



2026 Conference and Expo

"Work Smarter. Build Stronger. Scale with Purpose"
Thursday, November 5, 2026 Virginia Beach Convention Center

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Event Registration/Networking
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	General Session Opening Remarks Aekta Javia, Chair, Minority Business Council Introduction of the Mistress of Ceremony Tara Jones, Secretarial Officer, Minority Business Council Mistress of Ceremony April Woodard, TV Personality and Host of Coast Live Welcome The Honorable Robert Dyer, Mayor City of Virginia Beach Introduction of Keynote Speaker April Woodard, TV Personality and Host of Coast Live Keynote Speaker Steven Anthony, Chairman and CEO, Anthony Global Holdings Presentation of Virginia Beach Uplift Program Micah Rivers, Business Development Officer and Program Manager, Anthony Global Holdings Remarks from City Council Liaisons The Honorable Amelia Ross-Hammond, PhD The Honorable Jennifer Rouse Presentation of the Diversity and Inclusion Impact Award Closing Remarks Cavelle Mollineaux, Vice Chair, Minority Business Council
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open Panel Discussions 3:00 – 3:30 pm Funding Your Future: Access to Capital for Small Businesses ABNB Fulton Bank Dollar Bank Trust Financing Solutions 3:30 – 4:00 pm From Bid to Build: Subcontracting Strategies for Success Archer Western FlatironDragados MEB W.M. Jordan Construction Company