Dear Industry Partner,

During these challenging times, we want to share information that will help create opportunities for our signatory contractors and our membership by way of federally funded/driven construction projects. Moreover, we want to be sure that we are all prepared to take advantage of work coming that will be critical for our industries, for our country, and for our communities, not just now, but also in the months to come.

Provided below are opportunities to bid, as well as opportunities to make your bid more competitive. Here are three things you can do to help improve your chances of securing that bid:

1) **WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW:** Check out actively bidding construction opportunities and get registered for emergency contracts.
   - [This toolkit](#) provides a list of available construction bidding opportunities.
   - Get registered as a Federal Contractor.
     - [Go to SAM.gov and get registered](#) so that you don’t miss out on government contracts, this if the first step for getting involved in any federal contracts.
     - Be prepared and register and participate in the Disaster Response Registry in order to be on the list of contractors available to respond to when national emergencies or disasters occur. The Army Corps of Engineers has additional information on their use of the Disaster Response Registry.
     - [Register as a FEMA contractor](#) to help respond to pandemics, fires, hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, tornadoes or any other large-scale disaster.
     - Monitor Contracting Opportunities on SAM.gov, the linked search filters out anything that mentions construction, but you can also filter for other keywords, specific bids dates, by organization, and other criteria.
     - FedBid is now Unison Marketplace, a fully managed online marketplace connecting Sellers to federal and commercial opportunities. [Register at www.fedbid.com/](#).

2) **WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE:** Certify your eligible business to take advantage of Public/Private bidding participation programs:
   - Federal
     - Women Owned Businesses - The federal government’s goal is to award at least five percent of all federal contracting dollars to women-owned small businesses each year. Learn more and apply here.
• Disadvantaged Business - 8(a) Business Development program - The federal government's goal is to award at least five percent of all federal contracting dollars to small disadvantaged businesses each year. Learn more and apply here.
• Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Businesses - The federal government's goal is to award at least three percent of all federal contracting dollars to service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses each year. Learn more and apply here.
• HUBZone – Businesses located in historically underutilized business zones may qualify for benefits. The federal government's goal is to award at least three percent of all federal contracting dollars to HUBZone-certified small businesses each year. Check out this HUBZone map to see if your business is located in a HUBzone. If it is, you may qualify. Learn more and apply here.
• All Small Mentor-Protégé program – Under the All Small program small business can joint venture with larger more experienced government contractors to qualify for bids. Learn more and apply here.
• Department of Defense
  • The Department of Defense offers a number of programs to assist businesses in qualifying for bids, including the Mentor-Protégé Program for small businesses and the Indian Incentive Program (IIP) for Native American owned businesses. Learn more and apply here.
• Department of Transportation
  • The Department of Transportation offers a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise uniform certification application that can help with attaining contracts at the Federal and State levels. Learn more and apply here.
• California
  • California Small Businesses and Disabled Veteran Business may receive bid preferences and/or other benefits on public contracts. Learn more and apply here.
  • The California Public Utilities Commission requires utilities to maintain supplier diversity through several different certifications. Learn more and apply here.
• Nevada
  • Emerging Small Businesses in Nevada can gain assistance in obtaining work with the state and local government agencies. Learn more and apply here.
• Arizona
  • The Arizona Department of Transportation offers incentives to Small Businesses. Learn more and apply here.
  • The City of Phoenix has additional benefits for Small Businesses located within Maricopa County. Learn more and apply here.
• Colorado
The City of Denver, Colorado recognizes and provide benefits for several types of local business certifications. Learn more and apply here.

- New Mexico
  - New Mexico offers a Resident Business and a Veteran Preference Business/Contractor Certificate program. Learn more and apply here.

3) **BE PREPARED:** WE WANT TO ADVERTISE FOR YOU. We maintain contractor lists to provide to anyone offering work — be it Developers, Construction Managers, General Contractors, or Contractors looking for Subcontractors — but to do that right we need to have up-to-date information. Please fill out the linked survey by April 3, 2020 so that we can have your information available to offer in response to any bid opportunities we receive.

As we get through this health crisis together, we want to be sure we are all positioned to do the work that will be necessary to rebuild our cities, our communities, and our industry. Please stay tuned to https://www.swcarpenters.org/covid19/ for the latest updates, resources and FAQs.

If you have any questions, please reach out to our Contracts department: Contracts@swcarpenters.org.

Stay safe, stay healthy!

Fraternally,

Dan Langford
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters