

**EQUITY IN CONTRACTING IS MORE THAN GIVING A DBE A CONTRACT.
IT IS PAYING THE DBE FOR WORK & MATERIALS CONTRACTED.**

2022-2023 FOCUS AREAS

PRICE ESCALATION & Supply Chain Issues

Pandemic, climate incidents, and a war in Europe caused unprecedented price increases – as much as 400%. Contracting practices are to deny any change in price requests for a project under contract. No exceptions have or will be made, even in this volatile market. Contractors were required to pay out of pocket for the extreme cost increases on government owned projects. The effects on women, and minority owned businesses have been the most severe.

Pandemic relief funds should have protected these essential businesses. AWC is seeking assistance for those that were impacted, and solutions to protect them in the future.

Small Business GOAL ENFORCEMENT

Government small, underutilized business programs were designed to assist minority and women owned businesses with access to contract opportunities. AWC oversees public projects with diversity spend goals to ensure adherence to the regulations. We need civil rights offices to strictly enforce these programs. Too many loopholes exist for contractors to play “games” with their contracts.

We would like to see stronger regulations and enforcement for these programs to work. Without this, the IIJA funding will not help small businesses.



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ABOUT US

The Association of Women Contractors is a trade association in Minnesota representing women and minority owned businesses in the construction industry. Since 1995, AWC has been providing education, networking, and advocacy to its membership. Our approach in advocacy is to look at all sides of an issue and identify solutions that work for the entire industry to create fundamental change for equity in construction contracting.

