

The MDOT MTA Purple Line DBE team is here to:



Support DBE and other small and minority – owned businesses contracted on the Purple Line project.



Ensure Purple Line contracting opportunities are made available to MDOT certified DBE firms.



Monitor DBE program participation and workforce compliance for all Purple Line contracted firms.

The MDOT MTA is committed to delivering a DBE program for the Purple Line project that empowers and supports DBE firms. MDOT certified DBE firms are employed to perform meaningful services in the design and construction phases along the project alignment.

The program's goals of 26% for Design Services and 22% for Construction Services are accomplished by working with the Purple Line Design-Builder to establish successful relationships with certified DBE firms and small and minority business advocacy groups along the project corridor.

Welcome to the Team



Marcques, Washington
Purple Line DBE/MBE Civil Rights
Compliance Director

Marcques L. Washington joined the Maryland Transit Administration as the MBE/DBE Civil Rights Compliance Director on the Purple Line Project. As a native of New Jersey, Mr. Washington matriculated at Hampton University, his “*Home by the Sea*” and the undisputed “*Real HU*”, where he earned his degree in architecture. Early in his professional career, Mr. Washington worked in New York where his architecture efforts were predominantly focused in the areas of domestic and international design.

In his current position, Mr. Washington will provide senior management oversight for the Purple Line’s Minority/ Disadvantage Business Enterprise (M/DBE), Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO), and Davis-Bacon Prevailing Wage compliance programs. In his previous capacity, Mr. Washington has successfully performed compliance monitoring on Prime contractor payments, totaling \$918M in 2016 to \$4.2B at the end of 2020 on the Silver Line Project. Mr. Washington has also performed goal settings on ACDBE, DBE, SBE, and LDBE solicitations ranging from \$50,000 to \$2,000,000. Mr. Washington has performed Post-Award Compliance Review Audits and Investigations ranging 5 years in payments to on-site work performance verification.

For the past 11 years, Mr. Washington has called Prince George’s County home. While not working, you can catch him spending time with his family, learning something new, and inserting music lyrics and movie quotes into everyday conversations.

What's New



With the recent appointment of Maryland Transit Solutions (MTS) as the new Purple Line Design-Builder, there will be additional opportunities for MDOT certified DBEs and small businesses to provide meaningful services throughout the construction process.

MTS is comprised of Dragados USA Inc. and OHL USA Inc. MTS brings strong leadership experience and a track record of completing major and complex infrastructure and delivering transit projects. MDOT is confident MTS will deliver a completed project in the shortest time possible. To learn more about the Maryland Board of Public Work’s recent approval of the Purple Line P3 agreement modification, visit the Purple Line website at: <https://purplelinemd.com/media-docs/press-releases>

To share your interests in participating on the Purple Line project and to review additional information about the new Design-Builder, visit Maryland Transit Solutions’ website at: <https://marylandtransitsolutions.com>



Empire Landscape, LLC is a Maryland based company that specializes within multiple fields of environmental restoration. Founded in 2005 with the mission to promote ecological stewardship for the indigenous ecosystems in the mid-Atlantic region, Empire has participated in and provided natural resource management to such regional projects as Stormwater management planting at Frederick Douglas Memorial Bridge Project; Non-native invasive species management, erosion and sediment controls, meadow establishment, and reforestation at TMDL Stream Restoration of Israel Creek and MD 355 over Bennett Creek Bridge Replacement.

When asked to share an example of a successfully executed obligation, Owner Lynette Scaffidi shared, *"Empire's recent stream restoration project with the Audubon Naturalist Society proved most memorable for our team because the finish product not only provided sustainable ecological resources to the native habitat, but also included accessibility, inclusion, and educational opportunities to the surrounding community."*



Since June of 2019, the local DBE/MBE/SBE firm has supported the Purple Line with a team of industry professionals who address and mitigate environmental and ecological disturbances. This project has entailed various construction phases for which Empire has provided management and installation of the extensive network of erosion and sediment control systems throughout the 16-mile Purple Line alignment. Additionally, Empire expertly performed and executed the native landscape architecture in the Purple Line adjacent areas of Ken Gar Palisades Wetland and Paint Branch Stream in Montgomery County.

Empire attributes the team's outstanding past performances to the company's hardworking, knowledgeable, and skilled employees. Scaffidi states, *"Restoring ecosystems will always be our passion and our focus. With our highly trained team of construction-based environmentalists and natural resources specialists, Empire will continue to grow into wider fields of restoration work and look to expand our geographical reach to help provide a greater volume of habitat restoration to the mid-Atlantic region."*

Because our team is so immensely important, our hope is that by expanding our scope of environmental work and moving into new jurisdictions, Empire can continue to grow its team. Most of our veteran team members started out as laborers or interns, and through Empire's commitment to education and certification, these individuals have become invaluable assets to the team at large and are stewards to the Empire mission."

Empire Landscape's continued success on the Purple Line project exhibits the MDOT MTA DBE program's commitment to effective partnerships and support of small businesses. To learn more about Empire Landscape, LLC, visit their website at: www.empirelandscapellc.com



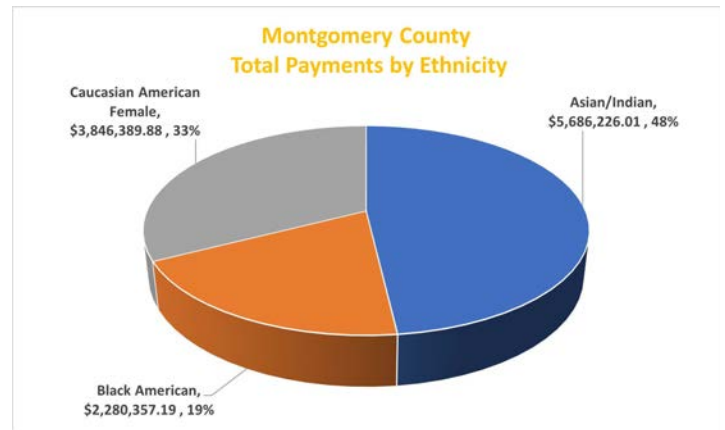
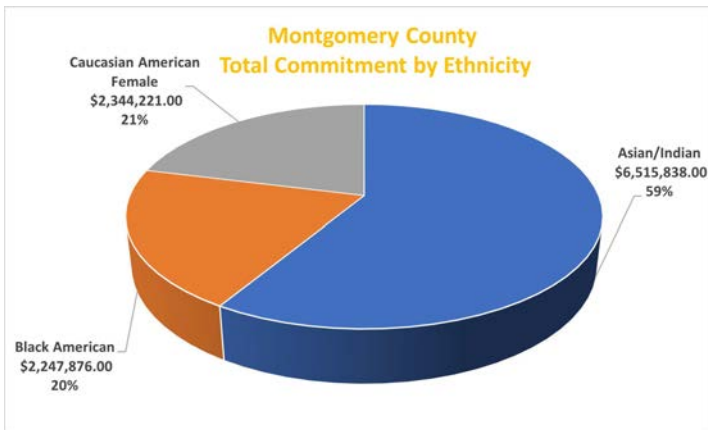
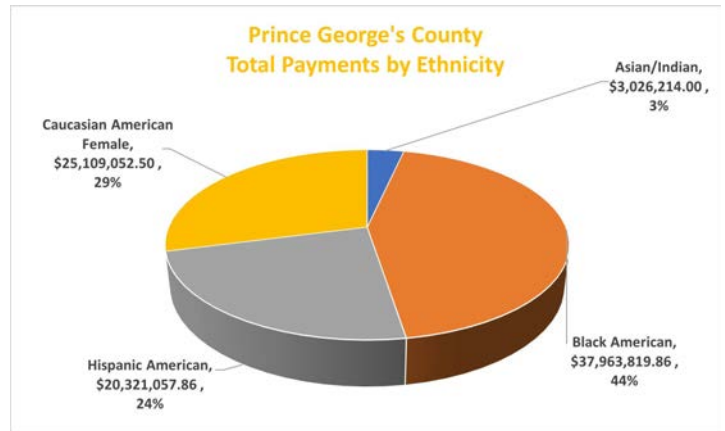
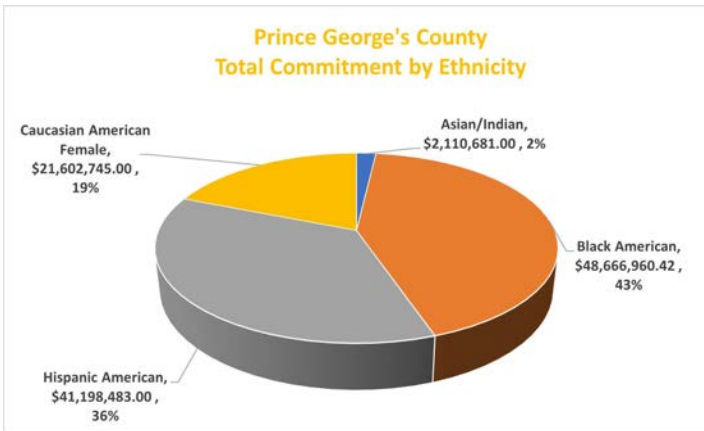
Empire Landscape, LLC promotes ecological stewardship for the indigenous ecosystems of the mid-Atlantic region.



DBE IMPACT IN NUMBERS

The MDOT MTA Purple Line DBE Program is committed to supporting small, disadvantaged, minority and women owned businesses to perform meaningful services in the design and construction phases along the project alignment. As the Purple Line Project continues to progress, so has the significant contributions of participating DBE subcontractors. Here is the current programmatic data highlighting DBE performance and participation measures on the Purple Line Project:

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program			
Activities & Goals	Commitments to Date	Paid thru 3/31/2022	DBE Subcontractor Firms to Date
Design 26%	27.6%	\$49,713,566	36
Construction 22%	20.9%	\$204,524,524	107



For inquiries regarding the MDOT MTA Purple Line DBE Program, feel free to contact any of our team members:

Marcques Washington
DBE/MBE Civil Rights Compliance Director
Office: 240-695-9229
mwwashington1@mdot.maryland.gov

Lenton Wallace
DBE/Civil Rights Program Manager
Office: 240-695-9201
Lenton.wallace@purplelinemd.com

Sheritha Semakula
DBE Program Administrator
Office: 240-695-9199
sheritha.semakula@purplelinemd.com