

NEWSLETTER

THIS ISSUE

- ▶ **Small Business Spotlights**
Learn more about three small businesses providing construction management services for some of the largest infrastructure projects today.
- ▶ **Upcoming Events**
Learn more about the events our committee is planning just for M/W/DBE/SBE firms.
- ▶ **Agency Resources**
Find certification and RFP information for some of Southern California's largest agencies.
- ▶ **Owner RFQ Spotlight**
Learn more about this issue's spotlight RFQ
- ▶ **C.O.D.E.**
Learn more about C.O.D.E. and the team behind these newsletters and events

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DIVERSITY & EQUITY

CMAA Southern California (CMAASC) represents the diverse community that is Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Ventura, and Riverside Counties. We are committed to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion with equal opportunity for all persons in its membership, leadership, and activities.

As stated in its name, the C.O.D.E. Committee was created to create opportunities for diversity and equality, supporting the growth of minority owned, women owned, disadvantaged business enterprise, and small business enterprises (M/W/DBE/SBE) by encouraging their contributions to the success of owner programs and projects.

The C.O.D.E. Committee's quarterly newsletter contains useful information to support these businesses.

Small Business Spotlight

WBE / DBE / SBE



Project Highlight

SR-210 ADA Curb Ramp Upgrades Design Build




California Department of Transportation partnered with Sully-Miller Contracting Co. and AYCE Consulting Engineers, Inc. on the successful delivery of the State Route 210 ADA Curb Ramp Upgrades design-build project. AYCE is the prime design firm, with all design services provided inhouse. The 42-mile long project upgraded 264 existing curb ramps to meet ADA Standards, complete with pavement, signage, striping, electrical, and drainage improvements, in coordination with Caltrans and 14 stakeholder cities. AYCE designed this project in accordance with Caltrans, AASHTO, and ADA standards via a Complete Streets approach.

AYCE

Est. 2015

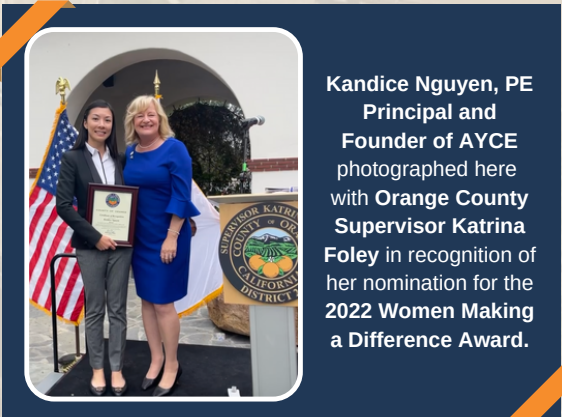
Headquarters: Santa Ana, CA

AYCE Consulting Engineers is a *transportation planning, design, and construction management* firm, which specializes in alternative delivery projects. Their services include:

-  Transportation
-  Civil Engineering
-  Virtual Immersive Visualization

Founding Story

Kandice Nguyen co-founded AYCE in 2015 to provide services to larger companies, which may be completing mega projects around the country, but could be supplemented with the local knowledge and expertise that Kandice and her team could provide. As a small business owner, she recalls the day she won her first contract: in the afternoon, the AYCE founders were meeting and contemplating giving up, and in the evening she got the call from Arup that they'd won the contract to provide roadway design expertise for UC Merced. Since then, AYCE has grown their contract and client list and continues to strive for repeated clients.



Fun Fact

One of Kandice's favorite hobbies is golf. Not only does she consider it a great place to discuss business, she considers herself a competitive player and makes it a point to get to the driving range at least once a week!



"Our size, in many instances, is an asset to our clients. We can provide the flexibility much larger firms cannot offer. It's great for our clients and builds on our current reputation. We want you to be our client. We are extremely optimistic about our future and want to share it with you." - Kandice Nguyen, PE

www.ayceinc.com

Small Business Spotlight

MBE / DBE / SBE




Est. 1984


Local Office: Los Angeles, CA

CMTS LLC is a **facilities, public works, and transportation PMCM** firm, which has a national presence with a local footprint.

Their services include:

 PMCM & QA

 Planning & Engineering

 Disaster & Emergency Services



Project Highlight

LAWA Landside Access Modernization Program (LAMP)

CMTS LLC is providing PMCM services for Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) \$5.5B Landside Access Modernization Program. This program is expected to enhance the traveler's experience and give customers time-certain access to terminals through five congestion-relieving elements:

- 1) the Automated People Mover (APM), 2) Intermodal Transportation Facility (ITF), 3) Consolidated Rent-A-Car (ConRAC), 4) Roadway Improvements, and 5) Airport Metro Connector Station. The CMTS team has a prime contract and is involved in all five LAMP elements providing construction inspection, risk management, & safety oversight for the PDG.

Founding Story

CMTS was founded by King Harris in Denver, Colorado. The firm's first contract was at Stapleton Airport. In 1989, the company won a major contract as a prime to manage the construction of the new Denver International Airport (DIA). The greenfield project, located on 56sqmi of open prairie, included everything from land acquisition through construction and move-in. At one point on the project, of the more than 500 consultants and staff working on site, more than half were CMTS employees. Over the last three decades, CMTS has expanded to serve clients in **Aviation, Infrastructure, Public Works, Transportation, Education, Healthcare, and Sports & Recreational Facilities.**



In the last three decades since **King Harris, Founder of CMTS** (left), started the firm, CMTS has worked on more than \$40B in construction programs; including \$23B in Aviation and \$8B in Education projects.

"[CMTS] direction and management of the City's capital program has been commendable and the production of projects exceptional. [...]
 Additionally, [CMTS] representation for the City to the State, County, and consultants have been of great assistance." - **Charles Bergson, PE**
 Former PW Director, City of Compton

<https://cmtslc.com/>

Client Experience



Fun Fact

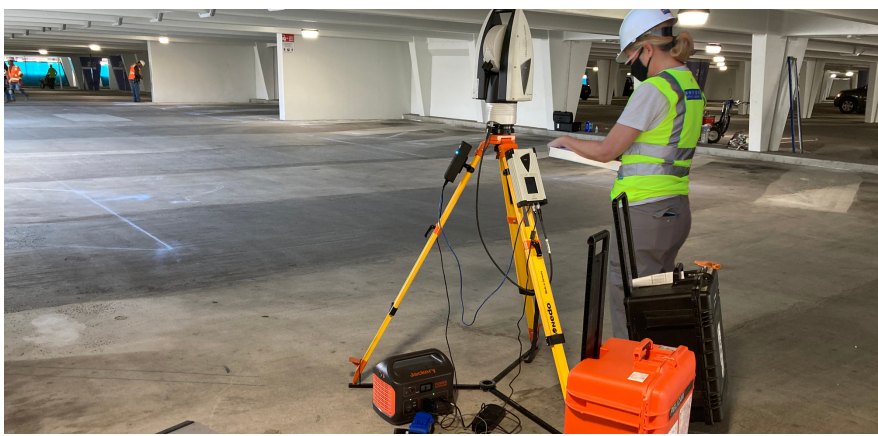
Under **K. Hezekiah Harris II**, President & Managing Member, has employed a diverse workforce. For example, the firm is currently comprised of 66% females, 36% Blacks/African Americans, & 6% veterans.



Firm Recognition
 CMTS won Zweig Group's "Best Firms to Work For" in both 2021 & 2022

Small Business Spotlight

DBE / SBE + Envision



Project Highlight

LAWA CTA Smart Park Project: Subconsultant PM & EOR

As part of the Landside Access Modernization Program (LAMP), LAWA is implementing a smart parking system and hundreds of EV charging stations in the CTA and at the new LAX Economy Parking structure. Sommer Engineering is responsible for the design of parking lots including: EV infrastructure, constructability review of parking structure plans, and staging for continual parking revenue stream. As an added innovation, Sommer Engineering worked with the CM to test and implement a robotic system to stripe all 4 levels of the 7 garages, resulting in revenue savings and in one week less closure times per garage. This was the first time the robot had been utilized for parking garage striping.

Founding Story

Meridith Cann, PE, saw a gap in the market for SBE/DBE firms that understood the expectations of a major prime firm and major clients, and seeking more flexibility to spend time with her two teenagers, she took the leap and opened her own firm on March 1, 2020. The timing was not ideal - just two weeks later, the country shut down for the

COVID-19 pandemic and many planned design jobs were put on hold. However, Sommer Engineering was able to secure its place on a design-build contract for LAWA. Since then, Sommer Engineering has continued to demonstrate its capabilities and finds that relationships are the key to success.

Sommer Engineering has just celebrated its 3-year anniversary.




SOMMER ENGINEERING

Est. 2020

Headquarters: Irvine, CA

Sommer Engineering is a **transportation design** firm, with experience in traditional and alternative delivery projects.

Their services include:

-  Transportation
-  Civil Engineering
-  EV Infrastructure & Sustainability Services



Meridith Cann, PE
Principal and Founder
of **Sommer Engineering** worked for 25 years on the private side before starting her own firm. Meridith has since seen her company grow to a team of talented, highly experienced engineers offering design and construction services.

Fun Fact

Sommer Engineering supports U.S. Veterans by actively seeking to hire veterans.

They have recently hired a U.S. Navy Veteran with a background in Construction Management, who served two tours in Afghanistan. It was there, under the harsh conditions and time limits, he first developed his engineering and construction skills and successfully completed a project that supported front line troops!

Client Experience



Sommer Engineering is also the Lead Civil Design for RCTC I-15 Smart Freeway Pilot Project in partnership with Caltrans District 8, which is the first of its kind in California and will implement a CARM system, ITS infrastructure and integration, and operation of STREAMS traffic management.

<https://sommer-eng.com/>

C.O.D.E. EVENTS

COMING UP



LA Owners Presents Small Business & Disadvantaged Business Goals

LACCD, Vice Chancellor & Chief Facilities Executive
Dr. Rueben Smith

MWD, Business Outreach Construction & Engineering
Rick Duarte

Cedars-Sinai, Director of Facilities, Planning, Design, & Construction
Karina Moore

LACMTA, DEO Diversity & Economic Opportunity
Tashai Smith

LAWA, Chief Development Officer
Terri Mestas

May 18, 2023
4PM - 6:30PM
LA Biltmore

Small Business Roundtable

CMAASC C.O.D.E. Committee, in partnership with the CMAASC Education Committee, invites you to join us for a round table discussion with local small businesses as we discuss best business practices, including: their systems, procedures, software, and corporate culture.



Webinar
Date & Time TBD
July 2023

Have an Idea for an Event?

Feel free to share any ideas you have for an event that further promote M/W/DBE/SBE firms in the construction management fields in Southern California with scmaa@cmaasc.org!

OWNER RFQ SPOTLIGHT

Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD)



BTOC RFQ: LACCD FOR STAFF AUGMENTATION SERVICES

The Los Angeles Community College District is seeking well qualified firms to provide Staff Augmentation Services which may include project management, design management, construction management, and other related services.

These services will help the District accomplish its goals of building new facilities and improving existing buildings to provide sufficient space and technology to serve its students and surrounding communities.

RFQ Deadline: June 2, 2023

ABOUT BUILDLACCD

LACCD's \$14.9 billion building program seeks to modernize and renovate projects throughout its nine colleges. The Board of Trustees established a 30% Local, Small, Emerging, and Disabled Veteran (LSEDV) participation goal for all BuildLACCD contracts. This provides numerous opportunities for LSEDV businesses to participate on the program. The District also seeks and encourages minority, women and LGBTQ business participation.

RFQ

Resources:

To access RFQ documents on LACCD PlanetBids Portal, you MUST register specifically through the LACCD PlanetBids Portal at:

<https://tinyt.io/8T5Q>

PLANETBIDS

Point of Contact

David Travers
Director of Contracts
(323) 980-2615
David.Travers@Build-LACCD.org



➤➤➤ CERTIFICATION & RFP INFO

AGENCY RESOURCES

If you are looking to apply for a DBE or SBE certification, the links below provide certification, solicitation, and application information.

Please note that while we do our best to keep this information up to date, these links are subject to change.



Caltrans[®]

CALTRANS / STATE OF CA

- [Apply for DBE](#)
- [Apply for SBE](#)

[Click here for more information.](#)

[Click here for solicitation information.](#)

[Click here for more information.](#)

[Click here for solicitation information.](#)

- [Apply for DBE/SBE](#)

LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY



CITY OF LOS ANGELES

- [Apply for SBE](#)

[Click here for more information.](#)

[Click here for solicitation information.](#)



LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

- [Apply for DBE/SBE](#)

[Click here for more information.](#)

[Click here for solicitation information.](#)

- [Apply for DBE/SBE](#) <<<

[Click here for more information.](#)

[Click here for solicitation information.](#)



LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

»» CERTIFICATION & RFP INFO

AGENCY RESOURCES

If you are looking to apply for a DBE or SBE certification, the links below provide certification, solicitation, and application information.

Please note that while we do our best to keep this information up to date, these links are subject to change.



**THE PORT
OF LOS ANGELES
PORT OF LOS ANGELES**

»» [Apply for SBE](#)

[Click here for solicitation information.](#)

[Click here for more information.](#)

[Click here for solicitation information.](#)

»» [Apply for SBE](#)

»» [Apply for DBE](#)

PORT OF LONG BEACH



Port of
LONG BEACH



**LOS ANGELES WORLD
AIRPORTS**

[Click here for SBE information.](#)

[Click here for DBE information.](#)

[Click here for solicitation information.](#)

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT - SOCAL

[Click here for more information.](#)

[Click here for solicitation information.](#)



C.O.D.E. WHAT DO WE DO?



Our Objectives

- 1) Increase firm recruitment and retention
- 2) Advocate for leadership positions within the chapter
- 3) Create a beneficial mentoring network inclusive of Certified Construction Manager (CCM) training
- 4) Host and sponsor events promoting diversity and equity
- 5) Recognize diverse leaders in the industry

Our Team

Janeen Obeid, PE
Arcadis, Inc.

Catrina Snell-Rehder
Arcadis, Inc.

Gustavo Ripalda, AIA, CCM
Kitchell Corporation

Roan McRae
CMTS LLC

Arya Rais-Firouz
Atkins

Damian Becerra, CMIT II
G3 Quality

Isabella Salgado
Anser Advisory

Theodora Oyie
MICS

Cathleen Ma, PE
T.Y. Lin International

Corey Harris
AI Management & Inspection

Maggie King
Hill International

Yolanda Baber
Mark Thomas & Co



Get Involved

As an organization, we are committed to providing our members with resources and educational opportunities. If you have ideas for future events or would like to learn more about a particular topic, reach out to us at sccmaa@cmaasc.org.

Looking to advertise your firm? We're looking for future newsletter sponsors! Each edition of the newsletter will feature up to four sponsorships. Two of these sponsorships will be allocated for free to M/W/D/SBE firms on a first-come first-serve basis. The other two slots are open to any business. This is a great opportunity to promote new hires and services, project wins, community involvement, and outreach events. Our next newsletter is scheduled for July '23. For additional information regarding sponsorship, please contact sccmaa@cmaasc.org

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