Vol. 35 No. 18 March 5 - 11, 2021 A Baltimore Times/Times of Baltimore Publication

Area Company Sells \$250,000 of Plant-Based Burgers Within 24 Hours of 'Shark Tank' Appearance



On Friday, February 26, 2021, the public was introduced to the game-changing and palate-pleasing Everything Legendary Burger on ABC-TV's "Shark Tank." Hyattsville, Maryland residents and founders Duane "Myko" Cheers (center); Danita Claytor (left); and Chef Jumoke Jackson (right) with their revolutionary plant-based creation the Everything Legendary Burger. (See article on page 11) Courtesy Photo/Everything Legendary Burger

Civil Rights Icon Vernon Jordan Dies at 85

By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent @StacyBrownMedia

Vernon Jordan, the former National Urban League president and civil rights leader, has died at 85.

Vickee Jordan Adams, the icon's daughter, confirmed his death on Tuesday, March 2, 2021.

"My father passed away last night at around 10 p.m. surrounded by loved ones, his wife and daughter, by his side," Adams noted in a statement.

NAACP President Derrick Johnson said the world lost an influential figure in the fight for civil rights and American politics.

"An icon to the world and a lifelong friend to the NAACP, his contribution to moving our society toward justice is unparalleled," Johnson declared. "In 2001, Jordan received the NAACP's Spingarn Medal for a lifetime of social justice activism. His exemplary life will shine as a guiding light for all that seek truth and justice for all people."

Congressional Black Caucus Chair Karen Bass (D-Calif.) added: "For decades, Mr. Jordan fought for the advancement of civil rights in this country. His contributions— first challenging segregation and discrimination as an activist in the 1960s and later continuing the fight in the leadership of the NAACP, the United Negro College Fund and then as President of the National Urban League— benefited us all.

"As Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, I had the absolute humbled honor of meeting with Mr. Jordan multiple times to discuss the challenges of our time, but also our hope and optimism for the future. While Mr. Jordan is no longer with us, we continue this fight surrounded by thousands inspired by his work and his leadership. My thoughts are with the family of Mr. Jordan and the many friends that join me in mourning his loss."

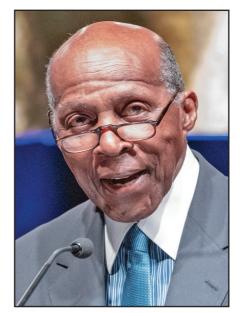
A lawyer and Washington power broker, Jordan was born in Atlanta on August 15, 1935.

He attended the DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana, where he was the only African American student in his class.

According to his biography posted by The HistoryMakers, Jordan participated in the student senate at DePauw and won statewide honors in speaking competitions.

He played basketball and graduated in 1957.

In 1960, he earned a J.D. from



Vernon Jordan 1935 — 2010 Courtesy Photo/NAACP

the Howard University School of Law. Jordan returned to Atlanta, starting his legal career working with the civil rights movement.

"In 1961, he helped organize the integration of the University of Georgia and personally escorted student Charlayne Hunter through a hostile white crowd," The HistoryMakers noted. "Over the next ten years, Jordan held various positions as a civil rights advocate. He served as the Georgia field secretary for the NAACP, director of the Voter Education Project for the Southern Regional Council, head of the United Negro College Fund, and as a delegate to President Lyndon B. Johnson's White House Conference on Civil Rights." In 1971, Jordan was appointed president and CEO of the National Urban League, spearheading the organization's growth.

On May 29, 1980, a white supremacist attempted to kill Jordan.

After a successful recovery, in 1981, Jordan resigned from the National Urban League to work as legal counsel with the Washington, D.C. office of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer, and Feld.

His active practice includes corporate, legislative, and international clients, researchers at the HistoryMakers noted.

Jordan's close friend is former President Bill Clinton, and during Clinton's presidency, Jordan became one of Washington's most influential power brokers, the researchers noted.

He also was a partner in the investment firm of Lazard Frere & Company in New York.

In 2001, Jordan published his autobiography, "Vernon Can Read!," and authored a weekly newspaper column syndicated to more than 300 newspapers and served as a frequent television guest and commentator.

"Mourning the passage of my friend, the extraordinary Vernon Jordan," Stacey Abrams posted on Twitter. "He battled the demons of voter suppression and racial degradation, winning more than he lost. He brought others with him. And left a map so more could find their way. Love to his family. Travel on with God's grace."

Stay up-to-date on positive news in the community! Sign up for The Baltimore Times weekly newsletter at https://bit.ly/2E5NuM5

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Celebrate yourself at all times

By Nikki Abraham, Nucleus Team Member, Positively Caviar, Inc

We recently concluded a month centered on love and black history and have now entered a month, which highlights the achievements of women in history. While I appreciate these significant moments in time that incite targeted celebrations, it's also important to recognize that it is vital to celebrate other people, our personal achievements, and all good things in life at all times.

I love Black History Month because during this pivotal point in the calendar year, all are called to recognize the triumphs, achievements and contributions of Black people to our society. To be honest, if anyone asks me, I highly recommend celebrating all year because the historic achievements of Black Americans should not be tied to 28 days. The same goes for Valentine's Day. I love that annually February 14 recognizes a day to celebrate love, but does that mean that love should only be celebrated once a year?

Girls' nights IN

are gonna take

COVID-19 OUT.

One year, I created a full itinerary for my birthday including a four-day celebration, and candidly, this was my best birthday yet. I love all birthdays and the excitement surrounding it. Many people view it as just another day, but to me it's a day that is very important. Yes, your birthday falls on one day but always make sure to celebrate to the fullest because not everyone has the opportunity of seeing another year on earth. Life is full of surprises and adventures at every age. You've made it through the highs and lows and have accomplished so much in your lifetime so why not celebrate?

How long do we give ourselves permission to celebrate our own accomplishments? I recently ran into a friend who got engaged a year ago. When I said congratulations, she was definitely thrown off guard because to her it was old news. Our culture constantly forces us to acknowledge things exclusively in a short period of time, which may make us believe that there should be a specific time period for celebration. Well, I'm



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

here to inform you that it is absolutely okay to celebrate life, your wins and special moments at all times.

People often shy away from acknowledging their successes because of the idea of boasting or making others uncomfortable. Definitely be vocal about your accomplishments in your own time but also pay close attention to the people around you who fall short when it comes to acknowledging your wins. It's so important to have people in your corner who support you rather than tear you down. Get yourself a tribe that will be by your side to cheer you on through the race, and applaud you at the finish line. Commemorate all accomplishments despite what success may look like. An "A" on your test deserves celebration just as a great performance or a promotion at work. Celebration and motivation are closely linked. When you're working towards a goal be sure to add celebration into the cycle of progression, as this will ultimately push you to keep going. Remember the phrase: "Give me my flowers while I can still smell them." Celebrate yourself at all times, as well as your loved ones and their achievements despite how big or small.

Positively Caviar, Inc. (PCI) is a grassroots nonprofit organization focused on instilling mental resilience by way of positive thinking and optimism. To learn more about how you can support, volunteer or donate to Positively Caviar, Inc. visit: positivelycaviar.com.

We don't get enough laughs these days. But, wherever they are, our friends are as close as a click. Vaccines are coming. But until enough of us are vaccinated, we still need to slow the spread. We can watch our distance, and not let COVID-19 keep us apart.

Learn more about vaccines and slowing the spread at cdc.gov/coronavirus



Brought to you by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Positive stories about positive people!

Guest Editorials/Commentary

I want to be like Gloria Richardson

By Dr. Ken Morgan

March is Women's History Month, and on March 8, 2021, we celebrate International Women's Day. "I want to be like Gloria Richardson." Why? She exhibited selfless activism, public fearlessness in the face of danger, and her unabashed comfort, in her will to work with and organize significant change with and for Black people.

Many people may remember seeing the Baltimore-born Gloria Richardson's photograph taken in Cambridge, Maryland, where she pushed off a bayonet attached to a National Guardsman's rifle in 1963.

Richardson moved to Cambridge on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, where she did much of her activism. The Eastern Shore was called the last plantation.

Cambridge stood neck-deep in Jim Crow segregation laws. These laws enforced racial segregation by mostly white Southern Democrats in the South. The Republican Party's lily-white movement supported them. It all took place after the failure of the American Civil War Reconstruction. The Plessey v. Ferguson U.S. Supreme Court decision made it the official law of the land until 1954. These laws ended in 1965.

In his Ballot or the Bullet speech in Detroit, Malcolm X said, "If you black, you were born in jail, in the North as well as the South. Stop talking about the South. As long as you south of the Canadian border, you South."

One of my beginning sources for learning about Richardson was through the writings of Malcolm X. He used her name in talking about fighters for Black rights.

For Cambridge, Maryland dwellers, Gloria Richardson became a Harriet Tubman of her time in the early 1960s. Cambridge, Maryland, developed into a hotbed of Black activism between 1962 and 1964, thanks mainly to the organizing and mobilizing of Richardson.

The Cambridge Nonviolence Action Committee (CNAC) was formed in 1962 with Richardson at the head. The group became the only adult nonstudent-based SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee). Activism began with school integration, obtaining adequate housing, desegregating hospitals, and ending high unemployment.

The CNAC picketed the downtown business district and issued its demands to the Cambridge mayor and city council. Mainly, CNAC demanded full school integration, needed housing, ending hospitals' segregation, and enhanced employment chances.

Richardson refused to submit to the idea of nonviolence in the Cambridge quest for Black rights. She did not give up the right to self-defense. "We weren't going to stop until we got it, and if violence occurred, then we would have to accept that," she said about nonviolence.

CNAC called on the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. to aid the group, but were turned down.

I don't believe Richardson is in the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame but she is in mine and millions more, both Black, white, brown and yellow. Malcolm X would concur. Read her biography, "The Struggle Is Eternal."

Several years ago before Zoom, I arranged for Richardson, now Richardson Dandridge, to take part in my class at Coppin State University via a telephone hookup from New York City, where she lived with her daughter. Her dazzling wit, her precocious mind and her spunkiness at the age of 92, came through over the telephone while talking to my class. Yes, I want to be like Gloria Richardson!

Former Coppin State University Professor, Dr. Ken Morgan is a human rights activist. He can be reached at: btimes@btimes.com



Community Affairs

Walk to Hope: A virtual fundraiser to support hope

Baltimore— Missing travel? Boys Hope Girls Hope of Baltimore (BHGH) is excited to announce the 1st Annual Walk to Hope being held virtually from April 1 through April 30, 2021. The step challenge is an innovative way to stay fit, be socially responsible, engage in a great team activity, learn about and support BHGH, and virtually travel across the U.S. and Latin America.

Walk with Boys Hope Girls Hope of Baltimore! The organization encourages participants to invite family, friends, neighbors, colleagues, and their companies to take part in the challenge or sponsor other walkers, including our Scholars. Participants have options to run, walk, bike, or do other fitness activities. Registration is available now. The costs for participants is only \$35. As an added bonus, all participants will receive a Boys Hope Girls Hope Walk to Hope T-Shirt. The Walk to Hope takes place anywhere—participant's home, gym, parks, and neighborhoods! All walkers can connect and track progress through the Charity Footprints app. Participants can track mileage through Apple Watch, Fitbit, Garmin, Misfit, Android wearables, or the Strava iOS/Android mobile app. No devices? No worries— BHGH can help track participant's steps.

The goal of the coast-to-coast challenge is 300,000 steps per individual. Just average 10,000 steps a day for the 30 days and participants will reach the step goal!

Participation and sponsorship help Boys Hope Girls Hope mission "To nurture and guide motivated young people in need to become well-educated, career-ready men and women for others"

To register or for more information, visit the official Boys Hope Girls Hope Walk to Hope website at www.boyshopegirlshope.org/walktoh ope/.

We love to hear from our readers! Connect with us: Facebook.com/TheBaltimoreTimes Twitter: @Baltimore_Times Instagram: @thebaltimoretimes

Page Opposite/Commentaries 'Blueprint' A Down Payment For Underserved Marylander's Futures

By Regi Taylor

It appears there are those with political agendas contrary to Baltimore City's best interests who have seized upon an out of context report in the national media declaring that Baltimore City Public Schools enjoys the 3rd highest per student spending allocation in the United States, and have scapegoated this fallacy to argue against the Blueprint for Maryland's Future proposed by the Kirwan Commission and ratified by the Maryland General Assembly, overriding a veto by Governor Hogan.

The first problem with this designation for Baltimore is the caveat that ranks its budget total "among the 100 largest school systems." What is the significance of the size of this district? It appears that identifying the 100 largest districts, which by definition would be urban, are buzzwords to codify these school districts, racially and culturally, as non-white.

A 2010 article published in the online

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Baltimore, MD 21218 Phone: 410-366-3900- Fax 410-243-1627 www.baltimoretimes-online.com digest of the American Institutes for Research entitled "Report Finds Majority of Students in the 100 Largest U.S. School Districts Are Hispanic or Black" makes this clear. The report concluded that among these "districts in the United States 63 percent were Hispanic or Black. Blacks were 26 percent, compared to 17 percent of students in all school districts, and the percentage of students who were Hispanic was 37 percent, compared to 22 percent of students in all school districts."

These criticisms by local opponents of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future whose argument follows that Baltimore students are already 'over-funded' based on this reporting are definitely suspect in their motives. The 'size' alone of a school district is arbitrary. Dollars have equal value regardless of whose pocket they are in. Per-student-spending for education is just that, in any school district, anywhere in the country.

The issue in Baltimore City is how and what those dollars are spent for. Unlike Baltimore, where the average school is more than 40 years old, without modern climate control, where the poverty rate is nearly 22 percent, requiring the District to expend resources and personnel to feed 80.000 students twice per day. where the school district has been systemically underfunded for more than a half century, more-stable districts expend more of the revenue budgeted for 'education' directly for instruction. A case in point is Somerset County in southern Maryland. Although their population is only 1/20th of Baltimore's at roughly 26,000 residents, and African

Americans comprise 41 percent of the population compared to Baltimore's 63 percent, the poverty rates are nearly identical at 21.7 percent and 21.8 percent, respectively, and Baltimore has more average household income, \$51,000 versus \$42,000 annually.

However, per student spending for education in Somerset County is calculated to be \$17,350 a year according to an article by U.S. News & World Report; \$1166 more per student than Baltimore City. To add bang to that buck, its 3000 students enjoy a studentteacher ratio of 12:1 in better-maintained schools (there are no published reports of school buildings ever being closed due to faulty or non-existent HVAC systems) that average 30 years old.

Baltimore City's 80,000 students have higher average class sizes at a 16:1 ratio. To gain a deeper appreciation of the strain on Baltimore Public Schools resources, consider these findings from a recent scholastic white paper on the topic of the city's comparative educational equity.

According to a 2019 study by the Johns Hopkins University Center for Applied Public Research, entitled BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS INFRASTRUCTURE DASHBOARD, "Problems with heat and cooling accounted for lost school time of more than 1.2 million hours, equivalent to more than 179,000 days, over the last five years, representing about 80 percent of the time [students] missed. These problems included no heat on frigid days and no air conditioning on sweltering days."

Hopkins further reported in its study:

"Because 80 percent of students in Baltimore City Public Schools are black, the vast majority of children missing school are black. We found that about five in every six hours (84 percent) of lost school time due to infrastructure needs were experienced by black children. In these schools, eight of every nine hours (89 percent) of lost school time were experienced by black students. Nearly 90 percent of this lost time occurred in the last two years..." Moreover, U.S. News & World Report also disclosed that Maryland's highest per pupil educational expenditure is shouldered by the Worcester County School District at \$17.807, more than \$1600 per student annually above what Baltimore's students are supposedly costing. Two other jurisdictions in Marvland, Howard County and Montgomery County are in a virtual dead heat with Baltimore's per student spending at \$15,995 and \$16,005 per student per vear. respectively. So, what is Governor Larry Hogan fighting about? Regarding the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, to borrow a Martin Luther King Jr metaphor: we've come to Annapolis to cash a check that until now has been marked insufficient funds.

Regi Taylor is a West Baltimore native. The married father of four is an artist, writer and media professional specializing in political history. Check out his meme gallery at: https://www.humortimes.com/caroons/dc -crap/.

Want to comment on the editorials or any other story? Please contact: The Baltimore Times 2513 N. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218 Phone: 410-366-3900 Fax: 410-243-1627 email: btimes@btimes.com

National Dental Association Foundation and Colgate-Palmolive establish "Audacity To Dream" scholarship program

New York— In a continuing commitment to address racial disparities in oral health, the National Dental Association Foundation (NDAF) and Colgate-Palmolive Company announce the creation of the "Audacity to Dream" scholarship program for African Americans pursuing careers in dentistry. Students currently enrolled in dental school and demonstrating success in areas such as leadership, community service, and research will be eligible for grants from \$5,000 to \$20,000.

Applications and awards criteria are available at

https://ndafoundation.org/audacity-todream-scholarship.html. Grants will be presented at the NDAF's annual convention in June 2021.

Dental care is one of the United States' largest unmet health needs. Studies indicate that African American children, ages two- to eight-years old, are about twice as likely as whites to have untreated tooth decay. African American workingage adults are also almost twice as likely to have untreated decay as their white counterparts. Communities that lack access to oral health, often have higher rates of periodontal disease, as well as diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

A shortage of African American dentists is one of several challenges African Americans face in accessing oral health care. While African Americans make up about 13 percent of the U.S. population, they account for only 3.8 percent of dental professionals. Many African Americans would prefer to see an African American dentist. A survey conducted for National Public Radio, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and Harvard University's T.H. Chan School of Public Health found that approximately one-third of African Americans experienced discrimination seeking medical care. In addition, roughly a quarter of those polled indicated that they have been avoiding care for themselves or a family member



A shortage of African American dentists is one of several challenges African Americans face in accessing oral health care. A survey conducted for National Public Radio, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and Harvard University's T.H. Chan School of Public Health found that approximately one-third of African Americans experienced discrimination seeking medical care. Photo Credit: ClipArt.com

out of concern they would encounter racial discrimination.

Colgate and NDAF have been partners to improve the oral health of African American communities for 30 years. Colgate Bright Smiles, Bright Futures mobile dental vans are often staffed by NDAF dental volunteers. In a normal year, the vans visit more than 1,000 U.S. cities and towns each year and reach more than nine million children with free dental screenings, oral health education, and treatment referrals. The NDAF - HEALTH NOW initiative. which sends teams of dental professionals, physicians, optometrists, and nurses into underserved communities to provide dental services,

medical and vision screenings, receives Colgate support. Together, the NDA and Colgate have also contributed more than \$4.2 million to fund research on the impact of oral health diseases on people of African descent.

"To truly establish oral health equity, African Americans need greater access to care, more affordable care, increased oral health awareness, and dentists who are passionate about improving the quality of life in communities of color," said Dr. Bertram J. Hughes, President of the National Dental Association Foundation. "Filling the pipeline with the next generation of African American dental professionals helps move us forward on all fronts." "Colgate is determined to create a zero cavity future for all. We know that oral health can affect the lives of African American children and their families in devastating ways – their ability to go to school, to work, and to thrive. That's why Colgate is vested in supporting African American dental students, because we know that they will make a meaningful difference in our communities and our world," added Dr. Gillian Barclay, Colgate's Vice President, Global Public Health.

For additional information about the Audacity to Dream scholarship program, visit: Audacity to Dream Scholarship (ndafoundation.org).

"Education is the key solution for change, for peace, and for help in the fight against racism and discrimination in general."—Clarence Seedorf

Local brewery initiates 'Give a Crap' campaign for Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

By Eryn Johnson

Colorectal cancer disproportionately affects the Black community, where the rates are the highest of any racial group in the United States. African Americans are about 20 percent more likely to be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and about 40 percent more likely to die from it than the national average.

As the second-deadliest form of cancer, it kills thousands of people each year, but if caught early it can be the most curable too. The only way to detect colorectal cancer is by getting a screening and between the months March and June last year, there was a 64 percent drop in colorectal cancer screenings because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Baltimore-based DuClaw Brewing Company has partnered with Colon Cancer Foundation and Squatty Potty to bring light to this disease in a clever way by launching a campaign, "Give a Crap Challenge," to spread awareness about the importance of everyone 45 and older should get tested, and to help the Colon Cancer Foundation reach their goal of providing 10,000 colorectal cancer screenings to underserved communities in 2021.



The Colon Cancer Foundation, Squatty Potty and Baltimore-based DuClaw Brewing Company have partnered to offer "unicorn farts" beer for getting tested during National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

Photo Credit: DuClaw Brewing Company

The Give A Crap Challenge allows adults to enjoy a limited-edition glittery beer that, "can't be purchased with money, but can only be accessed with their own poop" during the month of March for Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, according to a press release. Here is how it works: Click, Squat, Sip. Sign up for a chance to participate at www.GiveACrapchallenge.com betw een March 3 - 7, 2021. DuClaw will then randomly select 100 lucky, eligible entrants to participate at no cost. Another 300 can instantly take part by making an \$85 donation to the Colon Cancer Foundation. Once signed up, participants will receive a noninvasive colorectal, cancer-screening test from Everlywell that can be taken in the privacy of their own home and mailed to the lab in the prepaid envelope. Participants can then enjoy their sixpack of DuClaw's 'Thanks for Giving a Crap' edition of Sour Me Unicorn Farts glittered sour ale on their doorstep from CraftShack and relish in the fact that they "gave a crap today!"

In signing up, participants will also be helping to raise awareness among hundreds of thousands of people in the Baltimore area who are 45 years and older that they should be tested regularly for colorectal cancer.

"This is us, arms in the air shouting from the rooftops that colorectal cancers are no longer simply an old person's disease," said Cindy Bourassi, president of the Colon Cancer Foundation. "The fight against the second-leading cause of cancer death for adults is serious— and sometimes, the best way to engage people is with a little humor!"

For more information about the Give a Crap Challenge, visit www.GiveACrapChallenge.com.



Positive stories about positive people!

The Baltimore Times, March 5 - 11, 2021 (www.baltimoretimes-online.com)

Baltimore real estate professional inspires freedom from mental imprisonment in book

By Dareise A. Jones

Alan Upshur started writing the pages of his book *Prison to Paradise* during his first incarceration, but it was during the second that he really started committing to living the life he was writing about.

Upshur says he realized "prison is not a location, it's a mentality." The mindset of living every day to get by and survive is the cage he believes leads to physical imprisonment.

The West Baltimore native has always been an ambitious, go-getter with an entrepreneurial spirit. When he was 18, he used those qualities to make fast money by committing robberies. He admits he was prone to violence and drinking which was a dangerous combination. He received a three-year sentence for felony robbery and did 18 ¹/₂ months in prison.

Growing up, Upshur witnessed violence and the effects of addiction but his parents worked hard to keep him from a life of crime. He attended public and private schools and went to Bowie State University and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. In fact, he was in college when he decided to start selling drugs. He sold marijuana, which he felt was harmless. However, that placed a target on his back for other criminals who wanted his money and/or product, which is exactly what happened, someone tried to rob him and he stabbed the person. This led to an attempted murder charge and an elevenyear prison sentence. He fought hard to get an early release and served did three



Alan Upshur is currently a real estate professional with Coldwell Banker and co-owner of ABG Easy Hauling. He has received several awards for his work in real estate and was a 2017 NAACP honoree for his book "Prison to Paradise." Courtesy Photo

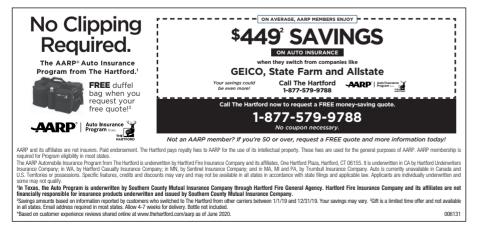
and a half years of that sentence. Once he was freed both mentally and physically from prison, Upshur became a real estate professional, mortgage lender, sold clothes, cars and published his book, *Prison to Paradise* and a second book *Stay Outta the Bullsh*t*. His goal with both books is to change the mindset that leads to prison as well as help the formerly incarcerated find jobs and avoid recidivism.

Upshur said that both times he went to prison were due to financial reasons. He believed he had to engage in illicit activities to make money, but now knows he can do that legally. He is not ashamed of his past and has spoken at correctional facilities, schools and churches about the importance of "using your negative circumstances as fuel to become successful with your positive aspirations."

Upshur says that one of the best ways we can help young men make different choices and stay away from crime and out of prison is "by having mentors that they can relate to. Multiple mentors at that, within different aspects of our men's lives— financial, relationships and career wise. This is one of the strongest aspects [is} in my opinion having the right guidance."

Upshur is currently a real estate professional with Coldwell Banker and co-owner of ABG Easy Hauling. He has received several awards for his work in real estate and was a 2017 NAACP honoree for *Prison to Paradise*. He is committed to his paradise mindset, which keeps him financially secure, thriving and contributing positively to his community.

Both books *Prison to Paradise* and *Stay Outta the Bullsh*t* are available from Amazon. Connect with Alan on Facebook @alanjupshur and on Instagram @alanupshur



Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation and Education

Narconon reminds families that abuse of heroin and opioid drugs has become a national health crisis. Learn to recognize the signs of heroin abuse and get your loved ones help if they are at risk. Visit www.narcononnewliferetreat.org/blog/naloxone-availability.html to learn about the overdose reversing drug known as naloxone and find out its availability in your state. Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. Call 1- 800-431-1754 today for free screenings or referrals.

Ravens must add free agent wide receiver this season

By Tyler Hamilton

The Baltimore Ravens offense is based around the rushing attack with quarterback Lamar Jackson leading the way.

Jackson rushed for 1,000 yards for the second consecutive season. He was closely followed by rookie running back J.K. Dobbins who picked up 805 yards and veteran Gus Edwards who finished with 723 yards.

As a team, the Ravens led the NFL with a 191.9 rushing yards per game average. However, the passing game ranked dead last with a 171.2 average. It's pretty obvious that there needs to be a marked improvement in the passing game to balance out the offense.

The problem for Baltimore's passing game was two fold. Offensive coordinator Greg Roman's scheme was simplistic. The team also suffered from the lack of a true number one wide receiver.

Second-year speedster Marquis Brown led the receivers with 58 catches for 769 yards and eight touchdowns. Tight end Mark Andrews tied Brown's 58 receptions but finished with 701 yards and seven touchdowns.

Ravens General Manager Eric DeCosta attempted to bolster the wide receiver group by selecting former Texas standout Devin Duvernay in the third round of the 2020 NFL Draft.

Duvernay played a limited role as a rookie and finished with 20 receptions for 201 yards.

DeCosta also signed veteran receiver Dez Bryant during the season. That didn't pan out for a variety of reasons.

The Ravens will have the opportunity



The Ravens will have the opportunity to make some key additions to wide receiver by way of free agency this season. JuJu Smith-Schuster from the Pittsburgh Steelers gives the Ravens a viable option in the slot. He is a sturdy, reliable target that could become a safety blanket working the middle of the field for Jackson. Photo Credit: Nic Antaya/Getty Images

to make some key additions to the wide receiver by way of free agency this season. There are an assortment of veterans on the market that would add immediate help for Jackson and the passing game.

DeCosta laid out what he will be looking for in possible free agent candidates.

"We want playmakers. We want guys that can stretch the field. We want guys that can catch the ball inside on third downs," DeCosta said during a February press conference. "We want guys that can scare the defense and allow us to be flexible and balanced up front on offense. We don't want to be a team that's forced to do anything; we want to be a team that can dictate to the defense what we want to do."

Here are three wide receiver options the Ravens should strongly consider adding via free agency:

Kenny Golladay, Detroit Lions— Golladay only played in five games last season and posted 20 receptions for 338 yards and two touchdowns. This cam a year after a season in which he caught 65 passes for 1,190 yards and 11 touchdowns and made the Pro Bowl. Adding a young, ascending player like Golladay would be an excellent move. Golladay's 6-foot-4, 214-pound frame presents a big catch radius for Jackson to target.

Corey Davis, Tennessee Titans-

Davis finished 16 yards should of his first 1,000-yard season in 14 games last year but still finished with a singlesesson career high 986 yards. He caught 65 passes to tie his career high in a season. Davis scored a career-high, five touchdowns as well.

Signing Davis presents the Ravens with a player whose arrow is pointing up. Davis also matches the Ravens' physical mentality as a ball carrier and when blocking in the run game.

JuJu Smith-Schuster, Pittsburgh

Steelers— Smith-Schuster gives the Ravens a viable option in the slot which would be an upgrade from Willie Snead. He is a sturdy, reliable target that could become a safety blanket working the middle of the field for Jackson. It also wouldn't hurt to take a premier player from the rival Steelers.

The fifth-year receiver finished with 97 receptions for 831 yards and nine touchdowns. Smith-Schuster's potential was truly shown in 2018 when he caught 111 passes for 1,426 yards. That's the player the Ravens would hope to get of they signed Smith-Schuster.



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The Baltimore Times, March 5 - 11, 2021 (www.baltimoretimes-online.com)

Catch John Tyler's Charitable Baltimore Love Groove Festival



Love Groove Music Festival presents Virtual Women Artist Showcase on March 5, 2021 at 8 p.m. (Courtesy Photos) Showcae Lineup left to right: Deetranada; AkilahDivine; AmberAugust; JaceySymone; JaceySymone; BlackAssets; Asliyann; NiaJune; and PeachFace

By Alanah Nichole Davis

John Tyler is a 21-year-old artist, guitarist and multi-genre producer from Baltimore. He is also the founder of Love Groove Music Festival.

"Love Groove as it's affectionately called by its founder and many of its artists and patrons is more than a festival, it's a Movement, it's a family," says Ashley Yates, whose stage name is "Black Assets." Yates is a part of the virtual line-up alongside seven other young Baltimore-based and centric artists in Love Groove's All Women's Artist Showcase on Friday, March 5, 2021 at 8 p.m.

In 2017, when John Tyler was merely a high-school junior, he founded Love Groove Festival to quell a frustration that there were so many young and talented artists in Baltimore but had no platform to showcase their talent on a significant level.

Tyler also noticed the music scene was segregated by genre. John himself is a talented musician whose love for music started with live music from artists like Erykah Badu; Fela Kuti; HER; Wes Montgomery; and many others.

"Having great music is one thing but having a great live performance is another," Tyler said.

Because of his burning passion for music being lit by such a plethora of genres, Tyler wanted to find a way to fuse rap, jazz, rock, and soul in a real way for Baltimore artists and out of the frustrations of musical segregation, Love Groove Music Festival was born.

"Today, Love Groove is the only showcase featuring young talented artists on a major stage— produced by a young Baltimore artist," Tyler said.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Love Groove would typically and preferably be hosted in person in front of an audience of John and The Groove's peers, fans, and supporters.

On Labor Day week of 2020, Love Groove Music Festival pivoted to its first virtual backdrop while celebrating its third annual festival, keeping its format of featuring a melting pot of up-andcoming artists in Baltimore's music landscape. With a heart for giving, the 21-year-old festival founder selects a charitable organization for which part of Love Grooves proceeds will go to.

Part of the proceeds collected from the event will go towards an artist fund to help artists recoup some of their lost revenue due to the COVID pandemic and to the Johns Hopkins Avon Foundation for Breast Cancer. Last year, Our Victorious City Foundation (OVCF), a Baltimore-based organization that provides resources to inner-city youth received a donation from the Love Groove Festival. "I know, of course, I'm not a woman, but as an artist myself, I see the hard work and passion that women put into their craft and often that doesn't get recognized," Tyler said, alluding to the fact that this won't be the last all-woman line-up presented by Love Groove Music Festival.

"There's no reason why there isn't a platform for young Baltimore women of all genres of music to express themselves. So, starting now, we'll be having an all-femalse showcase regularly so others can see the true talent of Baltimore women."

Love Groove's All Women's Artist Showcase will be hosted by Amber August and features Baltimore vocal powerhouses Nia June; Black Assets; Peach Face; Akilah Divine; Deetranada; Jacey Symone; and Fola.

"Even the house band for Love Groove's All Women's Artist Showcase, are all women— C. Jai (keys); Jasmyn Toon (percussion); Jessica Staten (bass); Rachel Winder (saxophone/flute); and Sheritta Love Harris (drums)," Tyler said.

Since the start of the pandemic in 2020, The Love Groove crew saw the cancellations of shows for all artists— both men and women— and decided the show must go on in love with Baltimore and its artists. You may have seen print advertisements on local MTA buses in



John Tyler, founder of Love Groove Music Festival.

the weeks leading up to The All Women's Artist showcase.

"Growing up in Baltimore, the MTA bus was a big part of my life. So to be here today looking at my curated event has me speechless," Tyler said.

Tickets are available for purchase online at lovegroovemusicfestival.com. You may also support the Love Groove Festival by purchasing Love Groove merchandise such as: cotton shirts, hoodies, and stickers. Artists who are interested in performing may also get an application from the website.

Follow Love Groove Music Festival on Instagram at

Instagram.com/lovegroovemusicfestival.

Area Company Sells \$250,000 of Plant-Based Burgers Within 24 Hours of 'Shark Tank' Appearance

By Stacy M. Brown

Everything Legendary, a Maryland new-to-the-market plant-based meat company, scored a big deal with Mark Cuban on ABC TV's "Shark Tank." Cuban offered the company \$300,000 for a 22 percent stake.

"So many people watch Shark Tank all the time. But very rarely do people actually take that next step," Duane "Myko" Cheers, the CEO of Everything Legendary, launched by a team of African American entrepreneurs.

Along with Cheers and his partners Danita Claytor and D.C.-area chef Jumoke Jackson, the company has touted plans "to disrupt the plant-based meat industry with high-quality, greattasting product presented in brightly-colored packaging that features an edgy, urban vibe."

"We took that next step and applied [to appear on Shark Tank]," Cheers said. "It was a long process, and we kept going, and, you know, the dream came true, and we went on Shark Tank." Cheers continued: "Just to get on was a dream."

While Cheers graduated from Morgan State University, Claytor matriculated from both Howard University and Bowie State University.

Along with Chef Jackson, the trio has shared their collective HBCU education and experience in finance, education, multi-media production, and hospitality to create the business model that fuels Everything Legendary.

Launched just two years ago, Everything Legendary is sold to grocery stores and restaurants in the Greater Washington area. The entrepreneurs expressed their desire to "make the world a healthier place and educate everyone on the benefits of going vegan.

Cuban, the Dallas Mavericks owner, is also a vegan, and the group's soy and gluten-free Legendary Burger helped win him over.

"The burgers are amazing," Cuban tweeted. "The entrepreneurs are legendary, too."



Courtesy Photos

A news release noted that the plantbased market is one of the hottest categories in the food industry, and Everything Legendary now is adding to that growth, having sold \$250,000 worth of burgers within 24 hours of the Shark Tank broadcast on the East Coast.

The entrepreneurs also strongly target Black millennial consumers because they believe the demographic will help drive their success.

"This is a purpose-driven company," Cheers remarked. "My mom has actually battled Lupus for the past 35 years, and it's really affected her lungs. She's on oxygen 24/7, and she's been a strict vegan."

Cheers continued:

"One of the reasons why she has survived so long is because of her healthy diet. She just celebrated her 71st birthday last December, and we would not have been able to if it weren't for her healthy diet."

Cheers made it clear that his mother does take medication, but she has discovered the need for just a limited amount because of her healthy habits. "So that's where it started. My 'a-ha' moment to get into the industry was really when I was in the grocery store with my mother, and we were just walking around, and we tried all the plant-based burgers that were there," Cheers recalled.

"None of them really had flavor, though," he said.

That's when he began to conceive the idea for Everything Legendary.

"My two partners stepped in. I called Danita, and then from there, I called Jumoke, whom I knew for some years. We put it together, and the product is just amazing."

Cheers proclaimed that Cuban's investment was "an absolute gamechanger" for their brand, allowing them to increase product capacity and assure seamless national distribution.

"This gives us the resources that allow us to position our brand against any competitor, where I know we will win on the flavor and quality," Cheers stated in a release following the Feb. 26 broadcast. "For me, this investment is extremely personal. It is a validation of my 'never give up' philosophy. I heard 'no' 1,000,001 times over the years, but this one 'yes' moment changes everything."



A Proclamation on Women's History Month, 2021

MARCH 01, 2021

Each year, Women's History Month offers an important opportunity for us to shine a light on the extraordinary legacy of trailblazing American women and girls who have built, shaped, and improved upon our Nation.

Throughout American history, women and girls have made vital contributions, often in the face of discrimination and undue hardship. Courageous women marched for and won the right to vote, campaigned against injustice, shattered countless barriers, and expanded the possibilities of American life. Our history is also replete with examples of the unfailing bravery and grit of women in America, particularly in times of crisis and emergency. Women served our Nation during World War II, led organizing and litigation efforts during the Civil Rights movement, and represented the United States on the global stage in the fight for human rights, peace, and security. Far too often, their heroic efforts and their stories have gone untold – especially the millions of Black women, immigrant women, and others from diverse communities who have strengthened America across every generation.

In our current moment of crisis, women continue to lead. From vaccine researchers to public health officials to the countless heroines on the frontlines, women are working around the clock to defeat COVID-19. Women, and particularly women of color, also make up the majority of America's essential workers, including educators and child care providers, grocery store workers, farmworkers, and others who are keeping our families, our communities, and our country afloat. This year has also marked an historic milestone of women's leadership 232 years in the making, with the inauguration of America's first woman Vice President.

As we celebrate the contributions and progress of women and girls, we must also reflect on the extraordinary and unequal burdens they continue to bear today. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated barriers that have held back women — particularly women of color — for generations. Gender and racial disparities in pay continue to fester. A disproportionate share of caregiving continues to fall on the shoulders of women and

Women's HISTORY March is , HISTORY HISTORY

girls. And now, job losses due to COVID-19 have set women's labor force participation back to its lowest point in more than 30 years — threatening the security and well-being of women and their families and imperiling the economic progress of our entire Nation. The share of mothers who have left the labor force is three times that of fathers; in September 2020 alone, an astonishing 865,000 women dropped out of the American workforce. These trends are even more dire among women of color, with Black and Hispanic women facing disproportionately high rates of unemployment. At the same time, food insecurity has risen dramatically since the pandemic began, particularly in femaleheaded households with children, as have reports of intimate partner violence.

Since taking office on January 20th, Vice President Kamala Harris and I have made COVID-19 vaccination, relief, and broad-based economic recovery efforts a top priority. Our goal is not to return our economy to where it was before the pandemic struck. Our goal is to build back better — and that means creating a strong and durable foundation for the economic opportunity and security of women in America. Our plans include proposals to provide individual payments and tax credits to put money in the hands of families in need; increase housing and food assistance as well as unemployment insurance; lower health costs and expand access to coverage; increase support for and access to child care; and expand existing paid leave policies. We are also committed to making further progress on what, for me, has been a lifelong cause: reducing gender-based violence, and advancing the safety, economic stability, and well-being of survivors.

Sixty years ago, when former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt confronted President John F. Kennedy about the lack of women in Government, he appointed her as head of a new commission to address the status of women in America and take on discrimination in all of its forms. We have made significant progress in the United States, thanks to the persistence and tireless work of countless women. I am proud that the White House Gender Policy Council will build on those efforts by putting a laser focus on the needs and contributions of women and girls, and ensuring a Government-wide focus on gender equity. Our Administration is also committed to ensuring that women are well-represented at all levels in the executive branch: already, we have selected a record number of women who represent the diversity of America to serve in Cabinetlevel positions.

During Women's History Month, let us honor the accomplished and visionary women who have helped build our country, including those whose contributions have not been adequately recognized and celebrated. And let us pay tribute to the trailblazers from the recent and distant past for daring to envision a future for which no past precedent existed, and for building a Nation of endless possibilities for all of its women and girls.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim March 2021 as Women's History Month. I call upon all Americans to observe this month and to celebrate International Women's Day on March 8, 2021, with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities. I also invite all Americans to visit to learn more about the vital contribution of women to our Nation's history.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR.

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

PROJECT #1347 (SANITARY CONTRACT-938)– PROJECT AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE ON SC938 FOR HEADWORKS IMPROVEMENT AT PATAPSCO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

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 Sanitary Contract 938 Headworks Improvements at Patapsco Wastewater Treatment Plant. One contract will be awarded for a period of 3.5 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 Facilities Rehabilitation and Construction at Wastewater Treatment Plants.

*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, Electrical NEC and standards.

*Experience in providing field inspection staff with experience with change orders and claims analysis.

*Experience with Critical Path Method construction scheduling, Primavera version

Legal Notice

6 scheduling software, and 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 \$5,000,000 for a period of 3.5 years. If further information is required regarding this request, please contact Mr. Gurminder Singh at 410-396-5385.

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. 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 (**address above**). The Federal Form 255 and the five copies must be submitted on or before 12:00 P.M. (NOON) on

Legal Notice

Friday April 16, 2021. Submittals may not be accepted after this deadline.

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 Certification

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.

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 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).

Additional Requirements

A firm submitting as a prime consultant that fails to comply with the requirements of Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City

Legal Notice

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, 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.

PLEASE NOTE: Failure to follow instructions of this advertisement (RFP) or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Deena Joyce, AEAC Executive Secretary Chief, Office of Boards and Commissions

To place Legal Notices in The Baltimore Times, call the Legals Department Phone: 410-366-3900 email: legals@btimes.com

CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION

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

PROJECT # 1332 – ADMINISTRATION AND MAINTENANCE BUILDING REHABILITATION AT PATAPSCO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

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 design ENGINEERING SERVICES for the Administration and Maintenance Building Rehabilitation at Patapsco Wastewater Treatment Plant. One (1) firm will be selected to perform this project managed by the Office of Engineering and Construction.

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

*Experience in the evaluation; preparation of preliminary engineering reports and design of rehabilitation work on existing administration and maintenance buildings to conform to current life safety and ADA requirements; replace/rehabilitate the HVAC and Plumbing systems; upgrade Electrical power, lighting, control and communications systems; and upgrade the interior finishes of the various office space, common areas and maintenance areas.

*Experience in completing rehabilitation of existing occupied buildings including development of innovative methods to upgrade, repair and replace existing system to improve system efficiency and reliability while maintaining plant operations during construction.

*Manpower availability and ability to complete assignments within time and budget.

*Experience in preparation of Bid Documents and Cost Estimates including QA/QC procedures to be performed at critical stages.

*Overall team approach to utilize, manage, and coordinate assigned tasks of the Minority/Women Business Enterprises partners to conform to City MBE/WBE goals.

Legal Notices

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 and permit applications.

The engineering services will be for a period of 2 years and the estimated cost of these services is \$1,200,000.00. At the option of the City, the consultant may subsequently be considered for post award engineering services.

Should you have any questions regarding the scope of the Project, please contact Mr. Gurminder Singh at (410) 396-5385 or by email at 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

<u>All firms</u> listed in the specific proposal for the Project <u>must</u> 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. 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.

Legal Notices

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 (**address above**). The Federal Form 255 and the five copies must be submitted on or before 12:00 P.M. (NOON) on **Friday April 16, 2021**. Submittals may not be accepted after this deadline.

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 **17%** The WBE goal is **9%**

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

Legal Notices

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 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.

Legal Notice — Project #1332 Continued on page 15

Legal Notice — Project #1332 Continued from page 14

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 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.

PLEASE NOTE: Failure to follow instructions of this advertisement (RFP) or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Deena Joyce, AEAC Executive Secretary Chief, Office of Boards and Commissions

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CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE

PROJECT NO. 1352 - WET WEATHER FLOW PLANNING AND OPTIMIZATION STUDY

The City of Baltimore Office of Boards and Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Office of Engineering and Construction (OEC), to advertise for the services of engineering and technology-focused firms to provide data analytics, hydraulic modeling, design, and engineering services in order to design and implement an optimized wet weather control strategy for City of Baltimore's wastewater collection system and treatment facilities. The control strategy is expected to begin with a short term evaluation study followed by, at the sole discretion of the City, an implementation of the control strategy studied.

Baltimore City is planning to identify opportunities for wet weather sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) mitigation measures that would result from the application of a suitable control strategy. The overall goal is to

Legal Notices

develop control strategies that allow for real time operation and optimization of the existing collection system infrastructure thereby reducing capital expenditures associated with large scale sewer pipe enhancements.

The City plans to implement this project in two phases. Phase 1 consists of a short and limited desktop analysis to characterize the existing system, and identify opportunities for City-wide sewer system control and optimization. Additionally, Phase 1 is anticipated to look at optimization opportunities that minimizes the need for pipe upsizing through a highly congested downtown corridor. The results of the studies in Phase 1 would be owned by the City to be used as needed. The only exceptions would be intellectual property that is subject to non-disclosure agreements. Following evaluation of the control and optimization opportunities derived from Phase I, the City may elect to activate Phase 2. Phase 2 consists of a full implementation of the control and optimization strategy for the sanitary sewer system.

Phase 1 deliverables include a technical memorandum document that clearly depicts:

*Identification of control strategies that allow the real time operation of the system in an integrated, holistic fashion through the use of machine-learning, data analytics, and hydraulic modeling.

*Determination of Return on Investment (ROI) of the control strategies and the automated system,

*Reduction of sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) and basement backup incidences during large wet weather events that would result from the application of control strategies and automated systems,

*Reduction of SSO spills at treatment plants during large wet weather events that would result from the application of control strategies and automated systems,

*Optimization opportunities during dry weather flow based on facilities treatment capabilities, capacity, cost, and other criteria,

*Optimization opportunities of the existing and proposed collection system capacity

during periods of large wet-weather events, *Optimization opportunities of the operations of the existing pumping stations within the collection system both during dry and wet weather events,

*Other flow management and simulation scenarios that enhance the hydraulic performance of the City's collection system and treatment facilities.

Legal Notices

The City intends to select a qualified firm who would be awarded contract to perform both Phase 1 and 2 services. Based on the results of Phase 1 and only at the discretion of the City, Phase 2 may be activated with the same firm that is selected. That is to say, there would be no further procurement process for Phase 2 services. All responders to this RFP should be prepared to fully implement the Phase 2 work in the event the City decides to proceed. Necessary contractual documents for the Phase 2 work will have to be agreed to by the City and the selected firm.

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

1. Expertise in developing control strategies that allow the real time operation of collection systems in an integrated, holistic fashion through the use of existing and new instrumentation, communication networks, and software.

2. Experience in the implementation of Real Time Decision Support System (RT-DSS) that will operate existing infrastructure with the ability to build out for future planned infrastructure.

3. Experience in the design and utilization of real time data and integrated control strategies that allow the City to optimize the performance of its existing and new facilities.

4. Experience in extracting the maximum value from existing or future storage, conveyance and treatment assets through a globally coordinated RT-DSS.

5. Experience in control strategy that generates actionable insights for a highly informed decision.

6. Experience in recommending physical improvements to existing, or planned, facilities required for the Modified Consent Decree compliance.

7. Experience in developing and recommending hardware/software and control system logic that integrates field I/O from remote sites, existing and planned, and weather forecasting information, to implement a coordinated, integrated system wide operational control strategy.

8. Experience in utilizing machine learning based algorithms to continuously integrate field data from remote instrumentation and generate real time operational recommendations for successful system operation during wet weather events.

9. Experience in recommending necessary instrumentation network, communications backbone, hardware, software, and operational control facilities, to include any

Legal Notices

hydraulic control points required to implement the operational control strategies in order to accurately characterize current system conditions, characterize system response to weather conditions, and inform system models to reduce uncertainty and conservatism.

10. Experience in providing a system-wide visualization of the collection system that allows City personnel to view system status during wet weather events, provides flow predictions at key locations, and allows staff to operate system in optimal fashion.

11. Experience in providing modeling capabilities that allow the City personnel to run what-if scenarios for operator training and to compare real time results from previous storms to simulation results.

12. Experience in the utilization of instrumentation data, probabilistic weather ensemble data, and real time operations models in modeling and wet weather operational system applications.

13. Experience in the use of advanced data analytics and machine learning to develop highly accurate system response predictions. 14. Experience in deploying an integrated smart sewer application in a web-based cloud platform and within a secure system on premises.

15. Experience in developing knowledge management processes, City staff training and project repositories.

The City reserves the right to have a second interview with eligible consulting firms.

The City intends to select the service of one (1) firm for a period of 3 months to execute Phase 1 at an estimated fee not to exceed \$50,000.00. Contingent on the results of Phase 1 and completely at the discretion of the City, Phase 2 will be activated with the same firm for a period of 2 years with an option to extend for a 2-year additional term. The estimated fee for Phase 2 should not exceed \$5,000,000.00.

DPW encourages consulting firms that have the experience and capacity to work on this scope submit their proposals. All firms must demonstrate and document their capacity and resources to deliver the required services on time.

Should you have any questions regarding the scope of the project, please contact **Jemil Yesuf at 443.400.4451** or by e-mail at Jemil.Yesuf@baltimorecity.gov.

Legal Notice — Project #1352 Continued on page 16

Legal Notice — Project #1352 Continued from page 15

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. 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 (**address above**). The Federal Form 255 and the five copies must be submitted on or before 12:00 P.M. (NOON) on **Friday April 16, 2021**. Submittals may not be accepted after this deadline.

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.

Legal Notices

Phase 1: The MBE goal is 0% The WBE goal is 0%

Phase 2: 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

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 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: *The firm has a financial interest in the MBE or WBE

*The firm has an interest in the ownership or control of the MBE or WBE

*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 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 for detailed on the requirements of the law.

Legal Notices

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 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 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, organization chart, etc. All such information should be incorporated into the 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.

PLEASE NOTE: Failure to follow instructions of this advertisement (RFP) or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Deena Joyce, AEAC Executive Secretary Chief, Office of Boards and Commissions

> To place Legal Notices, Phone: 410-366-3900 email: legals@btimes.com

Legal Notices

CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATON CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE PROJECT 1354

STAFFING OF PROJECT CONTROLS OFFICE FOR DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The City of Baltimore Office of Boards and Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works to certify the qualification of consulting engineering firms to provide Project Controls Services. These services will address various planning, scheduling, document management, invoicing, project controls, project tracking, training, claim reviews, delay analysis, and project management software support, etc. related to DPW activities, which are primarily design and construction projects for Office of Engineering and Construction.

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

*Experience in providing planning and project control services for large public works programs related to Public Works projects including water and wastewater and solid waste.

*Experience in the installation, initial set up, and maintenance of Contract Management 14, Oracle Unifier, and Oracle P6 including troubleshooting, patching, and customized report development.

*Experience in preparing and updating project schedules using Oracle P6, including creating, updating, cost and resource loading, and reporting for projects in various stages of design from planning to construction.

*Experience in document control system for all documents using Contract Management 14 and Oracle Unifier including design submittal, review comments, schedules, RFI's, as-built drawings, construction submittals, invoices etc.

*Experience in the training of and technical support for administrators and end users of Contract Management 14, Oracle Unifier, and Oracle P6.

*Experience in developing customized reports and dashboards using BI Publisher, Contract Management 14 and Oracle Unifier.

*Experience in delay analysis and claim reviews for construction projects, especially

Legal Notice — Project #1354 Continued on page 17

Legal Notice — Project #1354 Continued from page 16

in the areas of water and wastewater and solid waste.

*Experience in the coordination of a multidisciplined team including Minority and Women Business Enterprises and demonstrated manpower availability to complete the project.

The scope of services will include but not limited to:

*Maintenance of existing Contract Management 14 and Oracle P6, as well as support for upcoming Oracle Unifier, including the troubleshooting, setup of document management systems, report design and generation, development of metrics, etc.

*Populate Contract Management 14 and Oracle Unifier modules with all current and future Department of Public Works projects.

*Creating and updating project schedules and customized reports and look ahead schedules.

*Provide full time, onsite scheduling services reviewing contractor's schedules and performing delay analysis

*Provide full time, onsite support to Project Management Team by reporting, analyzing, and documenting metrics.

*Provide onsite training and support for Contract Management 14, Oracle Unifier, and Oracle P6 and BI Publisher.

DPW reserves the right to have a second interview with eligible consulting firms.

The agency intends to select 1 firm. The service would be for 2 years for a fee not exceeding \$3 million, plus the option of 3 additional one-year extensions at \$1.5 million per year.

Should you have any questions regarding the scope of the Project, please contact Ms. Cristina Baltazar at (410) 396-4700 or by e-mail at Cristina.Baltazar@Baltimorecity.gov.

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

Prequalification Requirement

All firms listed in the specific proposal for

Legal Notice

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. 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 **(address above)**. The Federal Form 255 and the five copies must be submitted on or before 12:00 P.M. (NOON) on **Friday April 16, 2021.** Submittals may not be accepted after this deadline.

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

Legal Notices

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

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 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 owner ship 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 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

Legal Notices

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 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, organization chart, etc. All such information should be incorporated into the 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.

PLEASE NOTE: Failure to follow instructions of this advertisement (RFP) or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Deena Joyce, AEAC Executive Secretary Chief, Office of Boards and Commissions

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CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION

CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE

PROJECT NO. 1358 - VALVE AND FIRE HYDRANT ASSESSMENT OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The City of Baltimore Office of Boards and Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Office of Asset Management, to advertise for a service provider firm specializing in water system valve and fire hydrant assessment, operation and maintenance; and wastewater system valves & flow diversion gates assessments, operation and maintenance. The work will be performed throughout the Baltimore Metropolitan Infrastructure Systems in Baltimore City and Baltimore County, Maryland. The City intends to select the services of one (1) firm.

The selected team is expected to possess the necessary experience and own all necessary inspection tools and resources that will permit the timely completion of assignments under this project.

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

1. Water distribution asset management; complaint resolution; water and wastewater valve & flow diversion gates assessment, operations and maintenance, ranging between 2 and 120 inches in size; Assessment, operation, and maintenance of water system fire hydrants; In-situ assessment and repair of large valves, 16 inches in size and larger.

2. Responding to emergencies associated with water main breaks and leaks. Preparing and executing planned shutdowns in support of water main renewal, replacement and assessment projects. Conducting fire flow tests, flushing, large meter pitot testing, and leak detection of water mains. Providing infield or classroom training to City crews if required.

3. Ability to handle large data sets and leverage it to draw conclusions about the condition of the system. Electronic collection of field data associated with assessment, operation, and maintenance of valves and fire hydrants, and data integration into GIS.

Legal Notices

4. Experience with Federal, State and Local regulations and permitting requirements.

5. Experience in developing and managing an overall contract team with both Minority and Women Business Enterprises throughout the duration of the project. Demonstration of meeting or exceeding minority goals on previous projects performed is desirable.

6. Execution of similar scope projects within the last 5 years.

DPW reserves the right to have a second interview with eligible firms.

The services would be for a two (2) year period at an estimated fee of \$8,000,000 with an option to extend for two (2) additional one (1) year terms.

DPW encourages firms having the specified experience and expertise that have the capacity to deliver the specified work in this scope, to submit their proposals.

Should you have any questions regarding the scope of the Project, please contact Mr. Harpreet Singh at (410) 396-0009 or by email at Harpreet.Singh@baltimorecity.gov.

Projects must comply with the standard 2006 edition of "The Specifications for Materials, Highways, Bridges, Utilities and Incidental Structures". City personnel will utilize these specifications the 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 <u>must</u> 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:

Legal Notices

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 (**address above**). The Federal Form 255 and the five copies must be submitted on or before 12:00 P.M. (NOON) on **Friday April 16, 2021**. Submittals may not be accepted after this deadline.

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 proposed Minority and Women's Business Enterprise firms must be named in the proposal identified as an MBE or WBE. The recommended percentage shall be reflected within Item 6 of the Standard Form (SF) 255 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 rejected from further consideration for this project.

Verifying Certification

Each firm submitting a SF 255 for consideration for this project is responsible for verifying that all MBEs and WBEs to be utilized on the project are certified by the

Legal Notices

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).

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 of prequalification from the City of Baltimore for a period not to exceed two (2) years; and payment for damages incurred by the City.

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 for detailed 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; disquali-

Legal Notice — Project #1358 Continued on page 19

Legal Notice — Project #1358 Continued from page 18

fication of prequalification from the City of Baltimore 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 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, 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.

PLEASE NOTE: Failure to follow instructions of this advertisement (RFP) or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Deena Joyce, AEAC Executive Secretary Chief, Office of Boards and Commissions

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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 19810 – Lexington Street Garage Repairs,** will be received at the

Office of the Comptroller, Room 204, City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. on **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021.** 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. The bids will be publicly opened by the Board of Estimates in Room 215, City Hall at Noon. Bid opening proceedings can be viewed live at

https://www.charmtvbaltimore.com/livestream at 12:00 noon.

The Contract Documents may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **\$50.00** by sending a letter to the Department of General Services, Capital and Energy Projects Division, Suite 204, 200 Holliday Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, Att. Ms. Azza Rizkallah **as of FRIDAY, MARCH 05, 2021.** In the letter, include a \$50 check

addressed to the Director of Finance, and a Fedex Acc. No. in order to ship the documents to your office.

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

Legal Notices

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"), then in that event, the documents that establish the JV shall be submitted with the bid for verification purposes. The Prequalification Category required for bidding on this project is G90039 – CONCRETE & MASONRY STRUCTURAL REPAIRS The Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be \$100,000.01 to \$500,000.00 A" Pre-Bidding information" session will be conducted at the site: 510 E. Lexington St. Baltimore, MD 21201 on TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. All attendees are required to wear a face mask and maintain social distancing at all times during the pre-bid meeting.

Principal Items of work for this project are:

Concrete & Masonry Repairs
 Epoxy Patching and Injection
 Waterproofing

The MBE goal is **3.15%** The WBE goal is **1.83%**

CONTRACT NO. GS 19810

APPROVED: <u>Erika McClammy</u> Clerk, Board of Estimates

APPROVED: <u>Chichi Nyagah-Nash</u> Director, Department of General Services



Colgate launches The Bright Smiles Kids Awards

New York— A toothy tune, a dental dish or a scientific smile? Anything is possible in Colgate's Bright Smiles Kids Awards, which will unleash the creativity of young people to inspire healthy dental habits and celebrate National Children's Dental Health Month.

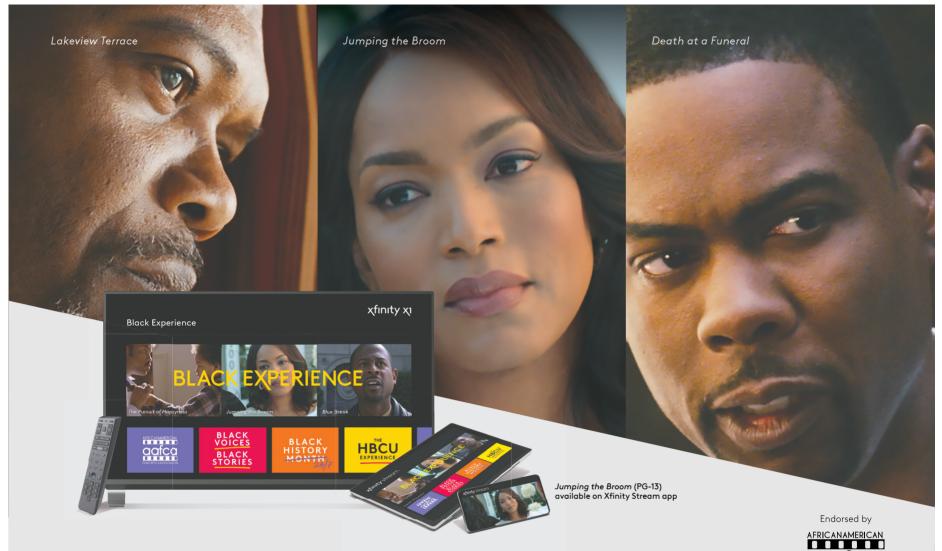
Hosted by Bright Smiles, Bright Futures (BSBF)®, Colgate's children's oral health education initiative, the Bright Smiles Kids Awards is accepting entries from groups of children— ages six to 14 who submit videos, or slide presentations of musical, scientific, artistic, journalistic, technology-focused, culinary or other projects highlighting the importance of oral health. Children must be enrolled in schools, clubs, after school programs or activities hosted by formal organizations.

Submissions will be reviewed by local advisory panel; and grants of up to \$1,000 will be awarded to the schools or organizations supporting winners in Colgate BSBF's nine regions. A first-place national award winner and two runnersup – eligible for up to \$5,000 in grants – will be determined by a live public vote at the Bright Smiles Kids Awards event presented virtually in May.

Entries should include a video or slide presentation, up to two minutes long, that showcases and describes the project. All entries require the signed support of a school or formal organization. They must also be submitted to the Colgate Bright Smiles Kids Awards website: https://bit.ly/colgatekidsawards. YouTube video URLs will also be accepted.

"Looking at the world through the eyes of children, there are limitless opportunities to inspire the change we want to see in the world. Colgate understands that good oral health is one of the building blocks to a bright future. We are enlisting children to help raise awareness, encourage their friends and families to maintain healthy teeth and gums, and pursue a Zero Cavity Future, said," said Dr. Gillian Barclay, Colgate's Vice President Global Public Health and Scientific Affairs.

The deadline for submitting entries to the Bright Smiles Kids Awards is March 19, 2021. Terms and conditions for the program and additional information are available on the awards website and via https://bit.ly/bska-rules-regulations.



A new beautiful Black experience.

Every color, every hue, and every tone. Introducing **Black Experience on Xfinity**. A first-of-its-kind channel where you choose what's on. Catch it on TV, online, and stream it – best of all, it's included with your Xfinity service. Get fast Internet on the largest Gig-speed network. Get it all and the ultimate in Black storytelling, only on Xfinity.

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Xfinity Internet + TV



Paperless Billing and Auto Pay Required | No Term Contract Equipment, taxes, and other charges extra, and subject to change. See below for details. With download speeds up to 200 Mbps BLACK EXPERIENCE



Offer requires enrollment in both automatic payments and paperless billing. Must enroll within 30 days of placing the order. Without enrollment, the monthly service charge automatically increases by \$10. The automatic payment and paperless billing discount is for a period of 24 months and will appear on the bill within 30 days of enrolling. If either automatic payments or paperless billing are subsequently canceled during the 24-month term, or services are reduced to Xfinity TV Limited Basic service. Equipment, installation, taxes and fees, including Broadcast TV Fee (up to \$19.45/mo.), and other applicable charges extra, and subject to change during and after promo. After 12 mos, speed reduced from Performance Pro 200 Mbps Internet is table in all areas. New residential customers only. Limited to ta dd Performance Pro 200 Mbps Internet is carcie is canceled or downgraded, regular rates apply to Choice Double Play. Concast's service charge for Choice Double Play. Status of addition to the other service is canceled or downgraded, regular rates apply to Choice Double Play. Concast's service charge for Choice Double Play. Status of the choice pouble Play. Status of the choice bouble Play. Concast's service charge for Choice Double Play. Status of the choice could performance Pro 200 Mbps to charge. Service limited to a single outlet. May not be combined with other offers. **TV**: Limited Basic service subscription required to receive other levels of service. Internet: Actual speeds vary and are not guaranteed. For factors affecting speed visit xfinity.com/networkmanagement. All devices must be returned when service ends. Call for restrictions and complete details. ©2021 Concast. All rights Reserved. Individual programs and marks are the property of their respective owners. Lakeview Terrace ©2008 Screen Gems, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Death at a Funeral ©2010 Screen Gems, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Watch these titles and more on Xfinity On Demand. Celebrity endorsement not implied. NPA234633-0001 NED AAQ1 BE54DPV2