

APPENDIX \_\_\_\_\_  
**CITY OF PHILADELPHIA**  
**OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY**  
**ANTIDISCRIMINATION POLICY- MINORITY, WOMAN AND DISABLED OWNED BUSINESS**  
**ENTERPRISES**  
**FORMS, INSTRUCTIONS AND SPECIAL CONTRACT PROVISIONS**  
**(NON-COMPETITIVELY BID CONTRACTS)**

Under the authority of Executive Order No. 03-12, the City of Philadelphia has established an antidiscrimination policy ("Policy") relating to the participation of Minority (MBE), Woman (WBE) and Disabled (DSBE) Owned Business Enterprises in City contracts. Executive Order 03-12 is administered by the City's Office of Economic Opportunity ("OEO").

The purpose of this Policy is to provide equal opportunity for all businesses and to assure that City funds are not used, directly or indirectly, to promote, reinforce or perpetuate discriminatory practices. The City is committed to fostering an environment in which all businesses are free to participate in business opportunities without the impediments of discrimination and participate in all City contracts on an equitable basis. In accordance with the contracting requirements of the City, the City's antidiscrimination policy is applicable to this Notice of Contracting Opportunity (hereinafter, "NOCO").<sup>1</sup>

For this NOCO, the City has not established ranges for the participation of MBEs, WBEs and/or DSBEs (collectively, "M/W/DSBEs"), but applicant is still required to exercise its Best and Good Faith Efforts to include M/W/DSBEs in its proposal. "Best and Good Faith Efforts" are those efforts, the scope, intensity and appropriateness of which are designed and performed to achieve meaningful participation of M/W/DSBEs in the work described by the NOCO. Applicant's desire to self-perform all of the work does not excuse applicant from its exercise of Best and Good Faith Efforts. Solicitations and any commitments with M/W/DSBEs shall be designated on the Solicitation For Participation and Commitment Form. The submission of this form and any supporting documentation (more fully discussed below) is an element of responsiveness to the NOCO and failure to submit the required information will result in rejection of your proposal.

Applicant hereby verifies that all forms, information and documentation submitted to OEO are true and correct and is notified that the submission of false information by applicant is subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. §4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities which may include payment of a fine of at least \$1,000 and a term of imprisonment of not more than two years. Applicant also acknowledges that under 18 Pa.C.S. §4107.2 (a)(4) it is a felony in the third degree, punishable by a term of imprisonment of not more than seven years in addition to the payment of any fines or restitution, if, under any Contract awarded pursuant to this NOCO, applicant fraudulently obtains public moneys reserved for or allocated or available to minority business enterprises or women's business enterprises.

#### **A. M/W/DSBE PARTICIPATION**

1. Only firms that are certified by an approved certifying agency<sup>2</sup> and identified in the OEO Certification Registry by the time of contract award will be counted for participation. An OEO Certification Registry is maintained by the OEO and is available online at [www.phila.gov/OEO/directory](http://www.phila.gov/OEO/directory). Firms owned and

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<sup>1</sup> The term "Notice of Contracting Opportunity," shortened to the acronym "NOCO," refers to the City's contract solicitation documents and information posted on eContract Philly. Generally, these documents take the form of a Request for Proposals (RFP), Request for Qualifications (RFQ) or Request for Expression of Interest (RFI) and include any other document or information (for example, exhibits, appendices) related to the posting of the new contract opportunity.

<sup>2</sup> Approved certifying agencies are identified on the OEO webpage found at [www.phila.gov/OEO](http://www.phila.gov/OEO). Applicant is strongly encouraged to search the Pennsylvania Unified Certification Program ("PaUCP") Directory which offers a robust listing of DBEs; the PaUCP Directory is found at [www.paucp.com](http://www.paucp.com).

controlled by minority persons, women or disabled persons, which are certified as MBE, WBE, DSBE or DBE by an approved certifying agency may apply to the OEO for listing in its OEO Certification Registry.

2. Participation is counted only if the M/W/DSBE performs a commercially useful function ("CUF"). An M/W/DSBE performs a Commercially Useful Function when it performs a distinct element of a City Contract (as required by the services to be performed in accordance with the NOCO) which is worthy of the dollar amount of the M/W/DSBE's participant agreement and the M/W/DSBE carries out its responsibilities by managing and supervising the services involved and actually self-performing at least twenty percent (20%) of the services of the participant agreement with its own employees. For suppliers, an M/W/DSBE performs a Commercially Useful Function when it is responsible for sourcing the material, negotiating price, determining quality and quantity, ordering the material and paying for it from its own funds. Commercial usefulness will be evaluated and determined by the OEO on a proposal by proposal basis as informed by prevailing industry standards and the M/W/DSBE's NAIC codes.

3. In order to maximize opportunities for as many businesses as possible, a firm that is certified in two or more categories (e.g. MBE and WBE and DSBE or WBE and DSBE) will only be counted toward one participation range as either an MBE or WBE or DSBE. The firm will not be counted toward more than one category. Applicants will note with their submission which category, MBE or WBE or DSBE, is submitted for counting.

4. An MBE/WBE/DSBE submitting as the prime applicant is required, like all other applicants, to submit a proposal that is responsive to the Policy. In addition, the participation of an M/W/DSBE partner, as part of a joint venture created for this contract, may be counted only to the extent of the M/W/DSBE partner's ownership interest in the joint venture in accordance with the following criteria:

- The MBE, WBE or DSBE partner(s) must be identified in the OEO Registry prior to contract award;
- The M/W/DSBE partner(s) must derive substantial benefit from the arrangement;
- The M/W/DSBE partner(s) must be substantially involved in all phases of the contract including planning, staffing and daily management;
- The business arrangement must be customary (i.e., each partner shares in the risk and profits of the joint venture commensurate with their ownership interest, contributes working capital and other resources, etc).

5. M/W/DSBE subcontractors must perform at least twenty percent (20%) of the total amount of work to be performed under the subcontract with their own employees.

6. In listing participation commitments on the Solicitation for Participation and Commitment Form, applicants are required to list a detailed description of the services or supply effort, the dollar amount of the quotation, and percentage of the contract the participation represents. In calculating the percentage amount, applicants may apply the standard mathematical rules in rounding off numbers. The OEO reserves the right to request clarifying information from applicants in the event of an inconsistency or ambiguity in the Solicitation For Participation and Commitment Form.

## **B. RESPONSIVENESS**

1. A proposal responsive to the Policy is one which contains documentary evidence of the applicant's exercise of Best and Good Faith Efforts. The applicant's Solicitation For Participation and Commitment Form should include evidence of the M/W/DSBEs that have been solicited and any commitments to use M/W/DSBEs in performance of the contract. This form should be submitted with applicant's proposal but the City, at its sole discretion, may allow applicants to submit or amend the Solicitation For Participation and Commitment Form at any time prior to award. As an expression of Best and Good Faith Efforts, the Solicitation For Participation and Commitment Form must contain the following information:

- Documentation of all solicitations (regardless of whether commitments resulted

therefrom) as well as all commitments made on the enclosed document entitled "Solicitation For Participation and Commitment Form". Applicants should only make actual solicitations of M/W/DSBEs whose services or materials are within the scope of this NOCO. Mass mailing of a general nature to M/W/DSBEs or similar methods will not be deemed solicitation, but rather will be treated as informational notification only. A reasonable period of time should be given to all solicited firms to ensure that they have sufficient time to adequately prepare their quotes/subproposals. The applicant's listing of a commitment with an M/W/DSBE constitutes a representation that the applicant has made a legally binding commitment to contract with such firm, upon receipt of a contract award from the City ("Contract Commitment").

- If the applicant has entered into a joint venture with an MBE, WBE and/or DSBE partner, the applicant is also required to submit along with the Solicitation For Participation and Commitment Form, a document entitled "Joint Venture Eligibility Information Form," available at OEO, for the City's review and approval of the joint venture arrangement.

2. In evaluating applicant's Best and Good Faith Efforts, OEO will review the scope, intensity and appropriateness of these efforts to ascertain whether they could reasonably be expected to achieve meaningful M/W/DSBE participation in this contract. Failure to submit the documentary evidence of Best and Good Faith Efforts will result in rejection of the proposal as nonresponsive, although the City, at its sole discretion, may allow applicants to submit or amend their submission at any time prior to award which may result in revision to applicant's participation commitments. The submission shall contain and discuss, at a minimum, the following:

- Provide reasons for not committing with any MBE/WBE/DSBEs that submitted a quote/subproposal, regardless of whether the quote/subproposal was solicited by applicant.
- Provide any additional evidence pertinent to applicant's conduct relating to this NOCO including sufficient evidence which demonstrates to the OEO that applicant has not engaged in discriminatory practices in the solicitation of and commitment with contract participants. In describing applicant's efforts to achieve meaningful M/W/DSBE participation, applicant may submit any corroborating documentation (e.g., copies of advertisements for participation).

The applicant's documentary evidence will be reviewed by the OEO to determine whether applicant exercised Best and Good Faith Efforts. Applicant's expressed desire to self-perform services with its own employees will not excuse applicant from exercising Best and Good Faith Efforts to include M/W/DSBEs in its proposal. OEO's review will include consideration of the following:

- Whether the applicant's actions were motivated by considerations of race or gender or disability. The OEO may investigate the applicant's contracting activities and business practices on similar public and private sector contracts. For example, if applicant rejects any M/W/DSBE based on price, applicant must fully document its reasons for the rejection and also demonstrate that applicant subjects non-M/W/DSBEs to the same pricing standards. OEO will investigate whether there was any attempt at good faith negotiation of price.
- Whether M/W/DSBEs were treated as equally as other businesses in the solicitation and commitment process. For example, the OEO will investigate whether M/W/DSBEs are given the same information, access to the plans and requirements of the contract and given adequate amount of time to prepare a quote/subproposal as others who were solicited by applicant. The OEO will also investigate whether M/W/DSBEs were accorded the same level of outreach as non-M/W/DSBEs, for example whether applicant short listed M/W/DSBEs for participation or solicited M/W/DSBEs at any pre-proposal meetings.
- Whether the applicant's contracting decisions were based upon policies which disparately affect M/W/DSBEs. OEO will ascertain whether applicant selected portions of work or material needs consistent with the capacity of available M/W/DSBE subcontractors and suppliers. OEO will consider whether applicant employed policies which facilitate the participation of M/W/DSBEs on City contracts such as segmentation of the contract or prompt payment practices.

3. After review of the applicant's submission and other information the OEO deems relevant to its evaluation, the OEO will make a written determination that will be forwarded to the awarding City Department.

▪ If the proposal is determined nonresponsive by the OEO, the applicant will be notified and may file a written appeal with the Executive Director of OEO within forty-eight (48) hours of the date of notification; the decision of the Executive Director shall be final.

### **C. RESPONSIBILITY**

1. Upon award, the completed Solicitation For Participation and Commitment Form and accompanying documents regarding solicitation and commitments with MBEs, WBEs and DSBEs become part of the contract and the successful applicant is required to enter into legally binding agreement(s) ("M/W/DSBE Subcontract(s)") with its M/W/DSBE participants for the services and in the dollar amount(s) and percentage(s) as so committed (the "Contract Commitment(s)"). M/W/DSBE percentage commitments are to be maintained throughout the term of the contract and shall apply to the total contract value (including amendments). Any change in commitment, including but not limited to substitutions for the listed firm(s), changes or reductions in the work and/or listed dollar/percentage amounts, must be pre-approved in writing by the OEO.

2. Unless otherwise specified in the M/W/DSBE Subcontract, the successful applicant shall, within five (5) business days after receipt of a payment from the City for services performed under the contract, deliver to its M/W/DSBE participants, their proportionate share of such payment for services performed (including the supply of materials). In connection with the payment of its M/W/DSBE participants, the successful applicant agrees to fully comply with the City's payment reporting process which may include the use of electronic payment verification systems.

3. No privity of contract exists between the City and any M/W/DSBE participant identified in any contract resulting from this NOCO. The City does not intend to give or confer upon any such M/W/DSBE participant(s) any legal rights or remedies in connection with the subcontracted services pursuant to Executive Order 03-12 or by reason of any contract resulting from the NOCO except such rights or remedies that the M/W/DSBE subcontractor may seek as a private cause of action under any legally binding contract to which it may be a party.

4. If the OEO determines that the applicant has discriminated against a M/W/DSBE at any time during the term of the contract, the OEO may recommend to the Director of Finance the imposition of sanctions on the applicant including debarment of the applicant from submitting and/or participating in future City contracts for a period of up to three (3) years.

### **D. ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

1. The OEO shall have the right to make site visits to the applicant's place of business and/or job site and obtain documents and information from any applicant, subcontractor, supplier, manufacturer or contract participant that may be required in order to ascertain applicant's responsiveness and responsibility.

2. Failure to cooperate with the OEO in its review may result in a recommendation to terminate the contract.

## **E. RECORDS AND REPORTS**

1. The successful applicant shall maintain all books and records relating to its M/W/DSBE commitments (e.g. copies of quotations, subcontracts, joint venture agreement, correspondence, cancelled checks, invoices, telephone logs) for a period of at least three (3) years following acceptance of final payment from the City. These records shall be made available for inspection by the OEO and/or other appropriate City officials. The successful applicant agrees to submit reports and other documentation to the OEO as deemed necessary by the OEO to ascertain the successful applicant's fulfillment of its M/W/DSBE commitments.

## **F. REMEDIES**

1. The successful applicant's compliance with the requirements of Executive Order 03-12 is material to the contract. In the event the City determines that the successful applicant has failed to comply with any of the requirements of this Antidiscrimination Policy, including substantial compliance with any Contract Commitment, the City may, in addition to any other rights and remedies it may have under the Contract which includes termination of the Contract, exercise one or more of the following remedies which shall be deemed cumulative and concurrent:

- Debar successful applicant from proposing on and/or participating in any future contracts for a maximum period of three (3) years.

- Withhold from the contract payment(s) or any part thereof until corrective action is taken. If corrective action is not taken to the satisfaction of OEO, the City may, without institution of a lawsuit, deduct money in an amount equal to the M/W/DSBE shortfall which amount shall be collected and considered not as a penalty but as liquidated damages for the successful applicant's failure to comply with the contract.

The remedies enumerated above are for the sole benefit of the City and City's failure to enforce any provision or the City's indulgence of any non-compliance with any provision hereunder, shall not operate as a waiver of any of the City's rights in connection with any contract resulting from this NOCO nor shall it give rise to actions by any third parties including identified M/W/DSBE participants.

Should you have any questions related to the Contract Provisions, please call Ekpenyong Oji., OEO at (215) 683-2078 or facsimile (215) 683-2151.