

NEWS



NEWS

MAYOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Room 216 - City Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Phone: 215. 686.6210 or 6211
Fax: 215.686.2170
Internet: www.phila.gov

John F. Street, Mayor
Barbara A. Grant
Director of Communications

Contact: Luz Cárdenas
(215) 686-6210

Cynthia Bayete
(215) 686-2149

For Immediate Release: June 28, 2004

City of Philadelphia Unveils NTI Small Demolition Bid Package Program

PHILADELPHIA — Today, the Street Administration will unveil a new program designed to ensure expanded participation of small, minority and women-owned businesses in City of Philadelphia demolition projects.

Developed in cooperation with the Neighborhood Transformation Initiative (NTI), Minority Business Enterprise Council (MBEC), and the Procurement Department, the NTI Small Demolition Bid Package Program will build upon NTI's existing accomplishments in the areas of local, small business development and inclusion. The new program includes features that will improve the ability of small and emerging contractors to compete for NTI small demolition packages. Eligibility extends to MBEC certified contractors and/or firms whose annual gross revenues have not exceeded \$12,000,000.

“This new program is an extension of our ongoing commitment to expanded economic opportunity for all,” said Mayor John F. Street. “By assembling NTI demolition work into smaller packages and streamlining many of the requirements, we are improving the ability for our smaller contractors to compete as prime contractors.”

To kick off the program, the Administration organized a training session for contractors who have shown an interest in a bidding process specially designed for smaller demolition packages of five to 10 properties. Traditional demolition packages usually involve 50 or more properties in one package.

The workshop will take place at 2 p.m., on the 16th Floor of the Municipal Services Building, 1401 JFK Boulevard. During the workshop representatives from various City agencies will be available to answer questions and provide additional information on how to qualify for the program.

-more-

The Small Demolition Bid Package Program is another example of the innovations and successes of the NTI Program. By packaging demolitions into smaller units, the City of Philadelphia is creatively leveling the playing field for small, minority and women-owned businesses. The new bond form being offered to contractors in this Program will make it easier for these contractors to obtain bonding and financing. Due to the small dollar amount of the contracts to be issued as part of this program, several bonding requirements have been modified to reflect the reduced risk associated with these contracts and still provide the City with the highest level of security.

“The NTI demolition program reflects the Administration’s strong focus on ensuring that small, minority and women-owned firms benefit from City sponsored programs and initiatives,” said NTI Director Patricia Smith. “The Small Demolition Bid Package Program is an example of what can be accomplished when various City agencies work cooperatively towards a common goal.”

Developed under the Street Administration, the Neighborhood Transformation Initiative is a \$275 Million program designed to address safety and quality of life issues in Philadelphia’s neighborhoods. Key components of the initiative include demolition and encapsulation of dangerous and abandoned buildings, cleaning and greening of vacant lots, expanded support of neighborhood-based real estate development and ongoing emphasis on building neighborhood business infrastructure.

“Consistent with our ongoing commitment to minority and women business development, MBEC is pleased to play a central role in this initiative,” said MBEC Director Michael Williams. “This initiative is designed to not only aid in providing business opportunity, but also to help build long-term capacity and opportunities for small businesses to serve as prime contractors.”

NTI Small Demolition Bid Packages will be issued every two weeks, beginning in mid-July. For more information about NTI Bidding Opportunities, visit the NTI website, www.phila.gov/nti or the City of Philadelphia Procurement website, <http://bids.phila.gov/index.asp>, or call the Procurement Department at 215-686-4820.

**Neighborhood Transformation Initiative
Upcoming Small Bid Packages for the 1ST Quarter of FY2005**

<u>Neighborhood</u>	<u>Bid Package Number</u>	<u>No. of Demolitions</u>	<u>Advertisement Date (week of)</u>	<u>Bid Opening Date (week of)</u>
Paschall	038J	5	July 12, 2004	August 9, 2004
49 th & Saybrook	038K	7	July 26, 2004	August 23, 2004
Fallon & Hanson	038L	6	August 9, 2004	September 6, 2004
Farson	039A	10	August 23, 2004	September 20, 2004
Dearborn	039B	7	September 6, 2004	October 4, 2004

The Standard Specifications for NTI Demolition Bid Packages, individual Project Manuals, and bid information are available on the City of Philadelphia’s Procurement website at <http://bids.phila.gov/index.asp>