



# Women Entrepreneurs, America's MVPs

By Erin Andrew, SBA Official

As a nine-year-old, problem solving for me took the form of imitating my baseball idols Mark Grace, Andre Dawson, and Ryne Sandberg of the Chicago Cubs. Watching a Little League game, I realized most of the kids were slowly running the bases after a hit, not allowing teams to rack up the points they could have been.

Motivated by the need to solve this slow-running problem and an understanding of the skills I brought to the table—a fast sprint for a nine-year-old—I decided to join Little League. I was one of two girls in the league, but I sprinted around those bases. The boys followed suit and started to actually “run” the bases. Problem solved! It was the first time I understood my power. As I got older, my fierce run slowed to a jog and by the age of thirteen, I gave up on my shot at ever being a Chicago Cub.

Still to this day, I thank my parents for giving me that chance. That chance to play with the boys when social norms might not have made it an option. That opportunity leveled the playing field

for me and demolished the false perception in my mind that gender should play a role in limiting my dreams. Today, for many young girls, the playing field has been leveled and women have demonstrated their ability to compete in business and help make our American economy stronger and even more diverse.

Just a few decades ago, women could not get a business loan without a male co-signer. Now, women make up the fastest-growing group of business owners in this country.

Let's take a moment to recognize some amazing women entrepreneurs. Entrepreneurs like our National Small Business Persons of the Year award winners Brooke McDonnell and Helen Russell, owners of Equator Coffees and Teas in San Rafael, California. The company started twenty-one years ago in Brooke's garage and now has ninety employees, three hundred fifty wholesale customers, and three retail stores in Northern California, with two more on the way. The SBA helped their company find success by backing a loan that enabled them to buy their own roasting plant.



Women have a lot to celebrate. Our numbers are strong, with nearly ten million women entrepreneurs in the US, an almost twenty-seven percent increase from 2007. According to the Census Bureau, women-owned businesses account for more than thirty-six

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## Sub-Bid Requests

**Railroad Construction Company, Inc.**  
Contractors - Engineers  
Est. 1926

**LIRR - PN - TU - Jamaica Capacity Improvements Phase I**  
Contract #6185

Joint venture partners Railroad Construction Co. and Citnalta Construction Corp. are bidding this Long Island Railroad project consisting of various improvements to the Jamaica Station. Work will include a full platform replacement and substructure rehabilitation, installation of elevators, escalators and street-to-platform aluminum stairs, construction of platform level waiting rooms, translucent canopy roof system and drainage, installation of lighted signage and upgraded electrical service.

**Bid Date: May 24, 2016**      **DBE Participation Goal: 17%**  
We invite all DBE's to contact us at 973-413-1832.

**Railroad / Citnalta - A Joint Venture is seeking subcontractors in the following categories:**

• Acoustical Insulation	• Fire Suppression / Extinguishers	• Restoration
• Abatement	• Glass / Glazing / Storefront	• Roofing
• Aggregates	• HVAC	• Sealants / Waterproofing
• Architectural Finishes	• Infrastructure	• Shotcrete
• CCTV System	• Janitorial Services	• Site Security
• Construction Materials	• Lath & Plaster	• Structural Concrete & Reinforcement
• Construction Photography	• Louvers	• Structural Steel & Misc. Metals
• Contaminated Waste Disposal	• Masonry	• Survey
• Demolition	• Materials Testing & Inspection	• Tile / Terrazzo
• Doors & Hardware	• Metal Wall Panels	• Toilet Accessories
• Electrical	• Office Facilities & Supplies	• Track
• Engineering	• Painting & Coating	• Traffic Control
• Environmental Consulting	• Pest Control	• Trucking
• Escalator / Elevator	• Precast Concrete	• Utilities
• Fencing	• Railings	• Welding

For more information please contact  
Dale Errico at 973-413-1832 or DaleE@rcmail.net  
Catherine Best at 973-413-1911 or CatherineB@rcmail.net  
Railroad Construction Company, Inc. is an EEO/AA Employer

**SKANSKA**  
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**IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK STATE CERTIFIED DBE SUBCONTRACTORS/VENDORS**  
**Design and Construction of Clifton Shop in Staten Island, New York**  
**MTA New York City Transit Contract No. C-82004**  
**Bid Date: June 8, 2016**

**Description of project:**  
This project consists of the design and construction of a new rail car maintenance shop, approximately 93,300 square feet, to replace the existing multiple building facilities currently in use. The existing buildings comprising the current maintenance shop located at 845 Bay Street are to be demolished in phases under this contract so that maintenance activities can continue throughout the period of construction. The new Clifton Shop facility shall include four maintenance tracks with overhead cranes, wheel truing machine, DC power stringer system, and other maintenance-related equipment. It shall also include auxiliary spaces on the first floor for utility rooms, machine shop, and a carpenter shop; offices on the partial mezzanine floor; administrative offices, area locker rooms, and other support areas on the second floor; a supply room, storage area, and related offices on the partial third floor; and HVAC equipment on the roof.

**Subcontracting opportunities include, but are not limited to:** Demolition, Utilities, Sidewalk, Fencing, Trackwork, Metals, Masonry, Drywall, Acoustical Ceilings, Doors, Roofing, Paint, Signs, Tile, Shop Equipment, Elevators, HVAC, Plumbing, Fire Protection, Electrical Work, Trailers, Photographs, etc.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Outreach Coordinator: Julia.Omanoff@skanska.com

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**GOETHALS BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION DBE OPPORTUNITIES**

The Goethals Bridge Replacement Project is a design-build project for the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey. The project will replace the existing Goethals Bridge which spans the Arthur Kill on I-278 connecting Elizabeth, New Jersey, and Staten Island, New York. To find out more information about the Project or the Prime Contractor, and to fill out a Contractor's Questionnaire, please visit [www.goethals-kwm.com](http://www.goethals-kwm.com) and click on the Partnering tab or call 908-409-4400.

**PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES**

• Shear Stud Installation	• Anti-Climb Fence on New Bridge Shared Use Path
• Miscellaneous Metals Fabrication/ Supplier	• Sandblasting Services
• Concrete, Curb, and Gutter Flatwork	• Rail Bridge Track Work
• Carpenter Form Fabrication	• Deck Grooving
• Air Monitoring	• Miscellaneous Electrical

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For assistance in obtaining bonds, lines of credit, and/or insurance for this project, please visit our website or contact [KWMdivcontracting@kwmjv.com](mailto:KWMdivcontracting@kwmjv.com) for more information.  
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