



Procurement Series: West Coast Small Business Academy

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

Itinerary

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM (PT)

Presentation from Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and Regional Partner Agencies

1. **Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT)**

Jessica Bennick Shevlin, Manager, Procurement Services

Jessica Bennick Shevlin has worked at Sacramento Regional Transit District for more than two decades across procurement, finance, and operations. She is committed to promoting fair procurement practices and helping small businesses better understand government contracting opportunities.

2. **San Francisco International Airport (SFO)**

Speaker to be confirmed

3. **City of Vacaville**

Tateyana Hendricks, Management Analyst

Tateyana Hendricks is a Management Analyst with the City of Vacaville. She helps oversee the City's public transportation programs.

4. **Western Contra Costa Transit Authority (WestCAT)**

Tania Babcock, Grants and Compliance Manager

Tania Babcock brings more than 25 years of experience in public transportation and oversees grant management and regulatory compliance for Western Contra Costa Transit Authority. As DBE Liaison Officer, she also leads outreach and compliance efforts to increase participation from small and disadvantaged businesses.

5. **Golden Gate Bridge, Highway & Transportation District**

Artemisé Davenport, Manager, Small Business Enterprise Compliance Programs

Artemisé Davenport leads the Small Business Enterprise Compliance Programs for the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway & Transportation District. With more than 25 years of service,



she focuses on expanding equitable access to public contracting and strengthening partnerships with the small business community.

6. San Francisco Bay Ferry (WETA)

Terence Candell, Government & Regulatory Affairs Specialist

Terence Candell manages legislative and intergovernmental affairs for San Francisco Bay Ferry and leads the agency's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program. His work focuses on advancing ferry expansion, transportation funding, and equitable contracting opportunities.

7. Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)

Luz Campos, Program Specialist, Contract Compliance and Outreach

Luz Campos supports small business participation in public contracting at MTC by leading outreach and compliance efforts that help firms navigate contracting opportunities. She also serves as Chair of the Business Outreach Committee and Treasurer for COMTO Northern California, where she advocates for increased access and collaboration for diverse businesses.

8. Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART)

Alexandra Arroyo, Senior Administrative Analyst

Alexandra Arroyo supports performance management and procurement analysis at BART, focusing on data validation, program evaluation, and compliance across major projects. Her background includes over a decade supporting Alameda County programs in behavioral health, workforce development, and community services.

9. California Department of Transportation (Caltrans D4)

Ayanna Nobles, District Branch Chief, Division of External Affairs

Ayanna Nobles serves as District Branch Chief for the Bay Area Division of External Affairs at Caltrans. With more than 25 years of service, she leads strategic oversight of the District 4 Small Business Program and the California Public Records Act branch, supporting transparency, accountability, and small business participation in state contracting.

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM (PT)

**Presentation from Guadalupe "Lupe" Rodriguez
Associate Contract Administrator, OmniTrans**

Lupe Rodriguez, Associate Contract Administrator at OmniTrans, has over 10 years of experience in Government Procurement and Materials Management. She is skilled in public sector contracting, vendor management, and procurement compliance, with a strong background in supporting the



full contract lifecycle — from solicitation and evaluation to award and administration. She is committed to driving efficient, transparent purchasing processes and building strong vendor partnerships that support organizational goals.

12:00 PM – 12:30 PM (PT)

Presentation from Edson Ives Zavala, PMP Deputy Executive Director, Economic Development, Sound Transit

Edson Zavala leads economic development initiatives at Sound Transit focused on expanding opportunities for small, minority, and women-owned businesses. He oversees the agency's DBE and Small Business programs, technical assistance, and outreach efforts supporting inclusive participation in regional transit development.

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM (PT)

Presentation from Christopher Pieper, MBA, CPPO Director of Procurement, Foothill Transit

Chris Pieper is the Director of Procurement at Foothill Transit in West Covina, California. He has more than 12 years of experience in transit procurement, focusing on major infrastructure projects, contracted operations, and federal compliance. He is a graduate of the American Public Transportation Association's Leadership APTA program and previously served as Chair of the California Association of Public Procurement Officials Gateway Chapter representing Los Angeles County.