

# Small Business Growth Opportunity Charter

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## Purpose

The Small Business Growth Opportunity Council was first created as the Mentor-Protégé Council, created in support of the Port of Portland's Mentor-Protégé Program. In 1998 the council name was changed to the Construction Industry Opportunity Council, and then changed again to SB-GO! in 2008.

The Small Business Growth Opportunity Council assists in promoting and developing minority, women, and small businesses. As SB-GO looks to the future, our goal is to facilitate building bridges to opportunities for its members. SB-GO will focus on five key action areas associated with small business: relationships, education, partnerships, member recruitment/engagement, and advocacy.

## Committee Leadership

The chair and vice chair are selected by AGC staff and the current/immediate past chair with input from the current chapter president and/or officers.

<b>Committee Leadership</b> <b>Chair:</b> Deb Matthews, Pacificmark Const. <b>Vice Chair:</b>	<b>Staff Liaison</b> Karla Holland, <a href="mailto:karlah@agc-oregon.org">karlah@agc-oregon.org</a> , 503-685-8319
<b>Meeting Frequency</b> Four times per year, following the OAME Contractors Committee meeting on the second Friday of each month.	<b>How to Get Involved</b> Open to all chapter members and is often attended by non-members as well

## Guiding Principles

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### Relationships

- Encourage attendance by mid-sized general contractors and larger specialty contractors; attendance by project managers and supervisors is preferred over owners and CEOs.
- Create events/meetings that encourage interaction between attendees
- Encourage open dialogue between all businesses to improve relationships
- Celebrate successes of small businesses through regular articles, media support, etc.

### Continuing Education & Professional Development

- Sponsor educational seminars for minority, women-owned, and small businesses that focus on the business skills needed to be successful. Speakers will be AGC associate members, related professionals, or staff.
- Promote and encourage attendance at other AGC and business community events



THE ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OREGON-COLUMBIA CHAPTER

9450 SW Commerce Circle #200, Wilsonville, OR 97070

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## **Partnerships**

- Sponsor and participate in key, strategic events (e.g., National Minority Enterprise Development Week, OAME Trade Show), establish strong relationships with related business groups, Hispanic Chamber, National Association of Minority Contractors–Oregon (NAMCO).
- Recruit new mentors from AGC membership for Port’s M-P program

## **Membership Recruitment/Engagement**

- Recruit protégés, SMP participants, Hispanic Chamber members, OAME contractor members, and small businesses to join AGC and participate in its activities, such as annual meeting, the Construction Leadership Council, and Specialty Contractors Council.
- Sponsor Protégé members at AGC Annual Meeting (when possible)
- Encourage participation of both small businesses and larger contractors with SB-GO and other councils

## **Advocacy**

- Promote the role of small business in creating jobs, and assist small business in carrying out that role
- Promote a cooperative and constructive relationship between small and large contractors
- Encourage business practices that support the development and growth of small business



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