

March 2022 Issue

# MTA Newsletter

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*Your Weekly guide to everything happening on the Hill*



## MTA Business Insider Webinar

Tuesday, March 15, 2022 12 Noon-1:00 pm

### FEATURED GUEST SPEAKER:

**Ms. Krystal J. Brumfield, GSA Associate  
Administrator for Governmentwide Policy**

**This webinar will kick-off Women's History month with our amazing guest speaker who will discuss an overview of GSA policies under the Biden Administration and what you need to know that could impact business in the future.**

**Free to attend!**

**Registration is required**

Inside, we also  
talk about:

March is  
Women's  
Month- 1-2  
Infrastructure  
Roudtable-3

[\*\*Register Here\*\*](#)

# Women's Month Shoutout



## Ms. Krystal Brumfield from GSA, OGWP

Krystal J. Brumfield is an attorney and accomplished executive with more than 10 years' experience of proven leadership in the public and private sectors. Krystal currently serves as the Associate Administrator for the Office of Government-wide Policy at GSA.

She recently served as Chief of Staff for Carlyle Airport Group (CAG) Holdings, LLC, the Carlyle Group's dedicated US-based investment platform for airport infrastructure investment opportunities globally. As Chief of Staff, Krystal oversaw collaboration among CAG's Washington, DC and New York teams to ensure effective and streamlined performance to advance the \$7.4 billion JFK International Airport New Terminal One Redevelopment.

Prior to joining CAG, Krystal was the President & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Airport Minority Advisory Council (AMAC), a national trade association that represents thousands of airports, corporations, and small businesses in the aviation and aerospace industries. She was recognized for driving growth and innovation at AMAC and was named in the top 25 of "Women in Power Impacting Diversity" by DiversityPlus Magazine in 2018 as well as awarded "Outstanding Woman in Law" by Hofstra University School of Law in 2019.

Her additional professional experiences include Vice President & Chief Operating Officer of the DC Chamber of Commerce, Tax & Procurement Counsel for the U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, Visiting Instructor for the International Law Institute African Centre for Legal Excellence and Sales & Use Tax Attorney for the Louisiana Department of Revenue. Krystal currently serves on the Board of Governors of the Aero Club of Washington as the Policy and Programs Committee Co-Chair. She recently served on the Board of Directors for the DC Water and Sewer Authority (DC Water) as Commissioner and Vice Chair, appointed by Mayor Muriel Bowser, and the Providence Health Foundation as a key contributor through the hospital's historic transformation to an integrated Health Village. She was also appointed by Mayor Bowser to serve on the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee of the ReOpen DC Advisory Group amid the COVID-19 pandemic.



[Register Here](#)

## **Infrastructure Roundtable Hosted by MTA and Peter Damon Group**

*Tuesday, March 29, 2022 12 Noon-2:00 pm*

### **FEATURED GUEST SPEAKERS**

**Ms. Nina Albert, GSA Commissioner, Public  
Building Service**

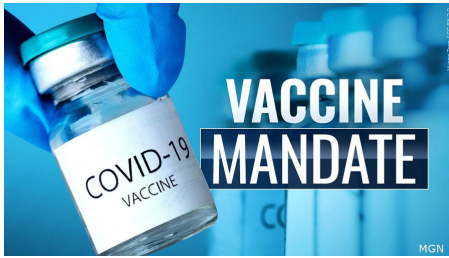
**Mr. Sonny Hashmi, GSA Commissioner, Federal  
Acquisition**

**Mr. John Hale, III The Cornerstone Group (Former  
Dept. of Energy OSDBU)**

**Ms. Shelby Scales, Director Dept. of  
Transportation, Office of Small and Disadvantaged  
Business Utilization (OSDBU)**

**Free to attend!**

**Registration is required**



## Vaccine Mandate in Limbo

March 4, 2022

The Vaccine Mandate executive order put forth by Joe Biden is still under injunction at the current moment. The order will be ruled on April 8th, but till then there is still confusion on what happens in the meantime. Only certain states have enjoined the executive order, including, Alaska, Arkansas, Florida, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Wyoming and so there remains the question of if the order will be enforced. As of now, the government has announced that they will not be enforcing the implementation of the order regardless of where the injunction is in place. This however may be subject to change and so it is still recommended that employers take measures to have employees vaccinated. To read more [click here](#).

## Federal Reserve Bank releases data on Small Businesses:

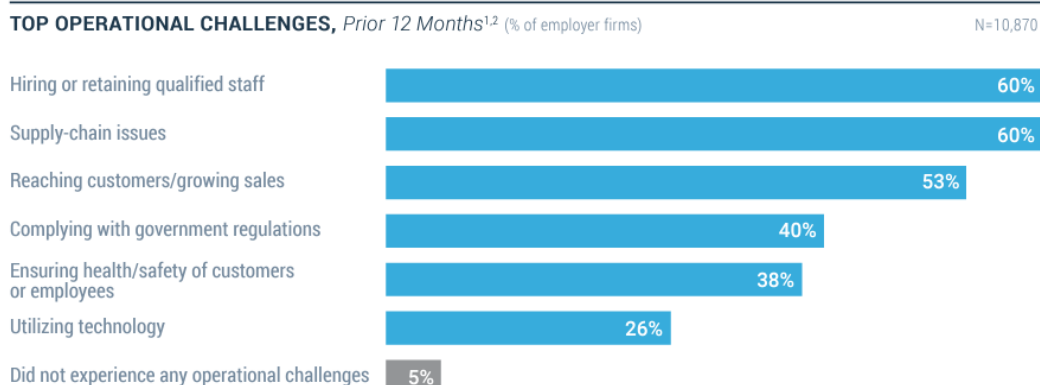
March, 2022

The Federal Reserve Bank reached out to over 10,000 small businesses to gather data on COVID-19's impact on small businesses. Here is some of the data:

- The pandemic continues to have a significant impact, with 77% of surveyed firms reporting negative effects.
- 66% percent of employer firms received pandemic-related financial assistance, down from 87% in 2020.
- 59% of firms reported being in fair or poor financial condition, a figure little-changed since the 2020 survey. Firms of color, smaller firms, and leisure and hospitality firms were most likely to be in fair or poor financial condition.
- Hiring or retaining qualified staff and navigating supply-chain issues are the top operational challenges that firms faced.
- The share of applicants receiving all of the traditional funding they sought fell from 51% in 2019 to 36% in 2020 to 30% in 2021.

To read the full report [click here](#).

### Firms' most common operational challenges were hiring or retaining workers and supply-chain issues, including higher costs for affected goods.



# Appropriations Bill to Pass this Friday

March 9, 2022

Yesterday, March 9th the House passed a \$1.5 trillion spending package. The bill was voted on in two parts with the first passing 361-69 to back funding for the Pentagon, Department of Homeland Security and other national security priorities and then 260-171, with one Democrat (Rep. Rashida Tlaib (Mich.)) voting "present," to adopt the provisions largely related to domestic programs. Now it only needs to pass in congress and receive a signature from the president before Friday, which is when current federal funding expires. Some are worried though that it won't pass on Friday and that it might take longer for negotiations in the Senate as there were objections to the allocation of money from the House. To read more [click here](#).



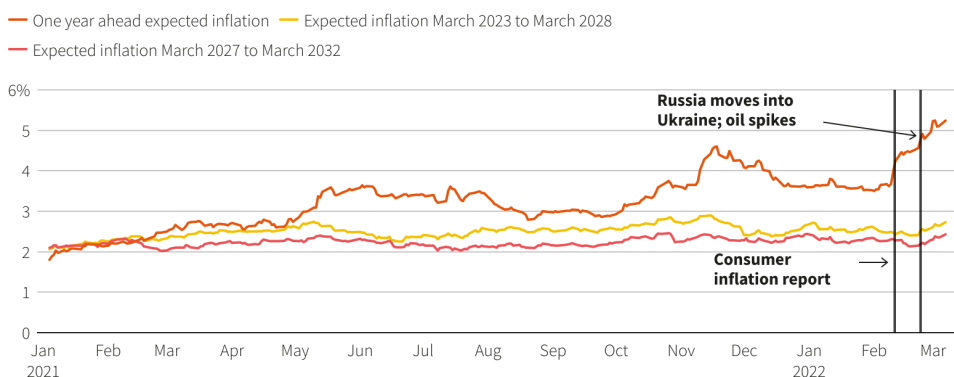
## Effects of the Russian Invasion on Ukraine:

March, 2022

The Russian invasion of Ukraine and subsequent sanctions have dramatically affected the world economy. Energy and Oil prices continue to rise as the U.S cuts off imported oil from Russia. This could have other affects on the market including rising airfare costs, since airlines rely heavily on oil for jet fuel. It is also predicted that the stock market will continue to be volatile. The Dow Jones Industrial Average has fallen more than 7 percent, the S&P 500 index is down more than 9 percent and the Nasdaq composite has fallen roughly 13 percent since the start of 2022. With all of these problems it is also predicted that the FED will increase interest rates and there will be an increase in pressure on inflation. To read more [click here](#).

### ICE inflation expectations index

A new benchmark of market-based inflation expectations shows a sharp jump in the short-term outlook began with a Feb. 10 report showing U.S. consumer inflation running above 7%. Long-term expectations began moving higher with Russia's invasion of Ukraine.



Note: Index based on trading in Treasury inflation protected securities and inflation swaps contracts. Source: ICE



## Small Business Committee Hearing on 8(a) Program:

March 2, 2022

The House held a hearing in the small business committee this past Monday, March 2nd, to examine the 8(a) program, whose goal is to help promote small, disadvantaged businesses. The hearing was to evaluate how the program prepared these businesses for success and the conclusion was that the program provided “contracting opportunities through which small businesses increase their footprint in Federal marketplace, thereby preparing small firms to compete in the American economy.” To read more about the hearing [click here](#).

## Inflation and Supply Chain issues:

March 9, 2022

Supply chain issues continue to be a problem and are only made worse with Russia’s invasion into Ukraine. 65% of small business owners said that supply chain problems are negatively affecting their operations which is 5% more than was reported in the same survey in the beginning of 2022. The supply chain issue is only continuing to worsen and so is inflation. Many are blaming Biden for his lack of response to these issues. To read more [click here](#).

## Things to look for in the coming months:

- *Supply chain Issues*
- *Inflation*
- *Government funding appropriations*
- *Vaccine Mandates*
- *Build Back Better Act*



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