

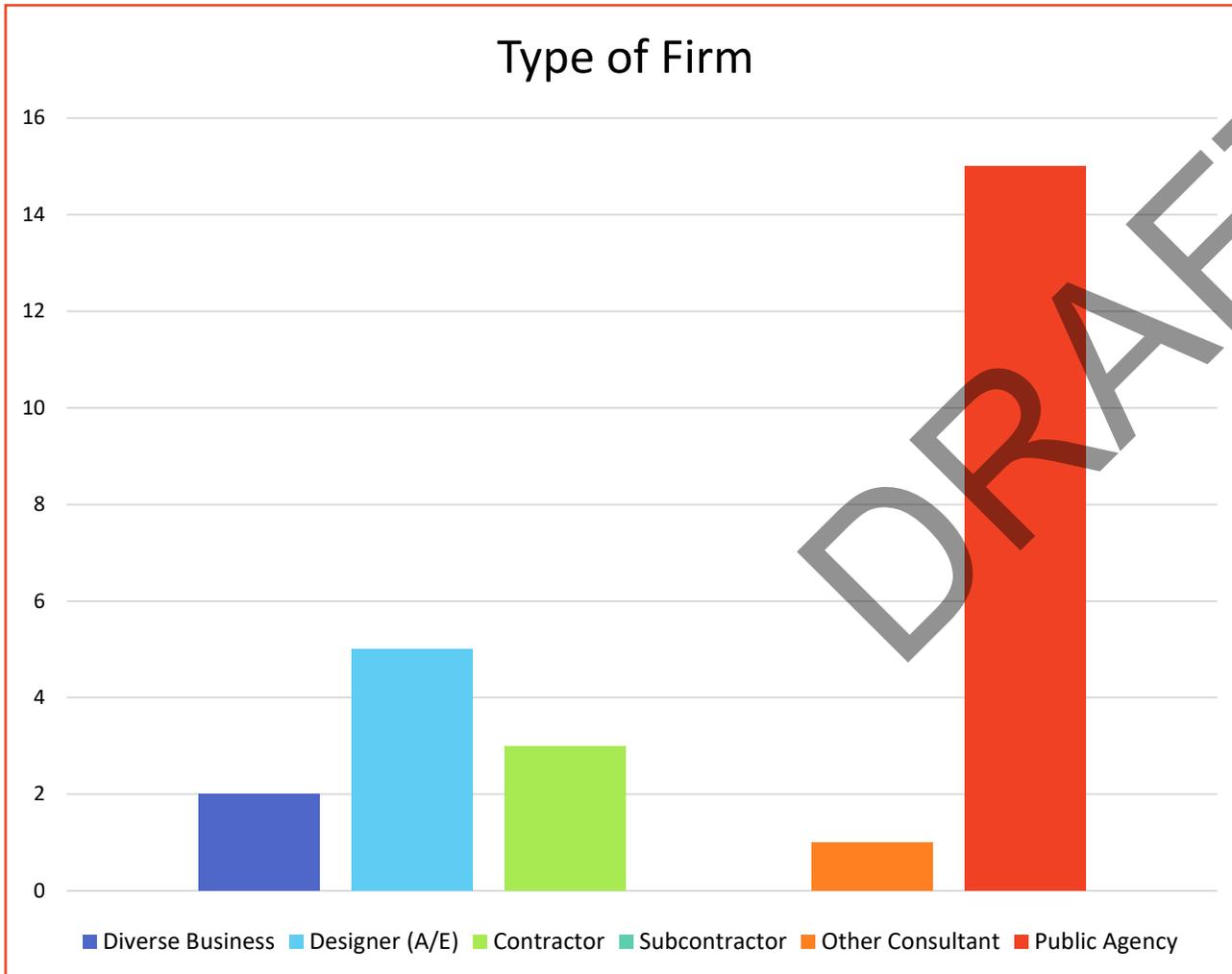
BE/DBI Survey Results

During the month of January 2022 CPARB asked members of the Alternative Public Works community to respond to a survey around access to equity as it relates to 39.10 RCW.

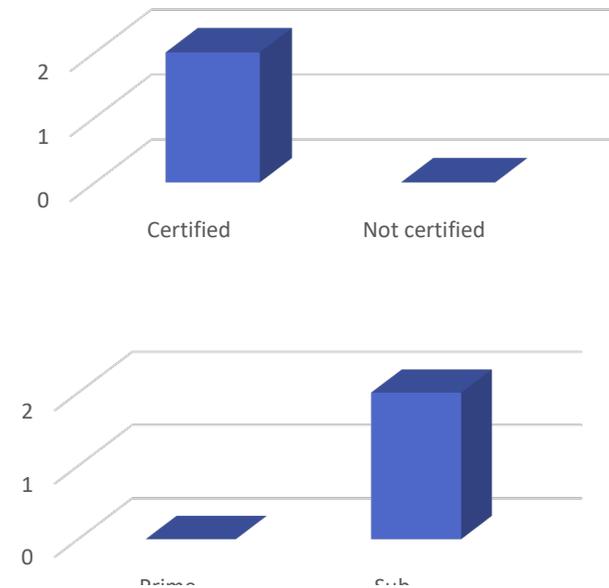
The following represents the results of the survey.

The Respondents

26 total people responded



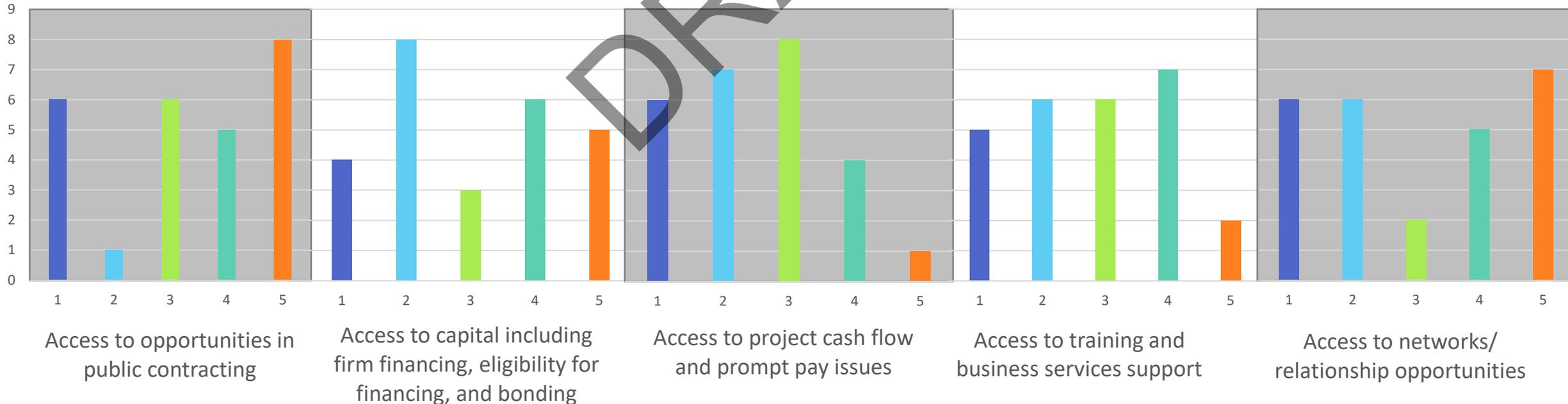
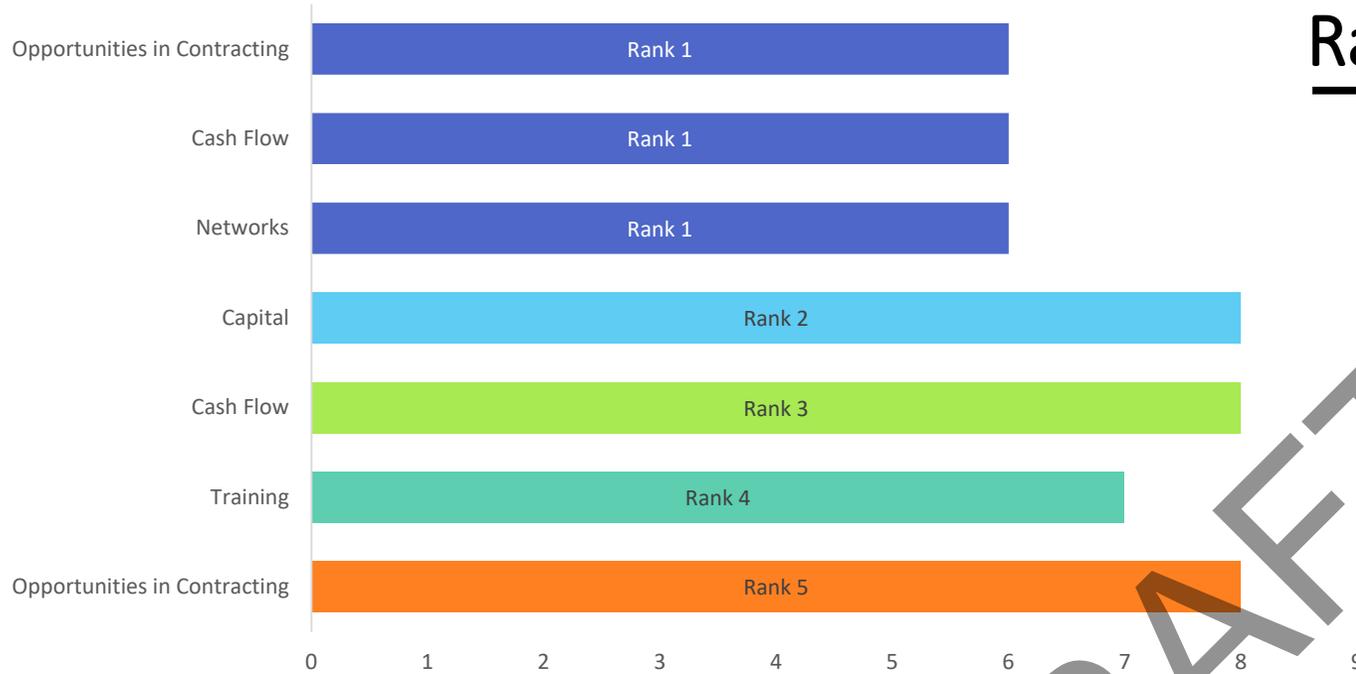
Of the Diverse Businesses who responded:



Rank the Barriers

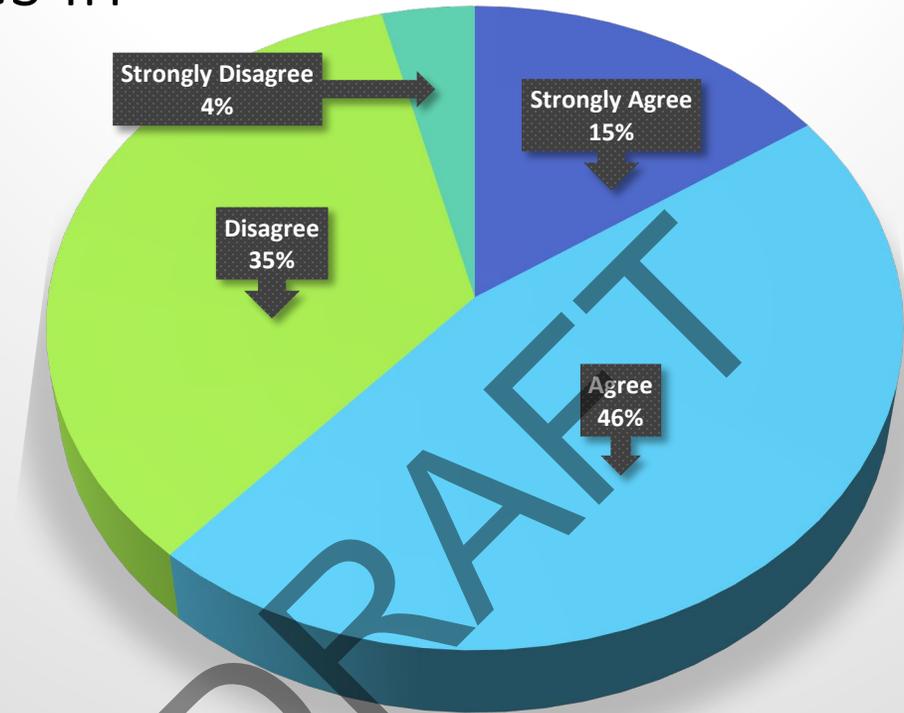
We asked the survey respondents to rank the barriers that they think are most impactful to their role in the industry.

Ranking from 1 most important to 5 least important.

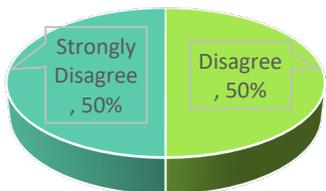


Access to opportunities in public contracting is satisfactory

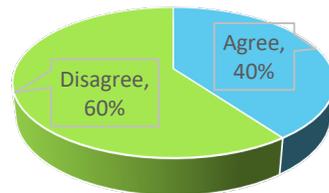
All Responses



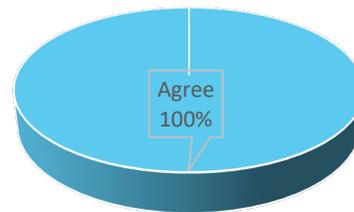
Diverse Business
2 response



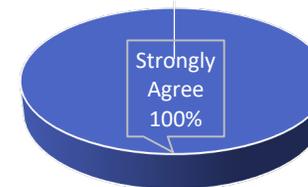
Designer (A/E)
5 responses



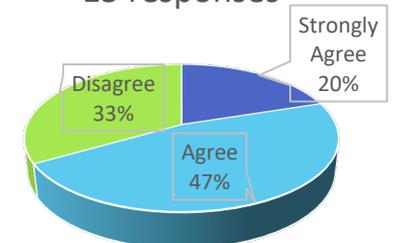
Contractor
3 responses



Other Consultant
1 response

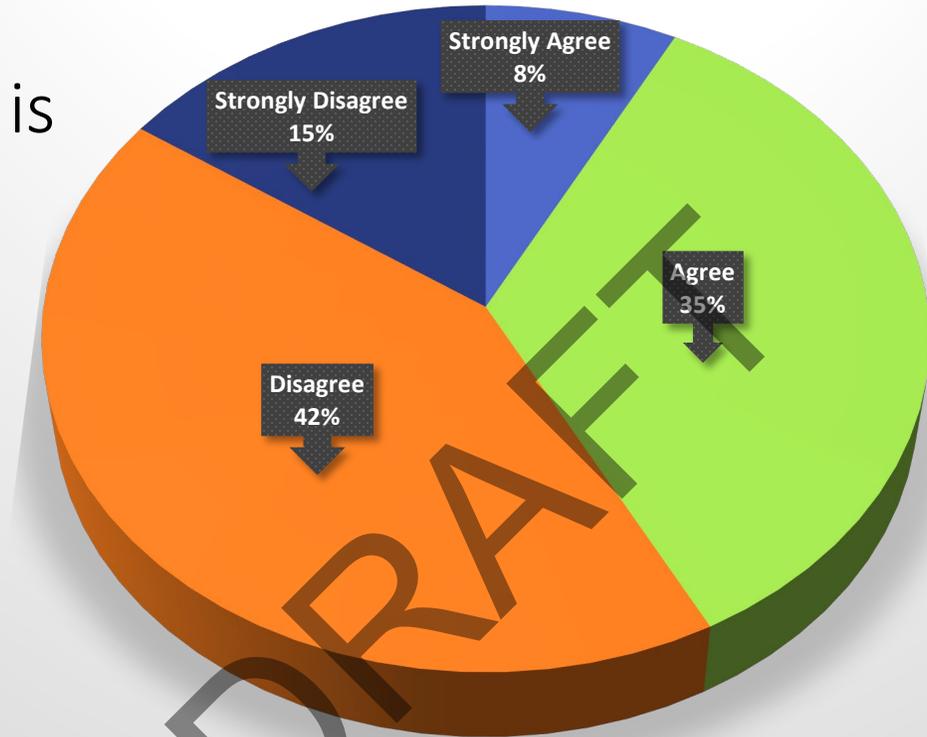


Public Agency
15 responses

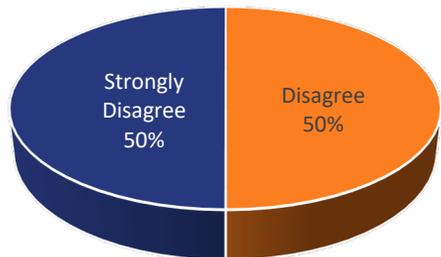


Access to capital including firm financing, eligibility for financing, and bonding is satisfactory

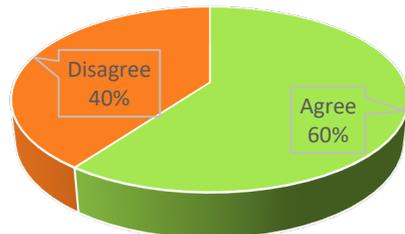
All Responses



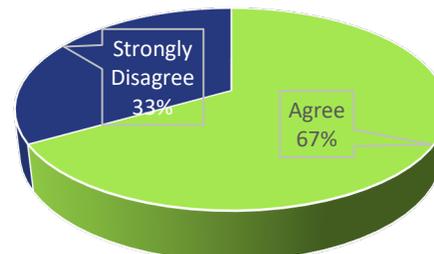
Diverse Business
2 responses



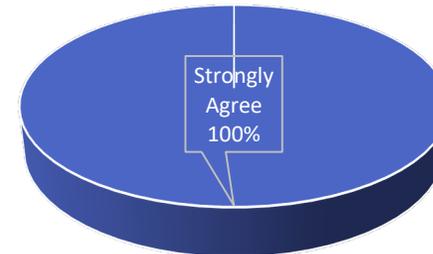
Designer (A/E)
5 responses



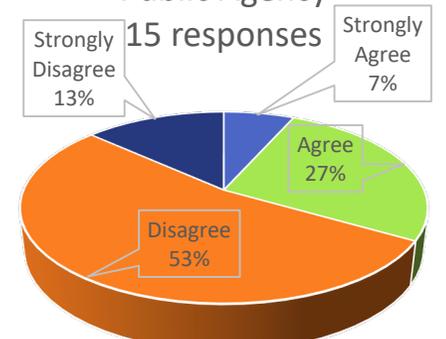
Contractor
3 responses



Other Consultant
1 response

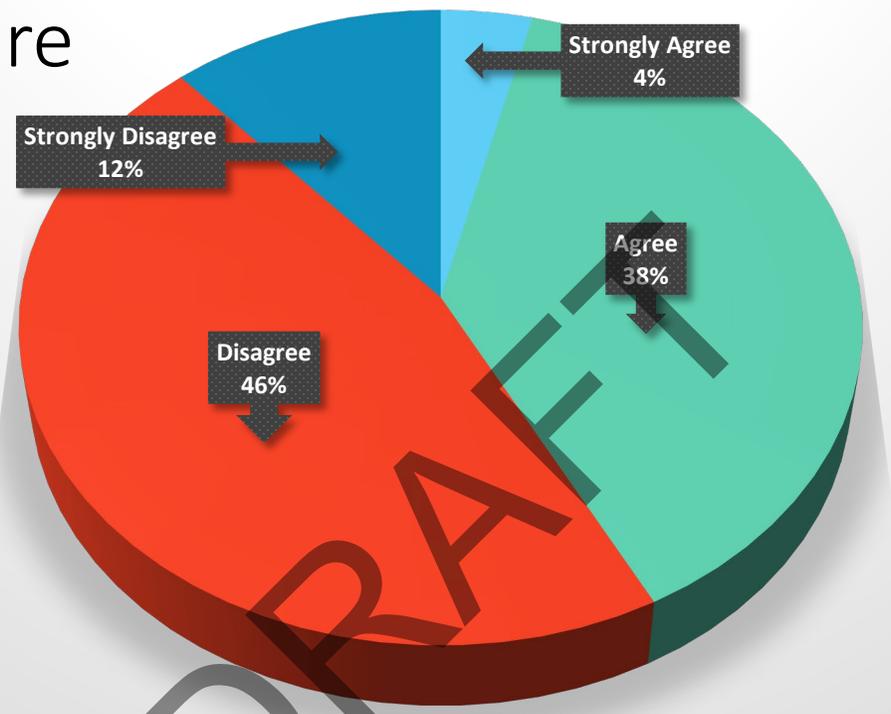


Public Agency
15 responses

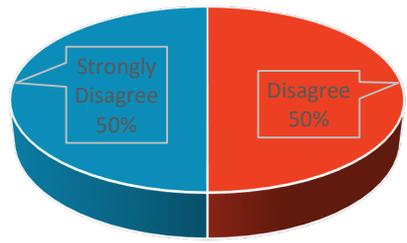


Access to project cash flow and prompt pay issue are satisfactory

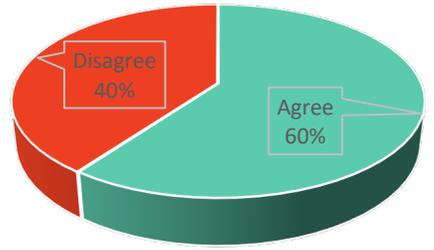
All Responses



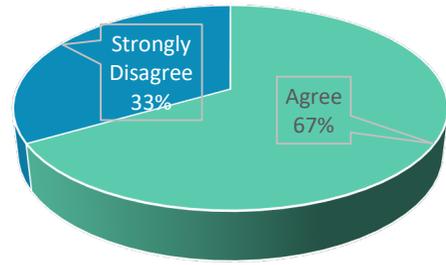
Diverse Business
2 responses



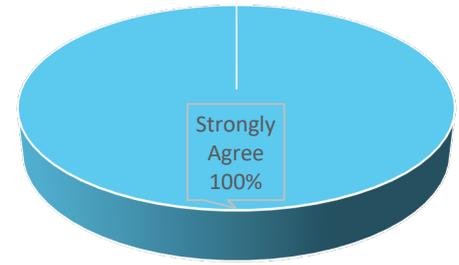
Designer (A/E)
5 responses



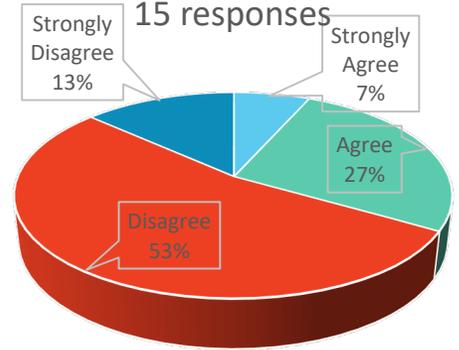
Contractor
3 responses



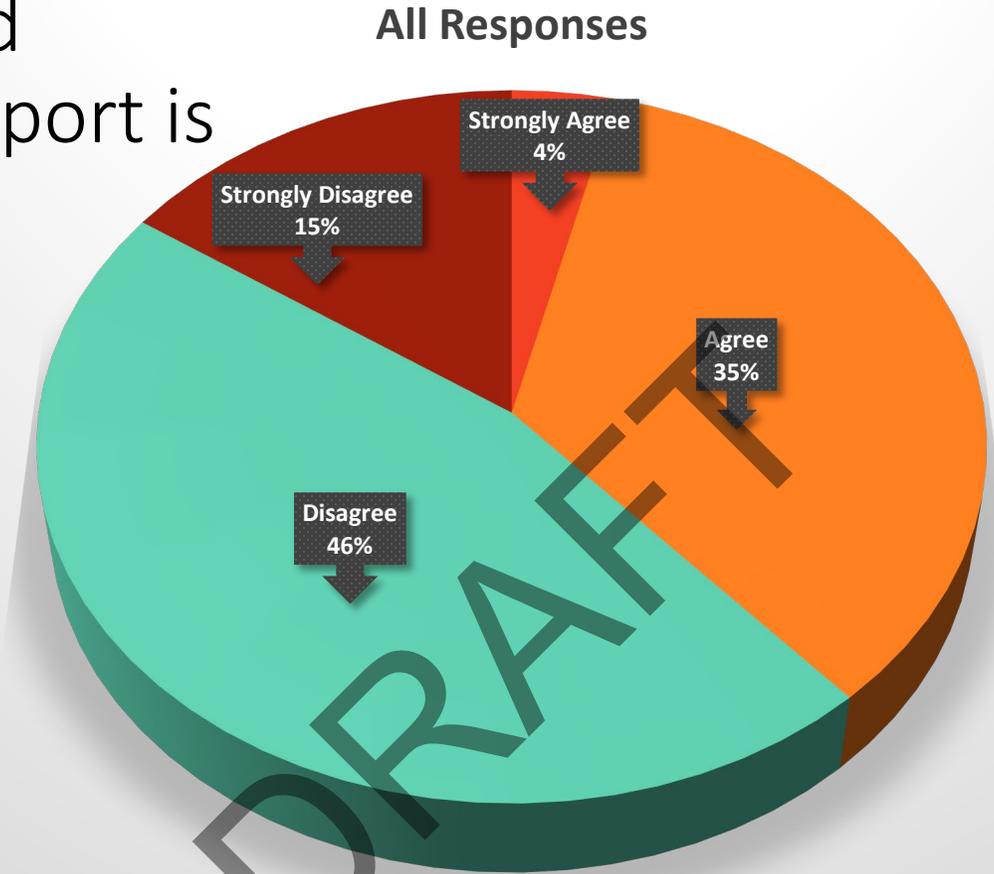
Other Consultant
1 response



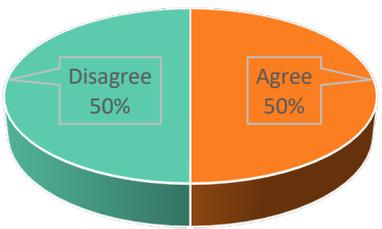
Public Agency
15 responses



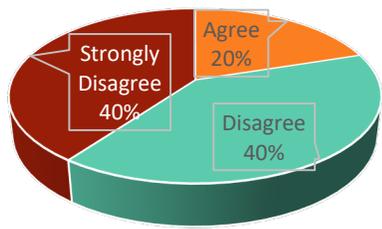
Access to training and business services support is satisfactory



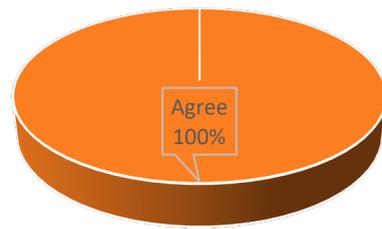
Diverse Business
2 responses



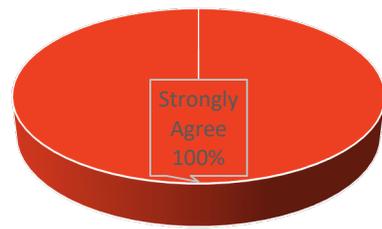
Designer (A/E)
5 responses



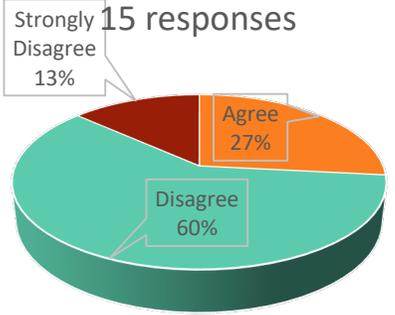
Contractor
3 responses



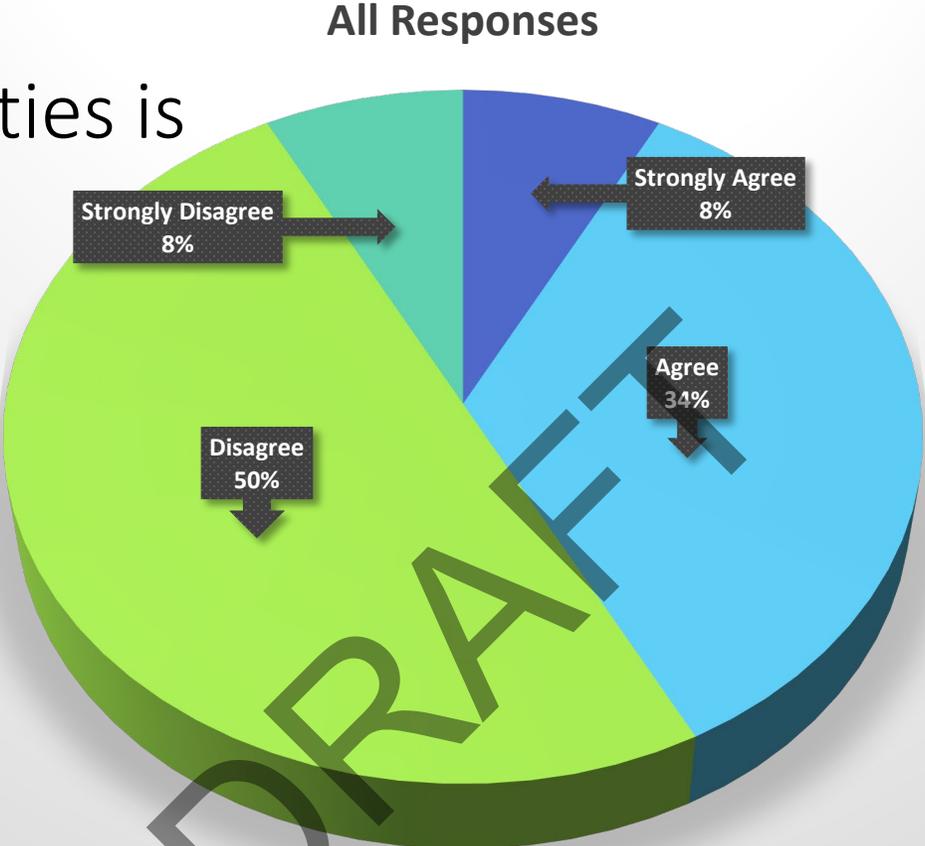
Other Consultant
1 response



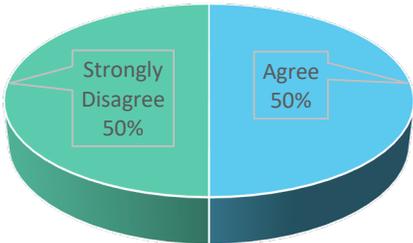
Public Agency
15 responses



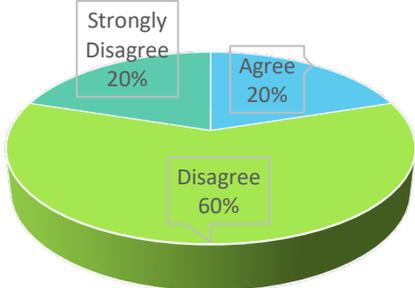
Access to networks/ relationship opportunities is satisfactory



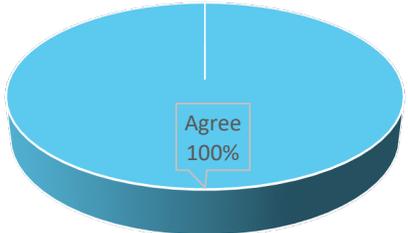
Diverse Business
2 responses



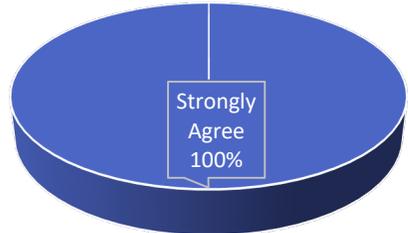
Designer (A/E)
5 responses



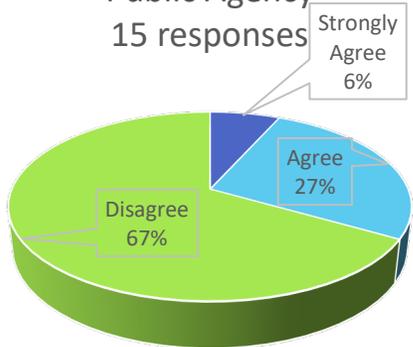
Contractor
3 responses



Other Consultant
1 response



Public Agency
15 responses



Additional Comments Received

- I believe if you want it you can make it happen. If you don't want it you will make excuses as to why you cannot achieve something.
- UW both makes a lot of effort to improve inclusion within the constraints we have as a public agency, and also welcomes new ideas we should consider to do even better.
- As a School District access to funding for new schools is the largest issue. Our voters have difficulty supporting bond measures based on property valuation. As property values increase, even maintenance levies and bonds increase their taxes. Super Majorities, make passage of bonds onerous to school districts. A constitutional modification to this law is in order. Training for ways to work with contractors to increase their equity, diversity, and outreach to minority, and women-owned, veterans and small business enterprises would be beneficial.
- I recommend looking at the Tacoma Public Schools' Diversity best practice program for positive insights. The City of Seattle is also exploring ideas to break down barriers; again, I recommend gleaming insights from their WMBE committee.
- Lack of certified businesses in WA State A/E industry to hire in the primary problem, especially in E WA. Certification process looks at larger and smaller firms in the same manner, seems like criteria should shift to recognize inherent differences in business at these two scales.
- There are other barriers not discussed here that should be considered. Training for owner staff, inclusion plan use and most of all reporting and accountability.
- Access to work for engineering companies in the DB delivery model is problematic. There is less work for smaller engineering firms in this project model and its harder to get. Even large engineering firms are optioning out of the DB projects and pursuing other work. This needs to be dealt with legislatively. While DB is the delivery model of choice for owners it has had adverse effects on the engineering community as whole. Since its working for owners, the DB model needs to be altered to make it more fair for engineering companies.
- These issues are posed as if my organization is a small DBE firm. I have answered them as a government employee in public works and what my perception that that the barriers would be to those firms being in a position to obtain contracts with my agency. But my perception could be off.