



Legislation Text

File #: 23-0565, **Version:** 1

Department: Economic Equity and Opportunity
Department Head/Elected Official: Diana A Ramirez

Regular or Supplemental RCA: Regular RCA
Type of Request: Discussion Item

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

MWDBE Contracted Goal (if applicable): N/A
MWDBE Current Participation (if applicable): N/A
Justification for 0% MWDBE Participation Goal: N/A - Goal not applicable to request

Request Summary (Agenda Caption):

Request for discussion of the Minority-and Woman-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) Program Utilization Report for the period of March 2022 through September 2022 (SFY 2022) including program statistics, lessons learned, and new action items.

Background and Discussion:

As DEEO continues its implementation of the MWBE Program, we committed to updating Commissioners Court on the status of the program semi-annually. Our last report was presented to Commissioners Court on June 28, 2022, covering the 9-month period from June 2021 through February 2022.

This report covers the 7-month period from March 2022 through September 2022 (SFY 2022) and covers contract awards. Part 2 of the utilization report will cover contract payments. Part 2 will be presented on February 21, 2023. DEEO needed the extra time to do additional QA/QC on the payment data.

Hereafter, the award and payment reports will be combined, cover 6-month periods and will be delivered to Commissioners Court in June and December each year. For FY 2023, DEEO will present a utilization report on

- June 27, 2023, covering the 6-month period of October 2022 to March 2023
- December 19, 2023, covering the 6-month period of April 2023 to September 2023

Overall, the report shows MWBE utilization remained stable over the two reporting periods at approximately 19.5% MWBE utilization as compared to the MWBE utilization pre-program implementation of 9%. This is a 115% increase in the contract dollar value that has been awarded to qualified MWBEs in the program's first 13 months of operation.

In addition, the utilization of Black-owned firms increased during the last reporting period. Pre-program, only one-half of one percent (0.5%) of Harris County's contract dollars were awarded to Black-owned firms although Black-owned firms' availability constitutes 8.4% of the total firms in the Harris County market.

For the first reporting period, the County's utilization of Black-owned firms almost quadrupled to 1.95%. For this reporting period, the County awarded 4.96% of contract dollars to Black-owned firms. This gets the County closer to matching the Black-owned firm availability; from 6% of contract dollars awarded to available Black-owned firms pre-program to 23% during the first reporting period, to almost 60% during the Short Fiscal Year.

While we are showing progress, we are still significantly short of meeting the County's 30% aspirational goal. DEEO will be presenting highlights of lessons learned and new action items to improve the program as part of the PowerPoint presentation that will follow under separate cover.

Expected Impact:

Greater participation in Harris County procurement will help build the minority- and woman-owned business ecosystem in Harris County resulting in a more equitable and inclusive economy.

Alternative Options:

None.

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
5/24/2022		MWBE Program Update
6/28/2022		MWBE Utilization Report

Location:

Address (if applicable):

Precinct(s): [Choose an item.](#)

Fiscal and Personnel Summary

Service Name	
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	FY 23	FY 24	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 Court Date: January 31, 2023

Anticipated Implementation Date (if different from Court date):

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

Contact(s) name, title, department: Diana A Ramirez, Executive Director, DEEO

Jack Thomas, Director, Inclusive Procurements

Attachments (if applicable): PowerPoint slide deck will follow under separate cover.