



The Equity in Infrastructure Project (EIP) exists to build generational wealth and reduce the racial wealth gap by improving public infrastructure contracting practices to create more prime, joint venture and equity contracting opportunities for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs).

It secures measurable commitments through its Pledge:

Starting from the baseline of our current actions and initiatives, by December 2025, the undersigned will work to increase the number, size and percentage of HUBs growing to prime contractors, participating in joint ventures or as equity participants by:

- *Increasing the number, size and proportion of contracting opportunities going to HUBs;*
- *Increasing the number, size and proportion of contracting opportunities going to HUBs as prime contractors;*
- *Streamlining the administration of contracting with HUBs to centralize certification, improve payment time, and standardize transparent data collection;*
- *Increasing the amount and type of financing available to HUBs aiming to meet infrastructure contracts by working with private and public partners; and*
- *Expanding the number of signatories to this Pledge.*

Key achievements since EIP's public launch in April 2022 include a first-of-kind MOU between Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) and Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) to recognize each others' certified Small Business Enterprises. It's a model for others to replicate with the goal of broader reciprocity and even a national certification database.

EIP was co-founded by Phillip A. Washington, CEO of Denver International Airport, John D. Porcari, former Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation, and others in anticipation of the \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

EIP brings to life President Biden's [Justice40 Initiative](#) and his [Executive Order](#) to increase the share of diverse firms fulfilling infrastructure contracts.

Five First Mover agencies helped shape the Pledge, identify initial projects of interest, and prove the concept. EIP has since grown to include multiple public, private and non-profit sector partners, and it works closely with USDOT and other stakeholders.

Over the course of the past year, we have added additional signatories, each of which is led by a CEO committed to the work necessary to achieve the goals of the pledge.

EIP's goals for 2023 include:



1. Establishing additional certification reciprocity between agencies;
2. Identifying and creating solutions to contracting obstacles faced by HUBs;
3. Launching an accountability dashboard to monitor progress;
4. Growing the Advisory Council to include more members across industries, sectors, and backgrounds; and,
5. Developing a best practices forum.

EIP Pledge Signers

- Chicago Transit Authority, Dorval R. Carter, Jr., President
- Denver International Airport, Phillip A. Washington, CEO
- Port of Long Beach, Mario Cordero, Executive Director
- Metropolitan Water District of Southern CA, Adel H. Hagekhalil, General Manager
- Southeastern Pennsylvania Transit Authority (SEPTA), Leslie S. Richards, General Manager and CEO
- California State Transportation Agency, Dr. Toks Omishakin, Secretary
- District Dept. of Transportation, Everett Lott, Director
- Illinois Dept. of Transportation, Omer Osman, Secretary
- Kansas Dept. of Transportation, Julie Lorenz, Secretary
- Louisiana Dept. of Transportation & Development, Dr. Shawn Wilson, Secretary
- Michigan Dept. of Transportation, Brad Wieferich, Acting Director
- City and County of Denver, Michael B. Hancock, Mayor
- City of Philadelphia, Jim Kenney, Mayor

EIP Advisory Council

- Diana Mendes (Chair), Corporate President of Mobility and Infrastructure, HNTB
- Bryan Carruthers, CEO, Anser Advisory
- Greg Kelly, President and CEO, STV
- Ingrid Merriwether, President & CEO, Merriwether & Williams Insurance Services
- April Rai, President and CEO, COMTO National
- G. Ramnujam, CEO, SOMAT
- Paul Skoutelas, President and CEO, American Public Transportation Association (APTA)
- Eve Williams, President, Dikita Enterprises
- Eboni Wimbush, President and CEO, Airport Minority Advisory Council (AMAC)
- Robert Puentes, President and CEO, Eno Center for Transportation
- Steve Hall, Senior Vice President for Advocacy and External Affairs at the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC)
- Rebecca Zofnass, Managing Partner, Environmental Financial Consulting Group (EFCG)
- Wilbur C. Milhouse III, PE, Chairman and CEO of Milhouse Engineering and Construction, Inc.
- Dr. Leroy D. Nunery II, President, Evolution Advisors, LLC



- Esther McGinnis, Executive Vice President & Director of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG), Gannett Fleming

Generous Supporters

- Anser Advisory
- EFCG
- Gannett Fleming
- HNTB
- Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation
- The James Irvine Foundation
- Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs
- Social Impact Fund
- STV
- United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners