

## **Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County News**

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**Contact:** Willie Puz, Public Affairs and Recycling, 561-640-8914 (o); 561-379-2405 (c)

### **SWA Targets Small Businesses with Dec. 2 Business Opportunity Forecast Conference**

The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County's (SWA) Equal Business Opportunity Office (EBO) is hosting a Projects 2022 Virtual Business Opportunity Forecast Conference on December 2 to get more small businesses involved in the SWA's purchasing opportunities. The purchasing opportunities to be presented are both for prime and subcontractor businesses.

The Conference begins at 8 a.m. with a virtual meet and greet and networking session. Participants will then engage in the main session where they will learn about:

- Projects and major purchasing opportunities in 2022 from the directors overseeing the opportunities;
- Benefits of being a registered SWA vendor;
- Benefits of being a Certified Small/Minority/Women Business Enterprise;
- Accessing a small business loan;
- Developing a business plan; and
- Winning procurement contracts.

The event will wrap up at noon.

Interested business representatives should register for the Conference at [SWA.gob2g.com](http://SWA.gob2g.com) under the "Events" tab. Call 561-640-4000, ext. 4532 with any questions.

*The mission of the EBO is to promote equitable bid opportunities for Small/Minority/Women Business Enterprises (S/M/WBEs) and to eliminate barriers to their participation in contracts with the SWA. The key objectives of the program are to:*

- *Encourage S/M/WBEs to participate in the SWA's purchasing process;*
- *Promote the business development of S/M/WBEs through education and outreach to Prime Contractors, Subcontractors, Suppliers, certified S/M/WBEs and SWA staff;*
- *Encourage firms to get Certified as a S/M/WBE and take advantage of Affirmative Procurement Initiatives (narrowly tailored S/M/WBE goals) in Solicitations that may increase their access to contract opportunities; and*
- *Ensure that Prime Contractors fulfill their S/M/WBE subcontract commitments by contract monitoring and tracking.*

*Note: The SWA does not administer a "Certification Program" but accepts firms certified by State of Florida entities that have adopted certification standards and procedures similar to those of the EBO Program such as the County, School District, and Water Management District.*

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*The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County is a Dependent Special District that was created by the Florida Legislature in 1975. Since then, the SWA has developed an award-winning integrated solid waste management system to handle the county's waste and recyclables. We call ourselves AWAY: whether you throw it, recycle it or flush it AWAY, we put your waste to work. Each year, we:*

- *Process more than 100,000 tons of [recyclables](#) each year*
- *Combust approximately 1.8 million tons of trash each year to generate electricity at [renewable energy facilities](#)*

- Produce enough electricity to power approximately 74,000 homes, about the number of homes in Boca Raton and Palm Beach Gardens
- Recycle more than 150,000 tons of [wastewater treatment residuals](#) (sludge from flushes) into environmentally-friendly fertilizer
- Safely dispose of more than 4.9 million pounds of [home hazards](#) a year
- Collect water off of the roofs of [Renewable Energy Facility 2](#) and store it in a 2 million gallon cistern, which is used as part of the energy making process

Connect with the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County - [SWA.org](#)

*Please note: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most communications to or from the Solid Waste Authority are considered to be public records and will be made available to the public and the media upon request. Therefore, your e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure.*