



New Supreme Court Challenge against the
kissing cousin to

I-200

*Schuette v. Coalition to Defend Affirmative Action:
Whether an amendment to Michigan's Constitution
barring affirmative action violates federal equal
protection*

(October 13, 2013, Associated Press)
WASHINGTON – The U.S. Supreme
Court heard arguments today in
*Schuette v. Coalition to Defend
Affirmative Action*, a challenge to
Michigan's Proposal 2. Mark Rosen-
baum, an attorney with the American
Civil Liberties Union, argued the case
before the court. Proposal 2 is a 2006
ballot measure that led to a state con-
stitutional ban on
race-conscious college admissions
policies, effectively creating two
separate and unequal systems for
determining the admissions criteria
used at state universities.

"This case is ultimately about whether
minority students will be allowed to
compete on the same playing field as
other students. Right now, there are
two separate playing fields with two
separate rulebooks," said Rosenbaum.
"Minority students and those who
support a diverse student body should
not have to overturn a constitutional
amendment to have their voices heard
in the admissions process when
everyone else can simply lobby the
university."

"The appeals court properly recognized
that the system created by Proposal 2 is
unfair and unconstitutional," said
Joshua Civin, an attorney with the
NAACP Legal Defense and Educational
Fund, Inc. "The Supreme Court has
previously struck down laws that place
extra burdens on the ability of
minorities to participate as equals in
the political process, and we believe the
court should do so in this case."

More information: [https://
www.aclu.org/racial-justice/schuette-v-
coalition-defend-affirmative-action](https://www.aclu.org/racial-justice/schuette-v-coalition-defend-affirmative-action)

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

Governor's Minority Business
Policy Pre-Summit 2

City Corner 3

NAMC
Membership and
Meetings 4

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

WINTER 2014 NEWSLETTER

Champion of Inclusion Awards

The Port of Seattle,
Sound Transit, and the
Washington State
Department of
Transportation held its
Fourth Annual Prime
Contractor & Consult-
ant Champion Awards
and Business After-
Hours Reception on
November 14, 2013.
The event is held to
honor those prime
contractors and



Luis Navarro Port of Seattle, Brenda Nnambi WSDOT, Bob Armstead NAMC, Leslie Jones Sound Transit

consultants that have inclusion programs that provide substantial benefits
to small, minority, and women owned businesses and the public agencies
they contract with. It also provides an opportunity for public agencies,
primes, and small, minority, and women-owned businesses to meet and
network.

This year awards were also given to two community-based organizations,
the National Association of Minority Contractors Washington State
Chapter and Tabor 100.

Washington's I-200 Language

AN ACT Relating to prohibiting government entities from discriminating or
granting preferential treatment based on race, sex, color, ethnicity, or
national origin; and adding new sections to chapter 49.60 RCW. BE IT
ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. (1) The state shall not discriminate against, or grant
preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex,
color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment,
public education, or public contracting, that federal law, the United States
Constitution, and the Washington state Constitution permit.

Governor's Minority Business Policy Pre-Summit

The Governor's Minority Business Policy Pre-Summit (GMBPPS) took place at Renton City Hall and had over 80 WMBE businesses in attendance.



The Pre-Summit was designed to provide an initial forum for Minority Businesses to discuss and develop a policy agenda that creates systemic and sustainable change for Minority Businesses in Washington.

On December 5th, 2013, The Governor's Minority Business Policy Pre-Summit (GMBPPS) took place at Renton City Hall and had over 80 WMBE businesses in attendance. The event was created by the Governor's Minority Business Policy Summit committee, chaired by Commissioner Frank Lemos. Frank is also a long-time NAMC member and supporter of MBE and DBE inclusion in procurement in public works.

Frank would like to thank all the WMBE firms that attended. The WMBE firms had a chance to share their suggestions during the "community forum" section of the Pre-Summit where minutes were taken.

Frank would also like to thank GMBPPS' non-profit partners:

NAMC (National Association of Minority Contractors)

Tabor100

Northwest Minority Supplier Diversity Council

Seattle Chamber

MBAC (Minority Business Action Committee).

Additionally, special thanks to sponsors:

The Commission on Hispanic Affairs

The Commission on African American Affairs

The Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs

Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises

Department of Enterprise Services and especially for their generosity in sponsoring the food

The Pre-Summit was designed to provide an initial forum for Minority Businesses to discuss and develop a policy agenda that creates systemic and sustainable change for Minority Businesses in Washington. It was a chance to convene with other Minority Business owners and state agencies to develop the agenda for the first annual Governor's Minority Business Policy Summit to be held in the spring of 2014. This event was a chance to test the waters and prepare for the important work that will occur in 2014.

City Corner

CITY PURCHASING AND CONTRACTING SERVICES

Nancy Locke
206.684.8903

Our News

CITY OF SEATTLE
MAYOR MURRAY



Welcome to Mayor Edward B. Murray

We extend a very warm welcome to Mayor Murray. We are grateful to the commitment and priority extended by him towards this work; Mayor Murray began work on WMBE initiatives within days of taking office. Tabor 100 and Nancy Locke joined SDOT to meet with Mayor Murray his first week in office. Thanks to the many WMBE leaders who have and will meet with the Mayor's senior staff to share successes and barriers: Ollie Garret and Frank Lemos of Tabor, Bob Armstead of National Association of Minority Contractors, Harold Wright of the Black Builders Association, W. Larry Williams of First Thursday; Eddie Rye of Community Coalition for Jobs, Doug Chin of Organization for Chinese Americans; Chris Serta of Navajo Indians, Genevive Noble of the Central Contractors Coalition, Marilyn Moch, David Fukuhara, the Association of General Contractors (AGC, Jerry Dinndorf) and many others. We are working closely with Mayor Murray and his senior staff to develop a bold workplan that creates meaningful accountability and improves City processes for a favorable environment for all companies to do business.

Consultant Contracts: This year, we will institutionalize WMBE subconsultant spend tracking in addition to that of our WMBE primes. SDOT, through Bobby Forch, proved the impact of subconsultant spend. While we seek the greatest dollars possible for WMBE firms as "primes," subconsultant spend should be visible and inclusive. In February, we will revise the Inclusion Plan to add guarantees for WMBE subconsultants, similar to those in place on Construction.

A Challenge against Michigan's Proposition 2: Our community has long struggled under I-200. Even more powerful are Supreme Court rulings, that guide whether such law is legal. Such rulings override state law. A new Supreme Court case challenges whether Michigan Proposition 2—very similar to our own I-200—is constitutional. Arguments were heard in November 2013 by the US Supreme Court. Decisions are likely in June 2014.

OUR MISSION

- Provide education, training and mentorship to minority contractors in construction.
- Promote the economic and legal interest of minority contracting firms.
- Advocate law and government actions for minority contractors.
- Bring about wider procurement and business opportunities for minority contractors.
- Reduce and remove barriers to full equality for minority contractors.
- Create a forum for sharing information and mutual support.
- Build bridges between minority contractors and the entities they serve.

ABOUT NAMC of WASHINGTON

The National Association of Minority Contractors of Washington (NAMC of WA.) is a 501 C (6) Nonprofit trade association that was established in 2010 to address the needs and concerns of minority contractors.

While membership is open to people of all races and ethnic backgrounds, the organization's mandate, "Building Bridges - Crossing Barriers," focuses on construction industry concerns common to African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Native Americans.

"Working Together Works"



JOIN US IN MEMBERSHIP



EVERY FIRST THURSDAY of EACH MONTH

Location: Tukwila Community Center
 12424 – 42nd Avenue South,
 Room – Art "B"
 Seattle, WA. 98168
 Time: 6:00 P.M.



FOR MEMBERSHIP AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert Armstead
 (425) 444.2706
 Or

Tim Pinckey (253) 226.7027



Add your company Logo, become a NAMC Sponsor

