



EDITH GREEN-WENDELL WYATT
FEDERAL BUILDING MODERNIZATION

Small Business Success

Growing Opportunity

Background: Ha's Painting was started in 1989 by Chi Min Ha's father as a strictly residential painting contractor. In 1991, Chi Min and one of his brothers joined the business and ventured from the residential market to the commercial market. Their first commercial jobs included a central utility plant and a parking garage at the south waterfront for Hoffman Construction and a contract at New Columbia housing redevelopment with Walsh Construction. Six family members, four brothers, one brother-in-law, and one nephew are currently part of the Ha' Painting business family.

How the Edith Green-Wendell Wyatt Project Helped:

Ha's Painting's scope at EGWW began with a contract to paint the north and south stairwells and a has expanded due to good work quality to include: priming all corridors on floors 2 – 17, tenant improvement painting on floors 3 and 6, partial painting of floors 00 and B1, painting the bathrooms on all 18 floors, and painting the door frames.

The lessons learned on the project included the value of thorough project communications, the importance of scheduling on a large commercial project, and learning how to work with a new general contractor partner. Chi Min shared that on a residential project or a small commercial project, communications a day or two before start day was normal, but on Edith Green clarifying work schedule dates and ordering materials weeks in advance was critical to success.

Edith Green was a fun project to work on due to the high level of construction and the quality of work that was required. Superintendents Frank Lee and Troy Boardman were good to work with and did a good job of explaining their expectations.

Chi Min said that he appreciated Howard S. Wright's and General Services Administration's willingness to create opportunity to work at Edith Green for small businesses. His experience in the past with projects of this caliber were that the general contractor and



Chi Min Ha and brother-in-law Sang Lee reviewing project plans

the owner would award the entire painting scope to one painter. The strategy at Edith Green to break-up the painting packages into smaller packages created opportunity for small business success on a state of the art green building.

FAST FACTS

Project: Renovate GSA's Edith Green-Wendell Wyatt federal building creating a high performance green building consistent with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) intention.

Location: Portland, Oregon

Impacts: Opportunity for local small businesses, workers, families, commuters, and students.

Contract Value: \$174,106

Company: Ha's Painting – Commercial Painting and Wall Covering Contractor

Partners: Howard S. Wright, SERA Architects