

**KBS America (Feb 22, 2023)  
Video Footage 13:00 – 15:28**

**[News Coverage at YouTube](#)**

**Expansion of Korean-American businesses expected in federal construction and procurement bidding**

Minority and Asian small business owners have faced many barriers in government bidding due to various obstacles. Efforts to support minority business owners, including Koreans and other Asians, are expanding. In 2021, the Biden administration signed a \$1.2 trillion infrastructure investment and job bill, which has been allocated to each state and local government. Budgets needed for various construction projects and many levels of procurement are being supported.

However, due to the small size of the business and lack of bidding information, as well as language barriers, it has not been easy for minority small business owners to participate in government procurement bidding. Among them, MWIS is targeting Korean and Minority women/underserved small business and construction contractors, while CDABP is receiving financial support from city governments and LA Metros to operate bid support programs. They provide information from bidding education and guarantee insurance after winning the bid.

Interview (1) Ingrid Merriwether, CEO of MWIS

In particular, the nonprofit organization PACE is supporting CFAP (Contractor Finance Assistance Program) loans to ensure that winning companies can participate in government procurement projects without financial difficulties by providing loan program and educations.

Video: Education/workshop/counseling by Andrew Barrera & Francisco Peralta

Interview (2) Diana Chung, Business Counselor Manager of PACE Business