

Norton Releases D.C. Small Business and Hiring Figures and Commends Top Four Contractors for October Hiring

Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) today announced that 60 D.C. small businesses have won subcontracts for work on federal construction projects around the city, including some that have contracts on multiple projects. She said D.C. small businesses are clearly benefitting from the significant federal construction underway in the District. However, Norton, who collects and reports monthly the number of D.C. residents and businesses on nine large federal construction projects here, said that there may be room for improvement from subcontractors working on the projects but, she does not have statistics from the subcontractors. She has requested information on subcontractor contracts and hiring.

“The overall D.C. federal construction picture shows that contractors are responding to our monitoring of D.C. hiring and small business contracting,” Norton said. “We have particularly encouraged stepped-up hiring by contractors that we thought could do better, and are pleased that many contractors are showing improvement.” Projects with the highest number of D.C. hires this month were Gilbane-Grunley at the Hoover Building, with 25 D.C. residents of the 232 hired, Whiting-Turner at the GSA Headquarters Building, with six D.C. residents of the 66 hired, **Grunley Construction at the Lafayette Building, with five D.C. residents of the 49 hired,** and Clark/Smoot/Russell at the National Museum of African-American History and Culture, with four D.C. residents out of the seven hired. Clark Construction, which hired no new D.C. residents in October at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) headquarters project, continues to have the highest consistent number and percentage of D.C. residents. The second highest percentage of D.C. residents is at Turtle Associates at the Reagan building, and the third highest percentage is at Clark/Smoot/Russell at the Smithsonian National Museum of African-American History and Culture. Norton said, “Although D.C. residents represent 10% of the region, more contractors working on federal projects in the city are showing that they understand the importance of local engagement in increasing the local hiring numbers.”

Federal law prohibits requiring contractors to hire workers based on the location of the site, but aggressive local outreach is allowed and is considered when companies bid on future contracts. The Congresswoman closely monitors the hiring of D.C. residents and businesses at federally funded construction projects, requires contractors to file monthly reports, and makes frequent unannounced visits to construction sites.

Looking more closely at the federal project statistics here, the Congresswoman said work on the West Campus of St. Elizabeths for the DHS headquarters will continue, but will slow down because of the pace of federal appropriations. Current D.C. hiring at the DHS headquarters in Ward 8 is mixed for D.C. residents. Clark Construction’s statistics remain at 22% D.C. workers to date. However, Norton said she was concerned that of 16 new hires by Clark, none were from D.C. **She intends to call in Grunley Construction and its union for a meeting this month to try to find the reasons for the consistently low number of D.C. hires on Grunley’s Adaptive Reuse contract at St. Elizabeths. Of the 69 new hires at Grunley, only one was a D.C. resident, and Grunley’s total is only 7% D.C. workers.** Balfour Beatty, with 4% D.C. workers, and General Dynamics, with 16% D.C. workers, reported no new hires.

Elsewhere in the city, Whiting-Turner, which is working on the GSA Headquarters building and had come under criticism from Norton, showed positive gains, hiring six D.C. residents of the 66 new hires, for a total of 7% D.C. workers. Gilbane-Grunley, working on the Hoover Building, hired 25 D.C. residents of the 232 new hires, and now has a total of 10% D.C. workers to date. Grunley Construction, working on the Lafayette Building, hired five D.C. residents out of the 49 new hires, for a total of 5% D.C. workers to date. Clark/Smoot/Russell, which is building the Smithsonian National Museum of African-American History and Culture, hired four D.C. residents out of the seven new hires, for a total of 18% D.C. workers to date. Not hiring in October were Turtle Associates, at the Roosevelt Building and the Reagan Building, Teng Construction, at the Cohen Building, and DS East, at the EPA building.

Below is the October D.C. hiring breakdown by company and total D.C. hiring at federal construction sites to date.

Ward 8 Department of Homeland Security headquarters project on the St. Elizabeths Campus

Contractor	Project	Total Number of D.C. Residents Hired in October	Total D.C. Residents Employed as of October 2012
Clark Construction	Coast Guard Headquarters	0	476 of 2143 (22%)
Balfour Beatty Construction	Security Perimeter Fence	0	19 of 396 (4%)
Grunley Construction	Adaptive Reuse	1	51 of 685 (7%)
General Dynamics	Information Technology	0	14 of 87 (16%)

Other Large D.C. Federal Projects

Contractor	Project	Total Number of D.C. Residents Hired in October	Total D.C. Residents Employed as of October 2012
Whiting-Turner	GSA Headquarters building	6	85 of 1184 (7%)
Gilbane-Grunley	Hoover Building	25	152 of 11460 (10%)
Turtle Associates	Roosevelt Building	0	7 of 80 (9%)
Turtle Associates	Reagan Building	0	11 of 50 (22%)
Grunley Construction	Lafayette Building	5	36 of 625 (5%)
Teng Construction	Cohen Building	0	0 of 14 (0%)
DS East	EPA Building	0	1 of 17 (6%)

Smithsonian National Museum of African-American History and Culture

Contractor	Total Number of D.C.	Total D.C. Residents
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	Residents Hired in October	Employed as of October 2012
Clark/Smoot/Russell	4	49 of 269 (18%)

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Norton Names GSA Contractors Showing Good Results in Hiring D.C. Residents

WASHINGTON, D.C. – In releasing the September D.C. hiring statistics on nine large General Services Administration (GSA) construction projects underway across the city, Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) singled out General Dynamics, Clark/Smoot/Russell, Clark Construction, Turtle Associates and Marada Contracting for steady progress. After the August report, Norton met with General Dynamics officials, who were in the start-up phase with the large information technology contract at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) complex in Ward 8, to impress upon the company the importance of hiring D.C. residents. General Dynamics showed a 6% increase from its last report in District residents hired, for a total of 16%. District residents and local unions picketed the Smithsonian when it started construction of the African American Museum of History and Culture without making contact with the community. Norton called in Smithsonian officials and the developer partnership doing the work, Clark / Smoot / Russell, for a meeting. September hiring of D.C. residents at the Smithsonian project increased by 2%, for a total of 45 of 262 (17%). Clark Construction, the contractor for the Coast Guard Headquarters at St. Elizabeths, has maintained a D.C. workforce above 20% for months and its latest report showed a 1% increase, even as work on the Coast Guard headquarters winds down. The Coast Guard Headquarters project, because of its size and variety of crafts, helped identify the available qualified pool of District residents by maintaining between 20% and 25% employment of D.C. workers. D.C. residents comprise 10% of the region.

Two GSA contractors that each have work at two federal sites show an above average percentage of D.C. residents employed compared with other GSA projects here. D.C. residents make up 22% of the workers for Turtle Associates on its Reagan building project, and 9% for its Roosevelt building project, for a combined average of 14%. Similarly, 13% of Marada Contracting’s workers on its Housing and Urban Development Department building project and 13% of its workforce on its Markey National Court Building project are D.C. residents.

“General Dynamics and the Smithsonian are in the first stage of their work and off to a good start,” Norton said. “The goal should be steady increases as the work proceeds. That is how Clark Construction got D.C. hiring as high as 25%. Turtle Associates and Marada Construction, with two sites each, show good faith hiring of D.C. residents on their payrolls. I will evaluate

information I have requested from the GSA on the other projects.”

Norton said that the September hiring reports for the other GSA rehabilitation projects here show little or no change in District resident hiring. The Congresswoman is requesting information from the GSA on whether any of these contractors are still hiring.

Federal law prohibits requiring contractors to hire workers based on the location of the site, but aggressive local outreach is allowed and is considered when companies bid on future contracts.

The Congresswoman closely monitors the hiring of D.C. residents at federally funded construction projects, requires contractors to file monthly reports, and makes frequent unannounced visits to construction sites.

Ward 8 Department of Homeland Security headquarters project on the St. Elizabeths Campus:

Contractor	Project	Total D.C. Residents Employed as of September, 2012	Change in D.C. Residents Employed from Prior Month
Clark Construction	Coast Guard Headquarters	476 of 2127 (22%)	+ 1%
Balfour Beatty Construction	Security Perimeter Fence	19 of 396 (4%)	None
Grunley Construction	Adaptive Reuse	50 of 619 (8%)	None
General Dynamics	Information Technology	14 of 87 (16%)	+ 6 % from last report (July 2012)

Other Large GSA Projects:

Contractor	Project	Total D.C. Residents Employed as of September, 2012	Change in D.C. Residents Employed from Prior Month
Whiting-Turner	GSA Headquarters building	79 of 1118 (7%)	None
Gilbane-Grunley	Hoover Building	127 of 1228 (10%)	None
Turtle Associates	Roosevelt Building	7 of 80 (9%)	None
Turtle Associates	Reagan Building	11 of 50 (22%)	- 1%
Marada Contracting – DS East	Markey National Courts Building	5 of 40 (13%)	None (*)
Grunley Construction	Lafayette Building	31 of 576 (5%)	None
Teng Construction	Cohen Building	0 of 14 (0%)	None
DS East	EPA Building	1 of 17 (6%)	None
Marada Contracting	HUD Building	8 of 61 (13%)	None (*)

(*) Denotes project is now 100% complete.

Smithsonian National Museum of African-American History and Culture

Contractor	Total D.C. Residents Employed as of September, 2012	Change in D.C. Residents Employed from Prior Month
Clark / Smoot / Russell	45 of 262 (17%)	+ 2%

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Norton Releases New Hiring Statistics for Federal Construction Projects in D.C.

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Office of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) today released her monthly report showing the number of D.C. workers on nine large U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) construction projects underway across the city. Norton closely monitors the hiring of D.C. residents on federally funded construction projects in the city, does frequent unannounced visits to the projects, holds roundtable hearings, and requires contractors to provide her with monthly reports on the hiring of District residents on their projects. While federal law prohibits requiring contractors to hire based on the location of the site, aggressive local outreach is encouraged, and past outreach efforts are considered when a company bids on future contracts.

“The August reports from construction sites show little, if any, change because there was little hiring,” Norton said. “Some contractors with shallow numbers of D.C. workers have reached their peak hiring and will not be taking on more employees. Others have room for improvement because of their size or the amount of work still to be done. We will continue to monitor these projects and expect improvements as openings occur.”

General Dynamics, the only new general contractor on the Department of Homeland Security headquarters site, has the large information technology contract there. Their July report showed 10 of 97 workers are D.C. residents (10%), Congresswoman Norton had a meeting with them to discuss improvements in reporting as well as hiring.

At the Smithsonian African American Museum of History and Culture site, the general contractor, Clark/Smoot/Russell, reports 39 of 243 workers are D.C. residents (15%), a one percent increase over July 2012.

***Ward 8 Department of Homeland Security headquarters project on the St. Elizabeths Campus:**

Contractor	Project	Total DC Residents Employed as of August 2012	Change in DC Residents Employed from Prior Month
Clark Construction	Coast Guard Headquarters	413 of 2002 (21%)	None
Balfour Beatty Construction	Security Perimeter Fence	12 of 312 (4%)	None
Grunley Construction	Adaptive Reuse	48 of 602 (8%)	None

***Other Large GSA Projects:**

Contractor	Project	Total DC Residents Employed as of August 2012	Change in DC Residents Employed from Prior Month
Whiting-Turner	GSA Headquarters building	88 of 1042 (7%)	- 1%
Gilbane-Grunley	Hoover Building	110 of 1082 (10%)	None
Turtle Associates	Roosevelt Building	7 of 80 (9%)	None
Turtle Associates	Reagan Building	11 of 47 (23%)	+5%
Marada Contracting – DS East	Markey National Courts Building	5 of 40 (13%)	None
Grunley Construction	Lafayette Building	27 of 529 (5%)	None
Teng Construction	Cohen Building	0 of 14 (0%)	None
DS East	EPA Building	1 of 17 (6%)	None
Marada Contracting	HUD Building	8 of 61 (13%)	None

*Monitoring continues in case of expansion of workforce or hiring of replacements.

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Source: http://www.norton.house.gov/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3340&Itemid=8