

## Lowndes Joins First-Ever Regional Corporate Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiative

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*Lowndes*  
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Lowndes has joined more than 100 companies and organizations throughout Orlando's business community in committing to "Take the Pledge" and be part of a regional effort focused on raising the growth potential of residents by creating opportunities for those long-affected by racial inequality and ensuring pathways for participation in the economy.

We are proud to work with business leaders and community partners throughout the region as part of the Orlando Economic Partnership's initiative to create a more diverse, equitable and inclusive business community and build a better future for our region.

### **Take the Pledge**

WE will educate ourselves, review examples and share insights through partner organizations such as nonprofits and educational institutions into the history of systemic racism throughout our region and the barriers it continues to present today.

WE will create opportunities for sessions to listen to those affected and marginalized by these barriers to learn how we can help, with follow up on actionable areas focusing on what's working, what needs improvement and where we can be most effective.

WE will identify, support and collaborate with specific nonprofits and other partner organizations who work tirelessly in marginalized and vulnerable communities, asking for careful review of work in marginalized sectors in our region and identify the work still to be done.

WE will use our power, influence and position to amplify unheard voices and endorse policies that lead to racial justice and opportunities for all.

WE will improve the employment, training, wage equity, growth potential, advancement, support and success of black and brown people in our workplace, workforce and marketplace, and commit to ways that minority owned businesses are intentionally included in pipeline opportunities. We will pledge to remove barriers, diversify our talent pool and create upward mobility employment opportunities through implementing skills-based hiring as an innovative hiring practice.

WE will continue ongoing conversations with CEOs and executive leaders to collectively address issues of social injustice, racism and biases in our communities and organizations, confirming within organizations DEI is a strategic imperative with demonstrated commitment and actions.



WE acknowledge the critical importance of accountability to our community and pledge to collaborate in annual efforts to track and report our contributions to the collective (regional) goal of creating a more diverse, equitable and inclusive business community.

WE will support efforts to implement effective community-based models that improve conditions within vulnerable communities throughout Central Florida, using our voices and position to amplify and elevate examples of success.

[Learn more about the Pledge](#)