



Legislation Text

File #: 21-6505, **Version:** 1

Department: Economic Equity and Opportunity

Department Head/Elected Official: Pamela Chan, Executive Director

Regular or Supplemental RCA: Regular RCA

Type of Request: Report

Project ID (if applicable): N/A

Vendor/Entity Legal Name (if applicable): N/A

MWDBE Participation (if applicable): N/A

Request Summary (Agenda Caption):

Transmittal by the Department of Economic Equity and Opportunity of an update on M/WBE Program Design to describe how the DEEO is implementing the program for the County.

Background and Discussion:

The Order of the Commissioners Court passed November 10, 2020 adopted an M/WBE program framework as the basis for an M/WBE Program to be designed, implemented, and managed by the Director of the Department of Economic Equity & Opportunity, subject to necessary approvals by the Harris County Attorney's Office. In the Court's discussion for the item, there was a request for the DEEO to provide "something back" to the Court on the program because the Order passed before the DEEO was operational and the framework could not reflect the department's organizational structure and operations.

Since the Order passed, the County began a soft launch of the M/WBE Program using the program framework under the Purchasing Department's leadership. The DEEO started in January 2021 and in standing up, the department reviewed the framework and identified areas for refinement and alignment with insights gained from the soft launch. The department also set a timeline for the activities to formally launch the M/WBE Program under the DEEO's leadership. This memo and M/WBE Program Design describe how the department is implementing the program policy and an associated operational timeline. It fulfills the Court's written and verbal orders from November 10, 2020 and provides the formal public communication on how the DEEO is implementing the M/WBE Program.

Expected Impact:

1. The memo provides clarity in commitments from the DEEO on launch, implementation, and reporting activities for accountability and engagement.
2. The Program Design provides a description of the M/WBE Program that aligns with the operations of the program and clearly establishes roles and responsibilities. It adopts the terms outlined in framework in a format that is familiar to members of the public most interested in the program (i.e., industry groups, advocacy groups, and contractors). This M/WBE program design document follows a similar form required by the more established Federal DBE Program.

Alternative Options:

N/A

Alignment with Goal(s):

- ☐ Justice and Safety
- ☒ Economic Opportunity
- ☐ Housing
- ☐ Public Health
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Flooding
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Governance and Customer Service

Prior Court Action (if any):

Date	Agenda Item #	Action Taken
11/10/2020		Order adopting the M/WBE Program framework created by Colette Holt & Associates as the basis for an M/WBE Program to be designed, implemented, and managed by the Director of the Department of Economic Equity and Opportunity, subject to necessary approvals by the Harris County Attorney's Office.

Location:

Address (if applicable): N/A

Precinct(s): Countywide

Fiscal and Personnel Summary			
Service Name	N/A		
	FY 21-22	FY 22	Next 3 FYs
Incremental Expenditures (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)			
Labor Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Non-Labor Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Total Incremental Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Funding Sources (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)			
Existing Budget			
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Total Current Budget	\$	\$	\$

Additional Budget Requested			
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Total Additional Budget Requested	\$	\$	\$
Total Funding Sources	\$	\$	\$
Personnel (Fill out section only if requesting new PCNs)			
Current Position Count for Service	-	-	-
Additional Positions Requested	-	-	-
Total Personnel	-	-	-

Anticipated Implementation Date: January 1, 2022

Emergency/Disaster Recovery Note: Not an emergency, disaster, or COVID-19 related item

Contact(s) name, title, department: Derek Holmes, Assistant Director Vendor Diversity, DEEO

Attachments (if applicable): M/WBE Program Design and Memo