Emerald Cities Collaborative (ECC) is a national nonprofit coalition of labor, business and community founded in 2009 to create high-road – sustainable, equitable and democratic – regional and local economies throughout the United States. We work with public, private and community organizations to advance policies, programs and projects that benefit the environment, the economy and equity inclusion.

ECC specializes in the design and implementation of diversity programs for energy, water, large construction and infrastructure projects that strengthen the resilience of our local economy and the built environment.

HOW WE APPROACH ECONOMIC INCLUSION

ECC’s Economic Inclusion Program (EIP) offers training and customized technical assistance that produce measurable outcomes. These services enable public- and private-sector entities and community partners – including private contractors, local governments, schools, universities, hospitals and other major institutions – to easily and successfully design and implement economic inclusion strategies that connect disadvantaged workers and small and minority businesses to major development projects.

WHAT WE DO

Design/Develop Diversity and Inclusion Systems

ECC works collaboratively with your team to:

- Define the project scope and approach;
- Identify and enhance existing economic inclusion policies and resources;
- Develop and institutionalize diversity/inclusion implementation tools and systems;
- Train staff and contractors to properly implement diversity/inclusion policies and procedures; and
- Identify key community partners to enhance successful outcomes.

Plan and Implement Monitoring and Compliance Systems

ECC helps you collect data and produce reports to monitor and record progress on local hiring and procurement targets. We help you:

- Identify relevant data and implement customized online (electronic) data reporting systems;
- Increase efficiencies related to collecting, storing, documenting and reporting data;
- Identify staffing and operational needs and train staff and contractors for effective monitoring and compliance; and
- Develop a proactive monitoring and compliance program with a network of local workforce and contractor service providers.

Contractor Support Services

ECC engages prime and subcontractors to effectively participate in your project’s economic inclusion program.

We:

- Orient/train contractors on project-specific economic inclusion goals and protocols;
- Outreach and recruit MBE/SBE/WBE/DBE/DVBEs;
- Address barriers to bonding, certification and access to capital; and
- Train/prequalify and support M/S/W/DBE/DVBEs to effectively compete for large-scale and public-sector projects.

Workforce Systems and Disadvantaged Worker Support

ECC helps you develop the pipeline of workers from target communities to ensure successful worker recruitment and retention, building long-term career opportunities for disadvantaged workers in high-wage construction, architecture and engineering jobs. We:

- Identify and organize workforce partnerships that include community-based training organizations, apprenticeship programs, community college programs and/or workforce investment boards;
- Facilitate the implementation of community workforce agreements;
- Connect community-based training providers with apprenticeship training systems; and
- Build the capacity of existing workforce systems to support growth sectors such as construction, manufacturing and environmental services.
SELECTED RECENT CLIENTS

- City of New Orleans, Mayors Office of Economic Development
- Los Angeles County, Office of Sustainability
- Cuyahoga County, Office of Sustainability
- City of Seattle, Office of Sustainability and the Environment
- Seattle City Light
- Mission Housing, San Francisco, California
- City of Portland Water Bureau
- Federal General Services Administration, Portland Regional Office
- Peralta Community College District/Laney College

NATIONAL AND LOCAL CONTACTS

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