountable for what they do."

After twenty years of fighting behind the scenes for justice, he saw that he needed to make his voice heard more loudly. "I realized, we should start talking more publicly to create the environment that we need to execute justice."

That was the impetus for his book and the movie adaptation. When the opportunity to film "Just Mercy" came around, he thought it would be a great vehicle for raising people's consciousness. "A lot of people will see a movie who won't read a book and if you can use two hours to get people to understand really complex issues and think about them, that's an opportunity you don't want to miss."



# Unified Voices presents Ursula V. Battle's 'Serenity House' March 20-22, 2020

*National recording artist Shirley Murdock to headline powerful stage play production that looks at opioid epidemic*

Baltimore— Chart-topping singer/songwriter/actress Shirley Murdock will headline the high-acclaimed stage play, Ursula V. Battle's "Serenity House: From Addiction to Deliverance." The show is being presented by Unified Voices (UV) of Johns Hopkins and Battle Stage Plays. LaKeisha McClendon is the show's Executive Producer. The production will be performed March 20, 21, and 22, 2020 in Johns Hopkins' Turner Auditorium located at 720 Rutland Avenue in Baltimore.

The stage play takes a riveting and thought-provoking look at the opioid epidemic. The production will also feature National Recording Artist Randy "Fruity" Roberts of The Choir Boyz, Mavilyn Statham of the legendary Clara Ward Singers, internationally renowned gospel female trio "Serenity" and Baltimore's own dynamic songstress Charisse Caldwell- Bowen.

Murdock will portray "Sister Claire C. Voyant," and will also sing in the production." Murdock's R&B hits include As We Lay, Go On Without You, Husband, and In Your Eyes. Meeting Bishop T.D. Jakes in the late 1990s, led not only to features on his #1 CD, but the realization of her lifelong dream to sing Gospel. He signed Murdock to his Dexterity Sounds/EMI recording label and her debut Gospel CD entitled, Home was nominated for a Stellar Award.

The following project Soulfood (Tyscot Records), received both Stellar & Dove Award nominations. Her latest project, The Journey is a live CD/DVD recording featuring Regina Belle, Kelly Price, and Beverly Crawford. The songstress' theatrical credits include Priest Tyaire's hit stage play, Mrs. Independent.

Roberts portrays "James Franklin" in the production, and will perform Watch Me Work from his hit CD This Is My Story This is My Song featuring "Kingdom." Serenity will perform several gospel favorites throughout the production. Dr. Gregory Wm. Branch is the Stage Director, while Howard "Buddy" Lakins, Jr. is the Musical Director for the powerful production, which will also include original music composed by the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University student, Allen Branch.



*(Left) Gospel/R&B recording artist Shirley Murdock will headline "Serenity House: From Addiction to Deliverance." (Right) Director of the production, Dr. Gregory Wm. Branch with playwright Ursula V. Battle. The production will be performed March 20, 21, and 22, 2020 in Johns Hopkins' Turner Auditorium located at 720 Rutland Avenue in Baltimore.*

*Courtesy Photos/Battle Stage Plays*

"We are excited to present Ursula V. Battle's Serenity House," said Dr. Branch, who serves as Executive Director of UV. "Serenity House supports UV's mission which is to spread hope, health, and healing through harmony. We are so honored to bring in the legendary Shirley Murdock. She is headlining a show of extraordinary performers. People can expect to laugh, cry, and most of all, be uplifted."

The production is written by Baltimore Times writer Ursula V. Battle, who is being honored as a Women In the Arts 2020: "Valiant Women of Freedom" Honoree at Morgan State University on Saturday, March 14, 2020.

"Serenity House: From Addiction to Deliverance" centers around the journey six men and women— three months in recovery— after arriving at the imaginary United in Victory Tabernacle on the Hill Freewill Catholic Baptist and Episcopal Church of God in Christ's newly opened "Serenity House."

Through ministry, music, an unforgettable story and dance, the production takes a heart-wrenching, yet heart-warming look at the devastating impact that

addiction has on society— particularly on families that in some cases, spans generations.

The production also highlights the supernatural power of God to help us overcome, and the transformative power of forgiveness.

The performances are being dedicated to the late poet Maya Angelou, who penned, And Still I Rise. The show is also dedicated to "Cynthia," a woman who overdosed in front of the building where auditions for the production were held, but was revived by the NARCAN nasal spray.

Ursula V. Battle's "Serenity House" is rated PG-13 due to some strong content and profanity. Show times are as follows: Friday, March 20, 2020 (7 p.m.); Saturday, March 21, 2020 (Noon and 7 p.m.) and Sunday, March 22, 2020 (5 p.m.) Seating is General with doors opening 30 minutes before the performance. For additional information or to purchase tickets call 410-955-8888 or 443-531-4787. You may also visit: [www.unifiedvoices.com](http://www.unifiedvoices.com) or [www.battlestageplays.com](http://www.battlestageplays.com).

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# The Baltimore Times ‘Community Conversations Series’ begins with meaningful discussion on housing

By Demetrius Dillard

The Baltimore Times opened its three-part community conversations series with a forum entitled “Baltimore’s Future: A Conversation on Baltimore’s Changing Neighborhoods” on February 22, 2020 at Impact Hub Baltimore.

The meaningful discussion, made possible by a grant from The Lenfest Institute for Journalism and Facebook Journalism Project Community Network, was a way of bringing the community together to create informative sharing opportunities.

Community members, stakeholders, real estate investors and nonprofit leaders convened along with the editorial staff of the Baltimore Times to participate in a session centered around the importance of fair and affordable housing, home ownership and real estate investment.

Following the welcome address by emcee Cassandra Vincent and Baltimore Times publisher Joy Bramble was an informative panel discussion between Khalil Uqdah and Kyara Gray of Charm City Buyers, Pamela Curtis of Park Heights Renaissance Inc., Nneka Nnamdi of Fight Blight Bmore and LaQuida Chancey of Smalltimore Homes.

In addition to providing insight on their respective organizations and their community involvement, panelists covered a diverse array of subject matters, including opportunity zones, revitalization, improvements and innovation, investing in disadvantaged communities, redlining and gentrification.

Further, panelists identified unfair housing policies and practices and expressed solutions for what many may perceive as a worsening housing crisis in Baltimore - particularly for Black residents.

“There’s a lot of information about how we got to today that most people don’t know of. There’s a lot of things that are happening today that people aren’t aware of, so it’s good to have these community assemblies,” said Nnamdi, the CEO of Fight Blight Bmore.

“It also gives an opportunity for what they call creative collisions where people come together and create something au-



*(From left): Panelists Nneka Nnamdi of Fight Blight Bmore; LaQuida Chancey of Smalltimore Homes; Khalil Uqdah and Kyara Gray of Charm City Buyers; and Pamela Curtis of Park Heights Renaissance Inc. discuss current issues and solutions in the housing sector of Baltimore City at the “Baltimore’s Future: A Conversation on Baltimore’s Changing Neighborhoods” on Feb. 22, 2020 at Impact Hub Baltimore presented by The Baltimore Times. Photo: Demetrius Dillard*

thetically in that moment, and it opens the door for more collective and cooperative work going forward.”

Community and economic development, social advocacy, building generational wealth, establishing partnerships and tax credit programs were among some of the solutions discussed along with actionable recommendations like developing in estate plans, seeking financial counsel and investing in land trusts.

“I do think that it’s all about resource sharing, but more importantly it’s about getting the word out there that these organizations exist,” said Chancey, who has endeavors to reduce homelessness by creating more affordable housing through micro shelter and tiny home communities.

“So much of the work that’s done in Baltimore is really siloed and kind of split up, and everybody doesn’t know the impact that is happening around the city, so these kinds of conversations are necessary.”

Chris Ryer, director of Baltimore City Department of Planning, delivered a brief presentation following the panel discussion. In his lecture, Ryer discussed the federal disinvestment in housing and presented a framework for community development as he identified “impact investment areas” and outlined a plan to work with community partners to redevelop underserved neighborhoods. Lucky Crosby Sr., a concerned resident

and public housing advocate, is part of an organization based in Sandtown-Winchester that represents public housing residents and low-income residents in distressed communities. He attended the community conversation and offered insight, too.

“I’m very concerned about the changes in the community, the type of demographics that’s being brought in [and] the safety of the deconstruction of the demolition of the homes in my community,” Crosby said.

To conclude the afternoon, participants engaged in a table talk facilitated by Nnamdi and Chancey, which was somewhat of an extension of the panel discussion. During the roundtable discussion, attendees asked questions, expressed concerns and exchanged ideas related to housing in Baltimore City.

One of the suggestions at the table talk was partnering with the educational system to implement financial literacy in the school curriculum in hopes of increased home ownership for future generations.

“I think there’s a lot of very important information being imparted here and I highly recommend it,” said Jacqueline Fulton, a pediatrician based in west Baltimore. “I just think that it’s been very informative. For me, I didn’t know a lot about housing and it’s also letting me know about things happening in Baltimore that a lot of folks like me aren’t



*Chris Ryer, director, Baltimore City Department of Planning, presenter  
Photo: Demetrius Dillard*

aware of.”

Likewise, Erika Jernigan, came to the community conversation to support the Baltimore Times and connect with different resources available at the forum. Jernigan, the owner of Lexi’s Lil Bug, a children’s rideshare service that serves busy-working families in Baltimore City, Anne Arundel County and Baltimore County.

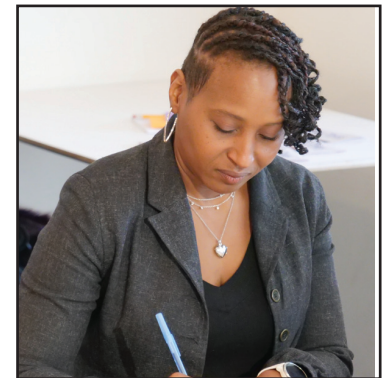
“I think it will make a major impact,” said Jernigan, “especially if we’re able to track all of the work that’s coming out of the community conversations, and then be able to replicate these conversations in a bigger scale, so that way they’re able to support and grow through the Baltimore Times.”



Participants engaged in a “table talk” facilitated by Nnamdi and Chancey



Anthony Pressley, executive director, Druid Heights Development Corp.



Yolanda Jiggetts, executive director, Park Heights Renaissance



Paris Brown



Daniel DeVivo



L-r: Dr. David Marshall, Morgan State Strategic Communication Chair and Professor; SCOM students, MSU, Candyce Burke, and Jasmine Johnson



Lucky C. Crosby, Sr.



L-r: Dr. Jacqueline Fulton and Cheryl Casciani

Photos on page 11: Dr. David Marshall

# Two prospects Baltimore Ravens should watch closely

By Tyler Hamilton

The Baltimore Ravens will have their eyes on plenty of prospects at the NFL combine this week. Two particular prospects should warrant more attention at the combine.

Oklahoma linebacker Kenneth Murray and LSU linebacker Patrick Queen would be instant starters. They will likely be available when the Ravens make their pick in the first round, which is currently the No. 28 overall selection.

Baltimore lost long-term starting inside linebacker C. J. Mosley after he signed a free agent contract with the New York Jets. They stumbled upon a consistent player with the in season addition of L. J. Fort. However, linebackers Josh Byner and Patrick Onwuasor are scheduled to become free agents.

Murray and Queen are the top options to be the next linebacker to be the heart of the defense. Queen has drawn comparisons to Mosley because of his outstanding sideline-to-sideline range in run defense along with his ability to cover tight ends and running backs. Two



*Oklahoma linebacker Kenneth Murray and LSU linebacker Patrick Queen would be instant starters for the Ravens. Both young men will likely be available when the Ravens make their pick in the first round. (Above) Kenneth Murray linebacker with the University of Oklahoma Sooners.*

Photo Credit: Caitlyn Epes/OU Daily

words best describe Queen— fast and physical.

Long-term ESPN NFL Draft Analyst Mel Kiper Jr. projected Queen to the Ravens in his latest mock draft. Kiper

gave his explanation for the pick during his pre-combine conference call.

"I think Patrick Queen would be a great fit for them. He's a three-down guy. He had a phenomenal career, great tackler. You saw that in the game against Clem-

son. He kind of saved them in a couple of spots in that championship game," Kiper said.

Queen played in 12 of 15 games last season. He posted 85 tackles, 12 tackles for a loss to go along with three sacks and an interception. Queen also broke up two passes.

Murray is an outstanding player as well. He started 14 games with a total of 17 tackles for a loss and four sacks to go along with four pass breakups. Surprisingly, Murray's 102 tackles last season was a step down from his 2018 total (155).

Like Queen, Murray is adept at roaming from sideline-to-sideline to track down running backs. Murray is a solid option in coverage, which makes him a three-down player. One of the advantages the Ravens had with Mosley was being able to have him stay on the field in nickel and dime packages. They'd have that same advantage with Murray.

Defensive coordinator Don 'Wink' Martindale was given a significant bump in salary recently. Baltimore will need to add more playmakers to make Martindale's system run at peak performance levels. Keep an eye on Murray and Queen as the draft process rolls on.

## OneUnited Bank launches new limited-edition Harriet Tubman Card

Los Angeles— OneUnited Bank, the largest black owned bank in America, introduces the new limited edition Harriet Tubman Card in celebration of Black History Month.

Harriet Tubman not only escaped slavery, she made nineteen missions to bring 300 others, including family and friends, to freedom. She also served as an armed scout for the Union Army and was an activist in the struggle for women's voting rights. Given her profound impact on American history, she deserves to be on the \$20 bill.

"We have the power to place Harriet Tubman on a global payment device in celebration of Black History Month," states Teri Williams, President & COO. "This symbol of Black empowerment in 2020 will pave the way for the Harriet Tubman design on the \$20 bill."

The Harriet Tubman Visa Debit Card



is the first limited edition card offered by OneUnited Bank and will only be available in 2020. The card image is from the painting "The Conqueror" by the internationally acclaimed artist Addonis Parker. Anyone who obtains the limited edition Harriet Tubman Card in 2020 can carry the card design for life.

In addition to its limited-edition Harriet Tubman Card, OneUnited Bank will promote the "Right to Vote" theme for Black History Month to elevate the #BankBlack and #BuyBlack Movements to the next level and beyond.

For more information visit: [www.oneunited.com/HarrietTubman](http://www.oneunited.com/HarrietTubman).

The Social Justice Ministry of  
**THE OPEN CHURCH**  
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**The Kennedy Center for Performing Arts**  
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**marcomerrick@aol.com**

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### CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NOTICE OF LETTING

Sealed Bids or Proposal, in duplicate addressed to the Board of Estimates of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and marked for **TR19007 CURB REPAIR CITYWIDE** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204, City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until **MARCH 18, 2020** at 11:00 A.M. Board of Estimates employees will be stationed at the Security Unit Counter just inside the Holliday Street entrance to City Hall from 10:45 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. every Wednesday to receive Bids. Positively no bids will be received after 11:00 A.M. Bids will be publicly opened by the Board of Estimates in Room 215, City Hall at Noon. The Contract Documents may be examined, without charge at the Department of Transportation Service Center located on the first floor of the Harry S. Cummings Building, 401 E. Fayette Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 as of **FEBRUARY 28, 2020** and copies may be **purchased for a non-refundable cost of \$75.00. Conditions and requirements of the Bid are found in the bid package.** All contractors bidding on this Contract must first be prequalified by the City of Baltimore Contractors' Qualification Committee. Interested parties should call (410) 396-6883 or contact the Committee at 4 S. Frederick Street, 4th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. **If a bid is submitted by a joint venture ("JV"), then in that event, the document that established the JV shall be submitted with the bid for verification purposes.** The Prequalification Categories required for bidding on this project are **D02620 (CURB, GUTTERS & SIDE-WALKS)**. Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$500,000.00 to \$700,000.00**. A "**MANDATORY**" Pre-Bidding Information session will be conducted at **10:00 A.M.** on **MARCH 6, 2020** at Charles L. Benton Jr. Building, 417 E. Fayette Street, Room 724. Principle Items of work for this project are: **Miscellaneous Curb Replacement & Repairs 22,250 Linear Feet**  
The MBE Goal is **36%**  
The WBE Goal is **13%**

APPROVED: Bernice H. Taylor, Clerk  
Board of Estimates

## Legal Notices

### CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NOTICE OF LETTING

Sealed Bids or Proposal, in duplicate addressed to the Board of Estimates of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and marked for **TR20008 ADA RAMPS CITY-WIDE** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204, City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until **MARCH 18, 2020** at 11:00 A.M. Board of Estimates employees will be stationed at the Security Unit Counter just inside the Holliday Street entrance to City Hall from 10:45 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. every Wednesday to receive Bids. Positively no bids will be received after 11:00 A.M. Bids will be publicly opened by the Board of Estimates in Room 215, City Hall at Noon. The Contract Documents may be examined, without charge at the Department of Transportation Service Center located on the first floor of the Harry S. Cummings Building, 401 E. Fayette Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 as of **FEBRUARY 28, 2020** and copies may be **purchased for a non-refundable cost of \$75.00. Conditions and requirements of the Bid are found in the bid package.** All contractors bidding on this Contract must first be prequalified by the City of Baltimore Contractors' Qualification Committee. Interested parties should call (410) 396-6883 or contact the Committee at 4 S. Frederick Street, 4th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. **If a bid is submitted by a joint venture ("JV"), then in that event, the document that established the JV shall be submitted with the bid for verification purposes.** The Prequalification Categories required for bidding on this project are **D02620 (CURB, GUTTERS & SIDE-WALKS)**. Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$300,000.00 to \$600,000.00**. A "**MANDATORY**" Pre-Bidding Information session will be conducted at **11:00 A.M.** on **MARCH 6, 2020** at Charles L. Benton Jr. Building, 417 E. Fayette Street, Room 724. Principle Items of work for this project are: **5 Inch Concrete Sidewalk 35,000 Square Feet**  
The MBE Goal is **36%**  
The WBE Goal is **13%**

APPROVED: Bernice H. Taylor, Clerk  
Board of Estimates

## Legal Notices

### CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES NOTICE OF LETTING

Sealed Bids or Proposals, in duplicate, addressed to the Board of Estimates of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and marked for **GS 16810R – Mitchell Courthouse Roof Replacement** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204, City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. on **Wednesday, April 8, 2020**. Positively no bids will be received after 11:00 A.M. The bids will be publicly opened by the Board of Estimates in Room 215, City Hall at Noon.

The Contract Documents may be examined, without charge, on the first floor of the Cummings Building located at 401 E. Fayette Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 as of **Friday, February 28, 2020** and copies may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **\$50.00**.

#### **Conditions and requirements of the Bid are found in the bid package.**

All contractors bidding on this Contract must first be pre-qualified by the City of Baltimore Boards and Commissions. Interested contractors should call 410 396-6883 or contact the Office of Boards and Commissions at 4 South Frederick Street, 4th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202. **If a bid is submitted by a Joint Venture ("JV"),**

## Legal Notices

then in that event, the documents that establish the JV **shall be submitted with the bid for verification purposes.** The Pre-qualification Category required for bidding on this project is **F07500 – Roofing – Industrial.**

The Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$1,000,000.01 to \$2,000,000.00**

A "Pre-Bidding information" session will be conducted at **The Site: 100 N. Calvert St, Baltimore MD 21202 (Meet at the North West corner of E. Fayette St. and N. Calvert Street) on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 10:00 A.M.**

**Principal Items of work for this project are:**

- 1. ROOFING**
- 2. EXISTING CONDITIONS**
- 3. PAINT AND COATING**
- 4. HVAC**

The MBE goal is **11%**  
The WBE goal is **5%**

**CONTRACT NO. GS 16810R**

APPROVED:  
Bernice H. Taylor  
Clerk, Board of Estimates

APPROVED:  
Chichi Nyagah-Nash  
Director, Department of General Services

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### CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION

#### CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE PROCUREMENT OF CONSULTANT SERVICES

#### PROJECT 1296R ON-CALL PROCESS CONTROL AND SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND DATA ACQUISITION (SCADA) ENGINEERING SERVICES OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION

The City of Baltimore, Office of Boards and Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Office of Engineering and Construction, to certify the qualifications of Engineering Firms to perform On-Call Process control and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) engineering services on projects associated with water and wastewater facilities, and pumping systems. Automation needs for the City Facilities are critical to water/wastewater operation and maintenance.

Services will include review of available information, project management, contract administration, investigation, design, developing and implementing public information and education programs, emergency services, preparation of reports and contract documents, including construction cost estimates, permit applications, right of ways, shop drawing review and consultation during construction.

The Firms interested in providing these services must demonstrate and document:

- Experience in preparing design documents to integrate Process Control System (PCS), Geographic Information System (GIS), Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS), Maintenance Information Management System (MIMS) and SCADA systems on a Wide Area Networks (WAN).
- Experience in troubleshooting ABB's Distributed Control Units and associated peripherals.
- Experience in modifying existing control strategies, reports, databases and graphics created in PCS and SCADA application software.
- Experience preparing design for upgrading PCS and SCADA systems, construction phase service and commissioning/training

## Legal Notices

operators.

- Experience in troubleshooting and upgrading fiber optic data highways and radio communications between central control rooms and remote sites.
- Manpower and availability of experienced key personnel assigned to the project.
- Overall team approach with Minority/Women Business Enterprises and compliance meeting MBE/WBE goals.

The City intends to select the services of one firm.

The engineering services will be for a period of three (3) years and the estimated cost of these On-Call Engineering Services is \$1,500,000.00 each contracts. At the option of the City, the contract may be extended by two years.

Should you have any questions regarding the scope of the Project, please contact Mr. Gurminder Singh at (410) 396-5385 or by e-mail at [Gurminder.Singh@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Gurminder.Singh@baltimorecity.gov)

Projects must comply with the 2006 edition of "The Specifications for Material, Highway, Bridges, Utilities and Incidental Structures." City personnel will utilize the City of Baltimore Guidelines for the Performance Evaluation of Design Consultants and Construction Contractors for this contract/project.

#### Submittal Process

Firms interested in submitting a proposal for this project shall address a "Letter of Interest" to the Office of Boards and Commissions, 4 South Frederick Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 or you may email: [obc.consultants@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:obc.consultants@baltimorecity.gov). Since these letters are utilized to assist small minority and women business enterprise in identifying potential teaming partners, the letter should be submitted within five (5) days of the date of the project's advertisement. The letter must contain a contact person. Failure to submit a "Letter of Interest" will not disqualify a firm from submitting a proposal for this project.

Only individual firms (**including, individuals, sole proprietorships, corporations, limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships and general partnerships**) or *formal joint ventures* may apply. Two firms may not apply jointly unless they have formed a joint venture on or before the submittal due date.

## Legal Notices

Each consultant applying for this Project will be required to complete and submit an original Federal Form 255, along with **five (5)** copies to the Office of Boards and Commissions on or prior to the due date. The Federal Form 255 cannot be supplemented with additional pages, and the five copies must be submitted on or before 12:00PM (**NOON**) by **Friday, March 27, 2020**. Submittals will not be accepted after this deadline.

#### Prequalification Requirement

All firms listed in this specific proposal must be prequalified by the Office of Boards and Commissions for each discipline at the time of submittal for this Project. Any contracting firm listed in this specific proposal to perform work must also be prequalified. *A copy of the prime and all subcontracting firms' current Prequalification Certificate must be included in the submitted package for proposal.* Information regarding the prequalification process can be obtained by calling the Office of Boards and Commissions on 410-396-6883.

#### Insurance Requirement

The consultant selected for the award of this project shall provide professional liability, auto liability, and general liability and workers' compensation insurances as required by the City of Baltimore.

#### MBE/WBE Requirements

It is the policy of the City of Baltimore to promote equal business opportunity in the City's contracting process. Pursuant to Article 5 Subtitle 28 of Baltimore city Code (2000 Edition) - Minority and Women's Business Program, Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation goals to this contract.

The MBE goal is 30%  
The WBE goal is 15%

Any submittals that do not include the proper MBW/WBE (in some instance DBE) participation will be disapproved for further consideration for this project.

#### Verifying Certification

Each firm submitting a SF 255 for consideration for a project is responsible for verifying that all MBEs and WBEs to be utilized

## Legal Notices

on the project are certified by the Minority and Women's Business Opportunity Office (MWBOO) prior to submitting the proposal. A directory of certified MBEs and WBEs is available from MBWOO. Since changes to the directory occur daily, firms submitting SF 255s should call MWBOO at (410) 396-4355 to verify certification, expiration dates and services that the MBE and WBE is certified to provide.

#### Non-Affiliation

A firm submitting a proposal may not use an MBE or WBE to meet a contract goal if:

1. The firm has a financial interest in the MBE or WBE
2. The firm has an interest in the ownership or control of the MBE or WBE
3. The firm is significantly involved in the operation of the MBE or WBE (Article 5, Subtitle 28-41).

#### Local Hiring Law

Article 5, Subtitle 27 of the Baltimore City Code, as amended (the "Local Hiring Law") and its rules and regulations apply to the contracts and agreements executed by the City on or after the Local Hiring Law's effective date of December 23, 2013, which is applicable to all vendors. The Local Hiring Law applies to every contract for more than \$300,000 made by the City, or on its behalf, with any person. It also applies to every agreement authorizing assistance valued at more than \$5,000,000 to a City-subsidized project. Please visit [www.oedworks.com](http://www.oedworks.com) for detailed on the requirement of the law.

#### Additional Information

A firm submitting as a prime consultant that fails to comply with the requirements of Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code when executing a contract is subject to the following penalties: suspension of a contract; withholding of funds; nullification of contract based on material breach; disqualification as a consultant from eligibility to provide services to the City for a period not to exceed two (2) years; and payment for damages incurred by the City.

A resume for each person listed as key personnel and/or specialist, including those from MBE and WBE must be shown on the page provided within the application.

**Legal Notice — Project 1296R  
continued on page 15**

## Legal Notices

### **Legal Notice — Project 1296R** *continued from page 14*

Please be advised that for the purpose of reviewing price proposals and invoices, the City of Baltimore defines a principal of a firm as follows:

*A principal is any individual owing 5% or more of the outstanding stock, of an entity, a partner of a partnership, a 5% or more shareholder of a sub-chapter 'S' Corporation, or an individual owner.*

Out-of-State Corporations must identify their corporate resident agent within the application. Firms will not be considered for a specific project if they apply as both a sub-consultant and prime consultant.

The applications for this Project (Form 255) cannot be supplemented with any additional information such as graphs, photographs, organization chart, etc. All such information should be incorporated into appropriate pages. Applications should not be bound. Applications should imply be stapled in the upper left-hand corner. Cover sheets should not be included. Inclusion and/or submittal of additional material may result in the applicant being disqualified from consideration for this project.

Failure to follow directions of this advertisement or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Sincerely,  
Deena Joyce, Chief OBC  
Executive Secretary (AEAC)

## Legal Notices

for the Urgent Respond Project Delivery Section (URPDS).

The City intends to select engineering services of two (2) firms for a period of three (3) years with one 2 year option at the estimated cost in the amount of \$1,500,000.00. DPW reserves the right to have a second interview with the eligible firms.

This project will be managed by Mr. John Huang; should you have any questions regarding the scope of the Project, please contact John Huang at (410) 396-3440 or by e-mail at [John.Huang@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:John.Huang@baltimorecity.gov)

The Firms interested in providing these services must demonstrate and document the following:

1. Experience in responding to stormwater system and open channel emergencies by rapidly assessing situation and recommending corrective measures.
2. Experience in design of storm drain and open channel systems including hydrology, hydraulic analysis, and hydraulic modeling.
3. Experience in design of stormwater system using trenchless technology including CIPP, pipe bursting, and others.
4. Experience in design of Stormwater management facilities, culvert, retaining wall, slope stabilization, outfall stabilization, urban best management practice, environmental site design, various trash collection technologies, Hydro-geomorphological stream assessments etc.
5. Experience in large diameter storm drains (all shapes) cleaning and inspection.
6. Experience in geotechnical services, conducting and evaluating all subsurface investigations, such as soil characterization and utility location, soil study, test pit, test holes, Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), unsuitable material removal and disposal estimates.
7. Experience in the preparation of design reports and contract documents including plans and specifications, all permit applications, easements, and related items necessary for procurement of construction. Also have ability to provide project management, GIS support and construction management, post award and contract administration services.
8. Experience and qualification in performing inspection, evaluation and assessment of structural conditions of stormwater infrastructure under confined space conditions.
9. Overall team approach to utilize, manage, and coordinate assigned tasks of the

## Legal Notices

Minority/Women Business Enterprises partners and to conform to City goals.

Services will include review of available information, project management, contract administration, investigation, design, emergency services, post award and construction management services, preparation of reports and contract documents, including plans, specification, construction cost estimates, permit applications, right of ways etc.

Projects must comply with the 2006 edition of "The Specifications for Materials, Highways, Bridges, Utilities and Incidental Structures". City personnel will utilize the City of Baltimore Guidelines for the Performance Evaluation of Design Consultants and Construction Contractors for this contract/project.

### Submittal Process

Firms interested in submitting a proposal for this project shall address a "Letter of Interest" to the Office of Boards and Commissions, 4 South Frederick Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 or you may email: [obc.consultants@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:obc.consultants@baltimorecity.gov). Since these letters are utilized to assist small minority and women business enterprise in identifying potential teaming partners, the letter should be submitted within five (5) days of the date of the project's advertisement. The letter must contain a contact person. Failure to submit a "Letter of Interest" will not disqualify a firm from submitting a proposal for this project.

Only individual firms (including, individuals, sole proprietorships, corporations, limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships and general partnerships) or formal joint ventures may apply. Two firms may not apply jointly unless they have formed a joint venture.

Each prime consultant applying for this Project will be required to complete and submit an original Federal Form 255, along with **five (5)** copies to the Office of Boards and Commissions on or prior to the due date. The Federal Form 255 cannot be supplemented with additional pages, information such as graphs, photographs, organization chart, etc. All such information should be incorporated into the appropriate pages. Applications should not be bound. Applications should simply be stapled in the upper left-hand corner. Cover sheets should not be included.

## Legal Notices

Five copies must be submitted on or before 12:00PM (NOON) by **Friday, March 27, 2020**. Submittals will not be accepted after this deadline. Inclusion and/or submittal of additional material may result in the applicant being disqualified from consideration for this project.

### Prequalification Requirement

**All** firms listed in this specific proposal **must** be prequalified by the Office of Boards and Commissions for each discipline at the time of submittal for this Project. Any contracting firm listed in this specific proposal to perform work must also be prequalified. ***A copy of the prime and all subcontracting firms' current Prequalification Certificate must be included in the submitted package for proposal.*** Information regarding the prequalification process can be obtained by calling the Office of Boards and Commissions on 410-396-6883.

### Insurance Requirements

The consultant selected for the award of this project shall provide professional liability, auto liability, and general liability and workers' compensation insurances as required by the City of Baltimore.

### MBE/WBE Requirements

It is the policy of the City of Baltimore to promote equal business opportunity in the City's contracting process. Pursuant to Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code (2000 Edition) – Minority and Women's Business Program, Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation goals apply to this contract.

The MBE goal is **30%**  
The WBE goal is **15%**

Both the proposed Minority and Women's Business Enterprise firms must be named and identified as an MBE or WBE within Item 6 of the Standard Form (SF) 255 in the spaces provided for identifying outside key consultants/associates anticipated for utilization for this project.

Any submittals that do not include the proper MBE/WBE (in some instances DBE) participation will be disapproved for further

**Legal Notice — Project #1326**  
**Continued on page 16**

### **CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION**

#### **CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE PROCUREMENT OF CONSULTANT SERVICES**

#### **PROJECT # 1326 – ON-CALL/URGENT NEED STORMWATER ENGINEERING SERVICES**

The City of Baltimore, Office of Boards and Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Office of Engineering and Construction, to advertise for services of qualified civil/environmental engineering firms to perform On-Call/Urgent Need Stormwater Engineering Services

## Legal Notices

### **Legal Notice — Project #1326** **Continued from page 15**

consideration for this project.

#### **Verifying Certification**

The firm submitting a SF 255 for consideration for a project is responsible for verifying that all MBEs and WBEs to be utilized on the project are certified by the Minority and Women's Business Opportunity Office (MWBOO) prior to submitting the proposal. A directory of certified MBEs and WBEs is available from MWBOO. Since changes to the directory occur daily, firms submitting SF 255s should call MWBOO at (410) 396-4355 to verify certification, expiration dates and services that the MBE or WBE is certified to provide.

#### **Non-Affiliation**

A firm submitting a proposal may not use an MBE or WBE to meet a contract goal if:

1. The firm has a financial interest in the MBE or WBE
2. The firm has an interest in the ownership or control of the MBE or WBE
3. The firm is significantly involved in the operation of the MBE or WBE (Article 5, Subtitle 28-41).

#### **Local Law Hiring**

Article 5, Subtitle 27 of the Baltimore City Code, as amended (the "Local Hiring Law") and its rules and regulations apply to contracts and agreements executed by the City on or after the Local Hiring Law's effective date of December 23, 2013 which is applicable to all vendors. The Local Hiring Law applies to every contract for more than \$300,000 made by the City, or on its behalf, with any person. It also applies to every agreement authorizing assistance valued at more than \$5,000,000 to a City-subsidized project. Please visit [www.oedworks.com](http://www.oedworks.com) for detailed on the requirements of the law.

#### **Additional Information**

A firm submitting as a prime consultant that fails to comply with the requirements of Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code when executing a contract is subject to the following penalties: suspension of a contract; withholding of funds; rescission of contract based on material breach; disqualification as a consultant from eligibility to provide services to the City for a period not

## Legal Notices

to exceed 2 years; and payment for damages incurred by the City.

A resume for each person listed as key personnel and/or specialist, including those from MBE and WBE firms, must be shown on the page provided within the application.

Please be advised that for the purpose of reviewing price proposals and invoices, the City of Baltimore defines a principal of a firm as follows:

*A principal is any individual owning 5% or more of the outstanding stock of an entity, a partner of a partnership, a 5% or more shareholder of a sub-chapter 'S' Corporation, or an individual owner.*

Out-of-State Corporations must identify their corporate resident agent within the application.

Firms will not be considered for a specific project if they apply as both a sub-consultant and prime consultant.

Failure to follow directions of this advertisement or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Deena Joyce, Chief

#### **CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION**

#### **CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE PROCUREMENT OF CONSULTANT SERVICES**

#### **PROJECT 1328**

#### **PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER FACILITIES PROJECT DELIVERY SECTION**

The City of Baltimore, Office of Boards and Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Office of Engineering and Construction, to certify the qualifications of Engineering Firms to perform Program Management Services for Water and Wastewater Facilities project delivery section. The City intends to select the services of one firm.

The Firms interested in providing these

## Legal Notices

services must demonstrate and show examples of:

- Experience and knowledge in program/project management and coordination of strategic planning, study, design, and construction phases related to the rehabilitation and/or replacement of water and wastewater facilities for multiple ongoing and forecasted projects.

- Experience in conducting specialized technical and quality control reviews of multi discipline study, design and construction documents.

- Experience with The Comprehensive Water and Wastewater Plan for Baltimore City, Wastewater Flow Capacity Report (WFCR), and Wastewater Capacity Management Plan (WCMP).

- Experience in preparing Capital Improvement Program (CIP), including business case preparation and prioritizing projects utilizing the Integrated Planning Framework

- Experience in preparing Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) and State Revolving Funds (SRF) applications and supporting documentation to secure Federal and State Funding.

- Experience in preparing supporting documentation for Annual Disclosure Statements for Water and Wastewater Bond Sale Requirements.

- Ability to provide in-house Engineering staff to supplement local staff when required.

- Experience in developing and managing an integrated, multi-disciplined contract team with Minority and Women Business Enterprise firms while meeting MBE/WBE goals.

- Experience in public relations outreach; permitting requirements; coordination and compliance with Federal, State and Local regulations and agencies during all project phases.

Services, as stated above, will include project/program management for review and administration of available information, contract administration, preparation of reports and contract documents, investigation, design reviews, and shop drawing review and consultation during construction phases including cost estimates and potential change orders (PCOs).

The estimated cost for program management engineering services is \$6,000,000 for three years. The City reserves the option to exercise an additional two year \$4,000,000 extension.

## Legal Notices

Should you have any questions regarding the scope of the Project, please contact Mr. Gurminder Singh at (410) 396-5385 or by e-mail at [Gurminder.Singh@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Gurminder.Singh@baltimorecity.gov)

Projects must comply with the 2006 edition of "The Specifications for Materials, Highways, Bridges, Utilities and Incidental Structures." City personnel will utilize the City of Baltimore Guidelines for the Performance Evaluation of Design Consultants and Construction Contractors for this contract/project.

#### **Prequalification Requirement**

**All firms** listed in the specific proposal for the Project **must** be prequalified by the Office of Boards and Commissions for each applicable discipline *at time of submittal for this Project. A copy of the prime and sub consultant's current Prequalification Certificate should be included in the bid submittal package.* Information regarding the prequalification process can be obtained by calling the Office of Boards and Commissions on 410.396.6883.

#### **Submittal Process**

Firms interested in submitting a proposal for this Project, shall address a "Letter of Interest" to the Office of Boards and Commissions, 4 South Frederick Street, 4th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland, 21202 (EMAIL: [OBC.Consultants@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:OBC.Consultants@baltimorecity.gov)). Letters of Interest will be utilized to assist small minority and women business enterprises in identifying potential teaming partners and should be submitted within five (5) days of the date of the project's advertisement. The Letter of Interest must contain the name of number of your contact person. Failure to submit a "letter of Interest" will not disqualify a firm submitting a proposal for the project.

The prime consultant applying for this Project will be required to complete and submit an original Federal Form 255, along with **five (5)** copies, to the Office of Boards and Commissions. The Federal Form 255 and the five copies must be submitted on or before 12:00 P.M. (Noon) by **Friday, March 27, 2020**. Submittals may not be accepted after this deadline.

#### **Insurance Requirements**

The consultant selected for the award of this

### **Legal Notice — Project #1328** **continued on page 17**



## Legal Notice

### **Legal Notice — Project #1328 continued from page 16**

project shall provide professional liability, auto liability, and general liability and workers compensation insurances as required by the City of Baltimore.

#### **MBE/WBE Requirements**

It is the policy of the City of Baltimore to promote equal business opportunity in the City's contracting process. Pursuant to Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code (2000 Edition) – Minority and Women's Business Program, Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation goals apply to this contract.

The MBE goal is **30%**  
The WBE goal is **15%**

Both the proposed Minority and Women's Business Enterprise firms must be named and identified as an MBE or WBE within Item 6 of the Standard Form (SF) 255 in the spaces provided for identifying outside key consultants/associates anticipated for utilization for this project.

Any submittals that do not include the proper MBE/WBE (in some instances DBE) participation will be disapproved for further consideration for this project.

#### **Verifying Certification**

The firm submitting a SF 255 for consideration for a project is responsible for verifying that all MBEs and WBEs to be utilized on the project are certified by the Minority and Women's Business Opportunity Office (MWBOO) prior to submitting the proposal. A directory of certified MBEs and WBEs is available from MWBOO. Since changes to the directory occur daily, firms submitting SF 255s should call MWBOO at (410) 396-4355 to verify certification, expiration dates and services that the MBE or WBE is certified to provide.

#### **Non-Affiliation**

A firm submitting a proposal may not use an MBE or WBE to meet a contract goal if:

1. The firm has a financial interest in the MBE or WBE
2. The firm has an interest in the ownership or control of the MBE or WBE
3. The firm is significantly involved in the

## Legal Notices

operation of the MBE or WBE (Article 5, Subtitle 28-41).

#### **Local Law Hiring**

Article 5, Subtitle 27 of the Baltimore City Code, as amended (the "Local Hiring Law") and its rules and regulations apply to contracts and agreements executed by the City on or after the Local Hiring Law's effective date of December 23, 2013 which is applicable to all vendors. The Local Hiring Law applies to every contract for more than \$300,000 made by the City, or on its behalf, with any person. It also applies to every agreement authorizing assistance valued at more than \$5,000,000 to a City-subsidized project. Please visit [www.oedworks.com](http://www.oedworks.com) for detailed on the requirements of the law.

#### **Additional Information**

A firm submitting as a prime consultant that fails to comply with the requirements of Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code when executing a contract is subject to the following penalties: suspension of a contract; withholding of funds; rescission of contract based on material breach; disqualification as a consultant from eligibility to provide services to the City for a period not to exceed 2 years; and payment for damages incurred by the City.

A resume for each person listed as key personnel and/or specialist, including those from MBE and WBE firms, must be shown on the page provided within the application.

Please be advised that for the purpose of reviewing price proposals and invoices, the City of Baltimore defines a principal of a firm as follows:

*A principal is any individual owning 5% or more of the outstanding stock of an entity, a partner of a partnership, a 5% or more shareholder of a sub-chapter 'S' Corporation, or an individual owner.*

Out-of-State Corporations must identify their corporate resident agent within the application.

Firms will not be considered for a specific project if they apply as both a sub-consultant and prime consultant.

The applications for this Project (Form 255) cannot be supplemented with any additional information such as graphs, photographs,

## Legal Notices

organization chart, etc. All such information should be incorporated into the appropriate pages. Applications should not be bound. Applications should simply be stapled in the upper left-hand corner. Cover sheets should not be included. Inclusion and/or submittal of additional material may result in the applicant being disqualified from consideration for this project.

Failure to follow directions of this advertisement or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Denna Joyce, Chief  
Office of Boards and Commissions

### **CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE**

#### **PROJECT #1301– Project and Construction Management Assistance for Water Contract 1243 Cromwell Pumping Station Improvements**

The Baltimore City Office of Boards and Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Office of Engineering and Construction, to certify the qualifications of engineering firms to provide Project and Construction Management Assistance for Water Contract 1243 Cromwell Pump Station Improvements. One contract will be awarded for a period of 5 years.

The Quality Assurance services to be provided are generally in accordance with the US Army Core of Engineers CQM program and include, but are not limited to assisting the City Office of Engineering and Construction with construction monitoring and inspection, preparation of daily reports, maintenance of project records and documentation, review of contractor's application for payment, attendance at progress meetings, preparation of record drawings, review of contract claims and support documents, estimating, scheduling, quality control, project engineering, constructability reviews, submittal reviews and responses, RFI reviews and responses, and other contract documents.

- Experience in the Rehabilitation and Construction of Water Facilities Treatment Plants and pumping Stations with a 40 MGD minimum capacity.

## Legal Notices

- Experience in development and implementation of a Construction Project Management program.
- Familiarity with standard construction inspection procedures and requirement for civil, Structural, Mechanical, and Electrical disciplines, and SCADA system installation and implementation.
- Familiarity with applicable building codes and standards.
- Experience in providing field inspection staff with experience with change orders and claims analysis.
- Experience with Critical Path Method construction scheduling and Primavera version 6 scheduling software.
- Experience with Primavera Contract Management version 14 project tracking software.
- Overall team approach to utilize, manage and coordinate assigned tasks of the Minority/Women Business Enterprises partners and to conform to City goals.

**Project fees have been estimated at \$2,000,000.00 for a period of 5 years. If further information is required regarding this request, please contact Mr. Gurinder Singh at 410-396-5385.**

Projects must comply with the 2006 edition of "The Specifications for Material, Highway, Bridges, Utilities and Incidental Structures." City personnel will utilize the City of Baltimore Guidelines for the Performance Evaluation of Design Consultants and Construction Contractors for this contract/project.

#### **Submittal Process**

Firms interested in submitting a proposal for this project shall address a "Letter of Interest" to the Office of Boards and Commissions, 4 South Frederick Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 or you may email: [obc.consultants@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:obc.consultants@baltimorecity.gov). Since these letters are utilized to assist small minority and women business enterprise in identifying potential teaming partners, the letter should be submitted within **five (5)** days of the date of the project's advertisement. The letter must contain a contact person. Failure to submit a "Letter of Interest" will not disqualify a firm from submitting a proposal for this project.

Only individual firms (**including, individuals, sole proprietorships, corporations, limited liability companies, limited liability**

**Legal Notice — Project #1301  
continued on page 18**

## Legal Notices

**Legal Notice — Project #1301**  
*continued from page 17*

partnerships and general partnerships) or formal joint ventures may apply. Two firms may not apply jointly unless they have formed a joint venture.

Each consultant applying for this Project will be required to complete and submit an original Federal Form 255, along with **five (5)** copies to the Office of Boards and Commissions on or prior to the due date. The Federal Form 255 cannot be supplemented with additional pages, and the five copies must be submitted on or before **12:00PM (NOON) by Friday, March 27, 2020.** Submittals will not be accepted after this deadline.

### Prequalification Requirement

**All** firms listed in this specific proposal **must** be prequalified by the Office of Boards and Commissions for each discipline at the time of submittal for this Project. Any contracting firm listed in this specific proposal to perform work must also be prequalified. *A copy of the prime and all subcontracting firms' current Prequalification Certificate must be included in the submitted package for proposal.* Information regarding the prequalification process can be obtained by calling the Office of Boards and Commissions on 410-396-6883.

### Insurance Requirement

The consultant selected for the award of this project shall provide professional liability, auto liability, and general liability and workers' compensation insurances as required by the City of Baltimore.

### MBE/WBE Requirements

It is the policy of the City of Baltimore to promote equal business opportunity in the City's contracting process. Pursuant to Article 5 Subtitle 28 of Baltimore city Code (2000 Edition) - Minority and Women's Business Program, Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation goals to this contract.

The MBE goal is 30%  
The WBE goal is 15%

Any submittals that do not include the proper MBW/WBE (in some instance DBE) participation will be disapproved for further consideration for this project.

## Legal Notices

### Verifying Certification

Each firm submitting a SF 255 for consideration for a project is responsible for verifying that all MBEs and WBEs to be utilized on the project are certified by the Minority and Women's Business Opportunity Office (MWBOO) prior to submitting the proposal. A directory of certified MBEs and WBEs is available from MBWOO. Since changes to the directory occur daily, firms submitting SF 255s should call MWBOO at (410) 396-4355 to verify certification, expiration dates and services that the MBE and WBE is certified to provide.

### Non-Affiliation

A firm submitting a proposal may not use an MBE or WBE to meet a contract goal if:

1. The firm has a financial interest in the MBE or WBE
2. The firm has an interest in the ownership or control of the MBE or WBE
3. The firm is significantly involved in the operation of the MBE or WBE (Article 5, Subtitle 28-41).

### Local Hiring Law

Article 5, Subtitle 27 of the Baltimore City Code, as amended (the "Local Hiring Law") and its rules and regulations apply to the contracts and agreements executed by the City on or after the Local Hiring Law's effective date of December 23, 2013, which is applicable to all vendors. The Local Hiring Law applies to every contract for more than \$300,000 made by the City, or on its behalf, with any person. It also applies to every agreement authorizing assistance valued at more than \$5,000,000 to a City-subsidized project. Please visit [www.oedworks.com](http://www.oedworks.com) for detailed on the requirement of the law.

### Additional Information

A firm submitting as a prime consultant that fails to comply with the requirements of Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code when executing a contract is subject to the following penalties: suspension of a contract; withholding of funds; nullification of contract based on material breach; disqualification as a consultant from eligibility to provide services to the City for a period not to exceed two (2) years; and payment for damages incurred by the City.

A resume for each person listed as key personnel and/or specialist, including those from MBE and WBE must be shown on the page provided within the application.

Please be advised that for the purpose of reviewing price proposals and invoices, the

## Legal Notices

City of Baltimore defines a principal of a firm as follows:

*A principal is any individual owing 5% or more of the outstanding stock, of an entity, a partner of a partnership, a 5% or more shareholder of a sub-chapter 'S' Corporation, or an individual owner.*

Out-of-State Corporations must identify their corporate resident agent within the application. Firms will not be considered for a specific project if they apply as both a sub-consultant and prime consultant.

The applications for this Project (Form 255) cannot be supplemented with any additional information such as graphs, photographs, organization chart, etc. All such information should be incorporated into appropriate pages. Applications should not be bound. Applications should imply be stapled in the upper left- hand corner. Cover sheets should not be included. Inclusion and/or submittal of additional material may result in the applicant being disqualified from consideration for this project.

Failure to follow directions of this advertisement or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Sincerely,  
Deena Joyce, Chief  
Office of Boards and Commissions

### **CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION**

### **NOTICE OF LETTING**

Sealed Bids or Proposals, in duplicate addressed to the Board of Estimates of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and marked for **SANITARY CONTRACT NO. 954-Primary Settling Tanks Nos. 3 & 4 Rehabilitation at the Back River Wastewater Treatment Plant** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. on **April 1, 2020.** Positively no bids will be received after 11:00 A.M. **No time extension will be allowed on this project.** Bids will be publicly opened by the Board of Estimates in Room 215, City Hall at Noon. The Contract Documents may be examined, without charge, at the Department of Transportation Service Center located on the first floor of the Harry S. Cummings Building, 401 E. Fayette Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 as of

## Legal Notices

**February 28, 2020** and copies may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **\$150.00.** **Conditions and requirements of the Bid are found in the bid package.** All contractors bidding on this Contract must first be prequalified by the City of Baltimore Contractors Qualification Committee. Interested parties should call (410) 396-6883 or contact OBC at 4 S Frederick St., 4th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202. **If a bid is submitted by a joint venture ("JV"), then in that event, the document that established the JV shall be submitted with the bid for verification purposes.** The Prequalification Category required for bidding on this project is **E13003-Water and/or Sewer Treatment Plants and Pumping Stations.** Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$15,000,000.01 to \$20,000,000.** A "Pre-Bidding Information" session will be conducted at the **Back River Wastewater Treatment Plant, 8201 Eastern Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21224 on March 19, 2020 at 10:30 AM.** **A project site visit will take place at 1:00 P.M. on the same day.** All questions by bidders must be submitted by **March 26, 2020.**

### **Principal items of work for include, but are not limited to the following:**

- Primary Settling Tanks Nos. 3 & 4 Rehabilitation
- Raw Sludge Pumping Station A, B, C and D Upgrade
- Nitrification Chemical Building Rehabilitation

The overall MBE goal is **26%**  
The WBE goal is **6%**

APPROVED:  
Clerk  
Board of Estimates

APPROVED:  
Matthew W. Garbark  
Acting Director  
Department of Public Works

**To place Legal Notices in  
The Baltimore Times,  
contact the Legals Department  
Phone: 410-366-3900  
email: [legals@btimes.com](mailto:legals@btimes.com)**

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