

SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM | Grey. Green. Clean.

JOBS AND CONTRACTS

EDITION 10 | SEPTEMBER 2021



San Francisco
Water Power Sewer
Services of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

About the Sewer System Improvement Program

The owner and operator of San Francisco’s sewer system, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), has embarked upon the Sewer System Improvement Program (SSIP), a 20-year, multibillion-dollar citywide investment to upgrade our aging sewer infrastructure to ensure a reliable and seismically safe system now and for generations to come. An investment in sewer infrastructure of this magnitude presents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to:

Upgrade our aging sewer system to sustainably support all who live, work, and visit our amazing city.

Provide training and support services for our community to access, and meaningfully participate on projects being constructed in their neighborhoods.

Create job opportunities and access to careers that provide living wages and benefits.

Provide opportunities for the startup and growth of small businesses.

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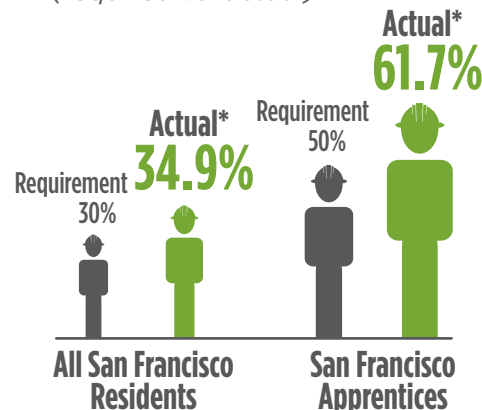
Making a Lasting Investment

With the SSIP’s infrastructure investments, the SFPUC has an opportunity to support San Francisco’s ongoing economic vitality by strengthening its neighborhoods, businesses, and workforce through:

JOBS: The SSIP’s projects are covered by the San Francisco Local Hiring Policy for Construction and have a requirement of 30%, meaning hours must be worked by San Francisco residents. For apprenticeships (entry-level jobs) this requirement is 50%.

CONTRACTS: The City also has a mandate for local community contractors to participate. Although the requirements vary by contract, the SFPUC is committed to maximizing local participation on every project.

Percentage of hours worked
(required vs. actual)



**Actual Local Hire participation is recorded and administered by the Office of Economic and Workforce Development.*

This Report is designed to provide a quarterly snapshot of the jobs and contracts provided by the SSIP, and serves as a resource guide for those looking to get involved with this once in a generation opportunity. *The data in this report is through September 30, 2021.*

Worker Profile:

Meet Shabrea Thornton

By Kelley Omran, Communications



“Now that I’m in construction, I’m proud of where I’m at in life today,” Shabrea Thornton says with pride and feelings of accomplishment for her recent efforts to ensure a brighter, more stable future for herself and her young daughter.

Born and raised in Hunters Point, Thornton is working as an apprentice laborer with Bertco, Inc., on the WW-647R Biosolids Digester Facilities Project (BDFP) project located in the Bayview-Hunters Point.

Thornton was first inspired to get into the construction field after hearing stories from her relatives who were working in the industry as both carpenters and operating engineers. She was inspired by their examples of steady work and career stability, particularly as compared to the recent upheaval economic impacts due to the global pandemic.

She was also impressed by the well-established trajectory union construction jobs offer, and how they can be a great option for people looking to build long-term careers with structured pay raises, health benefits, and a pension.

“I love that I’m able to move up and not just be stuck in one place [my] entire life,” says Thornton.

A “typical” workday for Thornton can be different every day. Among her various job responsibilities, she reviews manifests, keeps inventory of the trucks, does site cleanup, and works on a wide array of other assignments given to her by the foreman throughout the day. *“There is never a dull moment in the construction trade!”* she exclaims.

Thornton began her construction job exploration at the SFPUC’s Southeast Construction Hub where she was given information and assistance in identifying resources for training and support services. Through the Hub’s network of community service providers and workforce referral agencies, she first met with and spoke to Brightline Defense, a Bay Area organization and environmental justice non-profit that works to empower individuals and communities to create more sustainable environments. She applied and was accepted into their summer Construction Career and Exposure Program, which was designed to introduce women and underrepresented communities to careers in the construction industry.

Upon completion, with a perfect attendance record and consistent engagement with program materials, Thornton was referred to and accepted into the One Treasure Island Pre-Apprenticeship Program in the fall of 2020. One Treasure Island provides three cycles of seven weeks of construction training annually to workers seeking to qualify as Lead and Asbestos Abatement Laborer Apprentices. Thornton’s success in the program resulted in her successfully joining the Laborers’ Union, Local 261, as an apprentice laborer.

As an apprentice laborer, Thornton began her construction career job hunt in earnest, and with the help of the SFPUC’s Labor Relations Specialist, Brian Thomas, she was introduced to Bertco, Inc., a firm which was on the lookout for great local workers from to help them on the BDFP project.

Thornton has already learned many lessons in her blossoming career so far, but she emphasizes one key piece of advice for others looking to get into construction, *“Stay motivated!”* Being one of the very few women in a male-dominated trade can be challenging at times, but she says persistence pays off. *“You have to be willing to stand out, work hard, and always be open to learning new things.”*



Thornton receiving hands-on instruction in Brightline’s Construction Career and Exposure Program

HOW ARE WE DOING SO FAR...?

JOBS

BAY AREA

\$117.3 Million
IN WAGES AND BENEFITS



5,052 Workers

1.5M+ HRS

APPRENTICES

\$11.3 Million
IN WAGES AND BENEFITS

816 WORKERS
201K+ HRS

SAN FRANCISCO

\$38.3 Million
IN WAGES AND BENEFITS
1,355 WORKERS



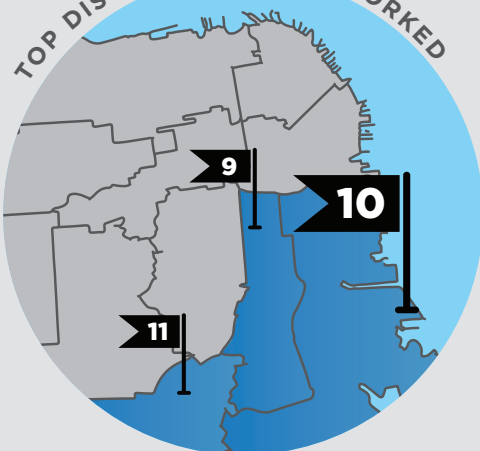
550K+ HRS

APPRENTICES

\$6.7 Million
IN WAGES AND BENEFITS

375 WORKERS
124K+ HRS

TOP DISTRICTS: HOURS WORKED



ALL WORKERS D10 Bayview **31.8%** | D11 Excelsior **16%**

APPRENTICES D10 Bayview **37.2%** | D5 Western **13.6%**

CONTRACTS

CONTRACTS AWARDED

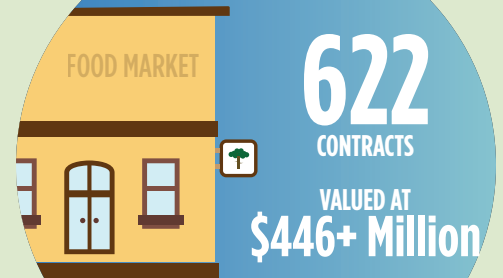
\$2.1 Billion
TOTAL CONTRACTS AWARDED



\$423M
PROFESSIONAL
SERVICES

\$1.7B
CONSTRUCTION

SF LOCAL BUSINESSES

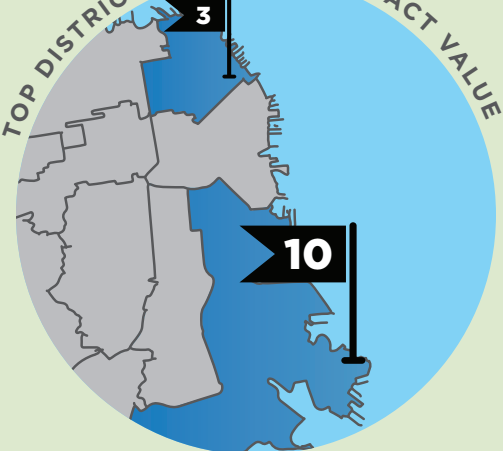


FOOD MARKET

622
CONTRACTS

VALUED AT
\$446+ Million

TOP DISTRICTS: LOCAL CONTRACT VALUE



D10 Bayview **51%** | D3 Chinatown **18%**

MAKING AN IMPACT

The Sewer System Improvement Program (SSIP) is a critical citywide investment in our people, our communities, and our quality of life.

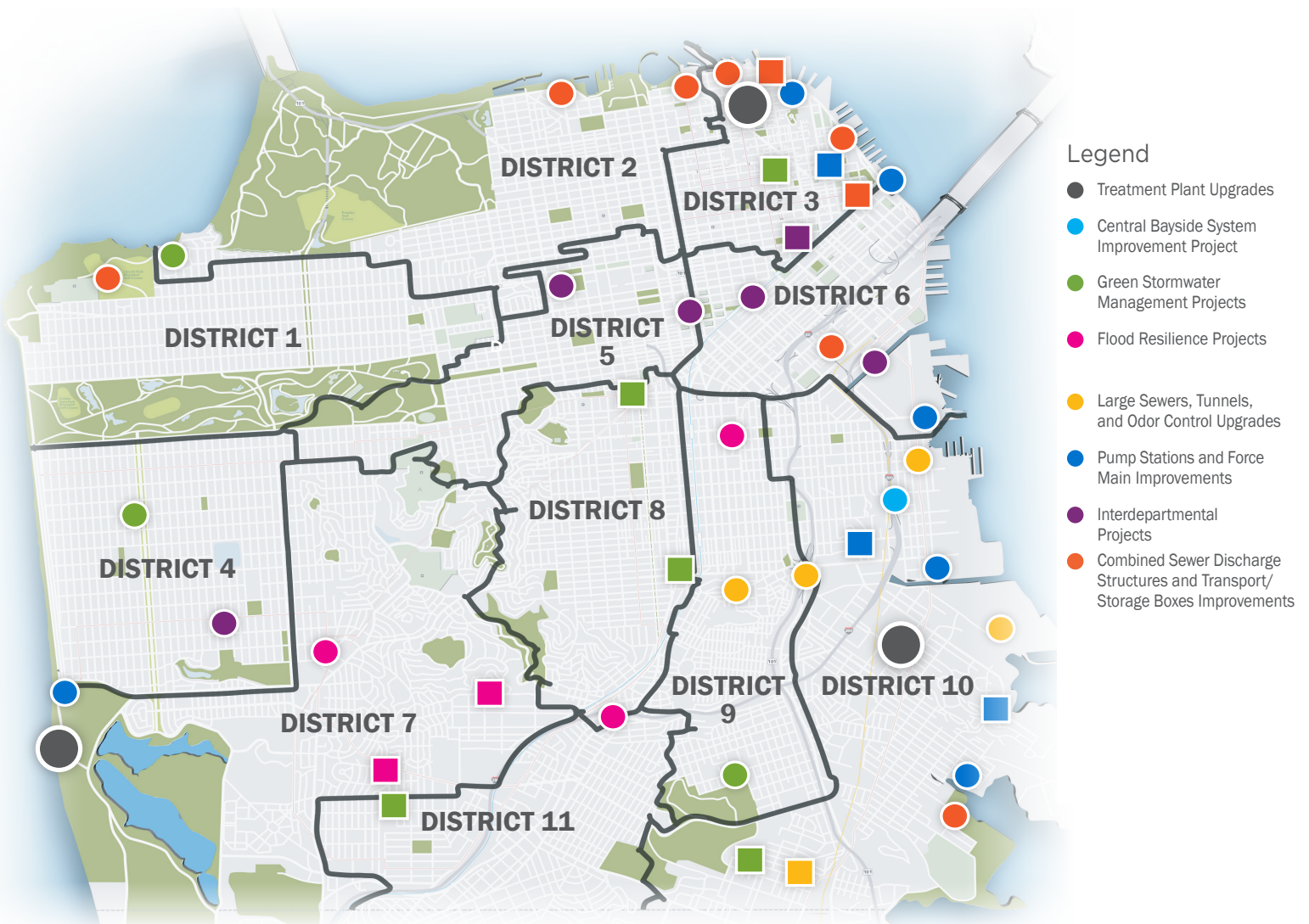
The Program

The SSIP is divided into overlapping phases to maintain affordability. To date only Phase 1 has been approved by our Commission representing \$2.979 billion. This first phase is comprised of 70 projects occurring all over the City.

Grey. Upgrades to our pipes and Treatment Plants for reliability, resiliency, and regulatory compliance.

Green. Innovative stormwater management tools that not only reduce impacts to our system but help beautify our neighborhoods too!

Clean. Improving our infrastructure to protect the health of our communities and the environment.



Legend

- Treatment Plant Upgrades
- Central Bayside System Improvement Project
- Green Stormwater Management Projects
- Flood Resilience Projects
- Large Sewers, Tunnels, and Odor Control Upgrades
- Pump Stations and Force Main Improvements
- Interdepartmental Projects
- Combined Sewer Discharge Structures and Transport/Storage Boxes Improvements

↑ This map depicts the approximate locations of our Phase 1 projects ■ Squares indicate completed Projects

LBE Profile: Mansfield and Mansfield Construction

By Timothy Ho

The SFPUC's Contractors Assistance Center (the Center) recently started its second session of the Getting Down to Business (GD2B) Program. The 15-week long program took place online from August 2021 to November 2021.



The GD2B program provides practical solutions about key business operations. In the program, LBEs review specific and technical areas to understand and resolve common business issues, such as preparing their bids on contracts, performing cost analysis, and managing their contract performance.

Staff recently sat down with LaSonia Mansfield, owner of Mansfield and Mansfield Construction Clean-Up, and participant in the GD2B program, to find out how the GD2B program benefitted her fast-growing company.

LaSonia did not set out to run her own company. As a third-generation nurse, she was following in the footsteps of her mother and grandmother before deciding to start her own business. LaSonia explains, *"I've been a nurse for 25 years and I worked in all fields of nursing, from general hospital to the county jail and to subacute care. But I always wanted to be an entrepreneur. And at 50 [years of age], me and my partner and sister, Caroline, finally decided to start our own company."*

Through the Center, the GD2B program provides LBEs with additional tools and support to help compete for City-funded contracts. The Center also offers technical assistance, classroom training, marketing support, and one-on-one counseling. And importantly, these services and support are tailored to the specific needs of the company and its specific projects.

By learning applicable skills through GD2B and utilizing the Center's other free resources, LBEs can better compete for projects and navigate important City contracting requirements, while also becoming familiar with effective strategies they can reproduce on other projects throughout the City and beyond.

"The files and documents that the GD2B program provides, we can go back to it, refer back to it. It's like the bible. When we got into the small details, that was for me the 'Ah Ha!' moment." she said.

"The entire process stood out to me because of the sincerity, the honesty and the desire, and that we understand the fine print." she adds.

Each week the program tackles a different subject spanning the completion of a statement of qualifications and to understanding and correctly estimating labor costs. The training covered topics related to contracting, including contractual requirements, estimating, project management, financial management, project software, and other business intangibles.

One of the program's advisors and mentors, Martha Hernandez, CEO of madeBOS, described the mindset of the program's approach as being *"intentional about the outcome – exposing them, getting them to do things like the Scope Letter, understanding the exclusions, identifying the pitfalls in contracts... for new businesses, in particular."*

Martha elaborated, *"One of the main goals of the program is to not only help LBEs, but also and specifically, Minority-owned Business Enterprises (MBEs) and Women-owned Business Enterprises (WBEs). Our entire class cohort were all MBEs and WBEs."*

"The approach we have," she paused, *"we have gone through the same journey and we speak the same language. There is institutionalized racism, and it has created barriers for small businesses. We may not be able to change the institution, but we can share the playground rules. We want to offer the right tools to be competitive."*

"In the future, I want to put a program together, put them (the community) into training and create a healthy robust program. I want to empower the next generation of entrepreneurs," LaSonia said. *"I'm a sister soldier at heart."*

Martha goes on, *"What I want to tell anyone looking to be a part of this or is interested in the program is, you're not alone. There is a community who wants you to win. There are people already doing it and doing it well. We have confidence that, if you have the basics: the structure and delivery, that you will win, too. The program caters to many personalities, too. Some (participants) are more vocal of course, but that doesn't mean not everyone is getting anything out of it. There is something for everyone."*

LaSonia's suggestion to other LBEs considering the program? *"You can't afford to not be in the program. It's going to make a huge difference."*

Resources in Jobs and Contracts

The SFPUC partners with the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD) and CityBuild to train and match SF workers with SSIP jobs opportunities.

The SFPUC has also established the Contractors Assistance Center to provide local, small businesses with the tools and resources necessary to get **ACCESS** to, **COMPETE** for, and **PARTICIPATE** on, upcoming contracting opportunities.



Looking for a job?

Office of Economic Workforce & Development

- FREE training programs for job seekers
- Skill development and support services
- Specialized job seeker services

(415) 554-6969 oewd.org/employment

SFPUC Job Information Hotline (415) 934-5777

Need job training?

CityBuild

Coordinates City-wide construction training and employment programs and offers construction industry training:

- Pre-Apprenticeship Training
- Construction Administration Training
- Employment Networking Services

(415) 701-4848 oewd.org/city-build

Want to bid on a project?

Contractors Assistance Center

(415) 467-1040 acp@sfwater.org sfpuc.org/contractorcenter

FREE resources for professional service firms, construction companies, vendors, and suppliers:

ACCESS

- Secure Necessary Certifications and Registrations
- Identify Contracting Opportunities
- Assess Capital Requirements and Financial Risk

COMPETE

- Networking Opportunities
- Plot Your Business Development Strategy
- Assistance Preparing Bids and Proposals

PARTICIPATE

- Learn the Skills Necessary to Coordinate Project Delivery
- Comply with City Programs and Get Paid
- Develop a Financial Game Plan

Questions about projects in construction?

SEP Construction Information Hub

Your resource for information on construction activities at the Southeast Treatment Plant.

(415) 551-4SEP (4737) sfpuc.org/SEPconstruction



Services of the San Francisco
Public Utilities Commission



SEWER SYSTEM

IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Grey. Green. Clean.

sfpuc.org/ssip
[#sfsewer](https://twitter.com/sfsewer)