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ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Room 400, City Hall Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Monday, March 6, 2017 10:05 a.m.

PRESENT:

IOLA HARPER, Executive Director, Office of Economic Opportunity
STEVEN SCOTT BRADLEY, Chairman,
African-American Chamber of Commerce
ETHELIND BAYLOR, Vice President, AFSCME
District Council 47
JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ, President and CEO,
Philadelphia Hispanic Chamber of
Commerce

Page 2 1 2. CHATRWOMAN HARPER: 3 morning. We are going to get today's 4 Committee meeting started. My name is 5 Iola Harper and I am the Executive 6 Director of the Office of Economic 7 Opportunity. I'd like to extend some very 8 9 brief context for those of you who are not familiar with this meeting and maybe 10 11 who have not attended before to give you 12 an idea of the purpose of the Economic Opportunity Review Committee. 13 14 In 2012, Council produced an ordinance which called for the creation 15 of this Committee. The Economic 16 17 Opportunity Review Committee information or details can be found in 17-1607 of The 18 19 Philadelphia Code. The work of this Committee 20 includes a number of things. One of them 21 is to oversee and facilitate a public 22 23 review of the implementation, effectiveness, and enforcement of Equal 2.4 25 Opportunity Plans. Another is taking

Page 3 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 public testimony related to diversity and 2. 3 inclusion in the City and being responsive to that testimony. A third is 4 5 facilitating public access to key information that will enhance and enable minority, women, and disabled business owners to successfully do business in the 8 9 City of Philadelphia. And, finally, this Committee -- this is the committee that 10 11 will make recommendations to City Council 12 for the adoption of resolutions calling 13 for appropriate remedial and legal 14 remedies where we see flagrant violations 15 to inclusion commitments made by 16 contractors and subcontractors on City 17 contracts. 18 These meetings are held quarterly, and the dates for 2017 are in 19 20 your packets. These are public meetings and they are open to anyone who would 2.1 like to attend. 22 23 Transcripts of this and all 2.4 previous meetings are available online at 25 the OEO website, which can be found at

Page 4 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. Philadelphia.gov/OEO. 3 I'd like to take a very quick moment to acknowledge members of the 4 5 Administration that are present. We've 6 got Nolan Atkinson here. Thank you for coming, who heads the Office of Diversity and Inclusion for the City. As of right 8 9 now, we don't have City Council members present, but I also like to give my 10 colleagues here on the Committee a chance 11 12 to introduce themselves and offer any brief remarks if they'd like to do so. 13 14 MR. BRADLEY: Good morning. 15 I'm Steven Scott Bradley. I'm Chair of 16 the African American Chamber of Commerce. 17 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Good morning. 18 I'm Jennifer Rodriguez. I am the President of the Hispanic Chamber of 19 20 Commerce. 2.1 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: All right. And we have another Committee member just 22 23 joining us, and I know I'm putting you right on the spot, but would you mind 2.4 25 just introducing yourself quickly and

Page 5 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 2. your affiliation. 3 MS. BAYLOR: Good morning, everyone. Ethelind Baylor, AFSCME 4 5 District Council 47, Vice President. 6 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Thank you 7 so much. And I want to just offer 8 9 appreciation for my Committee members. Thank you for sharing your time with us 10 11 this morning. 12 As always, we have a full agenda. If you would like to speak today 13 14 and your name is not on the formal 15 agenda, you have an opportunity to do so. 16 If you just see Michelle on my right over there, you can sign up, and if there's 17 time, which I believe there should be 18 19 time, we allocate time, you'll have the 20 opportunity to come up and provide 21 testimony as well. So if you look at the agenda 22 23 for today, our first speaker is Valarie Cofield. She's from the Eastern Minority 2.4 25 Supplier Development Council. I'd like

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2	to ask Valarie to come on up to the	
3	front.	
4	There are often questions about	
5	certification, what is certification,	
6	what does it mean to be minority	
7	certified, what is that process, why is	
8	that process hard. And so I've invited	
9	my colleague Valarie to come and share a	
10	little bit today about the MBE, minority	
11	business enterprise certification	
12	process, and whatever else you'd like to	
13	share.	
14	(Witness approached witness	
15	table.)	
16	MS. COFIELD: Thank you. Thank	
17	you very much. I am honored to be	
18	speaking in front of this group. My name	
19	is Valarie Cofield. I am President and	
20	CEO of the Eastern Minority Supplier	
21	Development Council.	
22	The Eastern Minority Supplier	
23	Development Council is an affiliate of	
24	the National Minority Supplier	
25	Development Council. The National	

Page 7 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE Minority Supplier Development Council was 2. started by Executive Order under 3 President Richard Nixon back in 1971. 4 is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, 5 certifying bodies in the nation. 6 It was primarily established for the purposes of creating a mechanism by which private 8 9 industry would engage with diverse businesses in their supply chain. 10 11 Certification became a part of 12 that process as a way to distinguish minority businesses from others 13 14 participating in the supply chain. as many of us know, certification can be 15 16 an onerous process. I sit here in the distinct 17 18 position of not only leading an organization that is responsible for 19 20 certifying over 12,000 businesses 21 nationwide, but also as being formerly the Certification Manager for the City of 22 23 Philadelphia under the Minority Business Enterprise Council, the predecessor to 2.4 25 OEO.

Page 8 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. So my experience with 3 certification is both longstanding and in-depth, having led an organization such 4 5 as EMSDC, but also the Minority Business Enterprise Council. Prior to that, I was 6 actively involved in the response to Richmond v. Croson, which overturned 8 9 set-aside programs and minority business goals programs by the Supreme Court back 10 11 in 1989. At that point, many local, state, and federal institutions went to 12 disparity studies for the purposes of 13 14 justifying having MBE programs 15 specifically. A lot of them went to a local orientation in terms of their 16 programs. A number of them relied on the 17 18 DBE program which was established by the U.S. Department of Transportation in 19 20 1983. 2.1 The purpose of certification is simply one: to ensure that the 22 23 beneficiaries of protected opportunities are legitimately minority-owned 2.4 25 businesses. It has been in the past a

Page 9 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE I know that when I 2. very onerous process. was leading the MBEC certification 3 program, our backlog was upwards of six 4 5 months. I am happy to say that with the advent of technology, we have found a substantial reduction in the processing time of certification applicants. 8 9 It is also a more streamlined process because much of what we are 10 11 investigating is common information, and we have well-trained staff members 12 capable of investigating and determining 13 14 very quickly who is eligible for certification. 15 16 So I'm going to back up and 17 talk about eligibility. Certification is eligible to 18 19 any minority person who meets certain 20 protected classes -- or racial or ethnic 2.1 backgrounds, should I say - black, Hispanic, Asian, Asian-Indian. Persons 22 23 who are not covered in those categories of ethnic minority are persons who are 2.4 25 from Sub-Saharan Africa and what we would

Page 10 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. call the Arab nations. All others, 3 non-European, Latinos, are included, but European Latinos, those on Spaniard or 4 5 Portuguese descent are not included. You must be a minimum of 51 percent owned and control the business for which you are seeking certification. 8 9 There is no size criteria, and that's important to distinguish. It is this 10 11 distinguishing factor from a DBE certification. DBE requires that you not 12 only be socially disadvantage; that is, a 13 14 part of a protected class, but that you 15 be economically disadvantaged. Under MBE 16 certification, you are not required to be economically disadvantaged. You are 17 simply required to be a minimum of a 51 18 19 percent owner of a business. The distinction of the EMSDC 20 2.1 certification process is that it is a national certification. Once you are 22 23 certified by EMSDC or any council in your home jurisdiction, you hold national 2.4 25 certification. It is a distinguishing

Page 11 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE factor that is appreciated by most buying entities, because that means that you do 3 not have to have a business go through a 4 5 separate local certification process. There is a cost, and oftentimes 7 that is the pushback to certification, is the cost. And I think it's because 8 9 people assume that you're paying for the piece of paper and not for the services 10 11 rendered. 12 We have a strategic partnership with the City of Philadelphia that 13 14 reduces the cost for all first-time Class 15 1 businesses located in the City of 16 Philadelphia. That is a partnership that we extend to members of the African 17 American, Hispanic, and Asian American 18 Chambers of Commerce. It is a reduced 19 20 cost for Class 1's from \$500 to \$300. 2.1 It is important to note that, 22 again, the certification is a payment for services rendered and not for the 23 certification itself. But certification 2.4 25 does, again, give access to the MBEs to

Page 12 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. additional supportive services in the areas of developing their businesses, in 3 the areas of access to information 4 5 regarding contract and contract 6 opportunities. What's really important for me -- I can talk about certification all 8 9 day, and I have both pros and cons when it comes to certification myself 10 personally, but what I will tell you is 11 12 that we have been very focused on getting companies certification-ready and not 13 14 contract-ready, and that is the secondary part of what it is that EMSDC is 15 16 looking -- does offer to businesses, is 17 making them contract-ready and not 18 certification-ready. 19 Certification is simply a tool 20 for engagement. It is not the vehicle of 2.1 engagement. And so it's very important that when we focus on certification, we 22 23 focus on it as a tool, but that we really get into the business of making 2.4 25 businesses contract-ready; that is,

Page 13 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 2. capable of building capacity within our 3 minority business community to do prime level work throughout the City, the 4 5 region, and the nation, and hopefully we move them to a global engagement as well. So from my perspective, certification is very important. I do 8 9 think that we distinguish ourselves in the fact that we are a national 10 11 certification, and we certainly have 12 global reach as well. But, more importantly, I think we distinguish 13 14 ourself because we have four pillars -15 certify, develop, connect, and advocate. 16 The development and connection piece of our four pillars is what 17 18 distinguishes us from every other organization that is certifying. 19 20 certify you, but our next step is to develop you, get you contract-ready, and 21 22 then to connect you to those 23 opportunities in the marketplace. And with that, I'm open to any 2.4 25 questions that you may have.

Page 14 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. MS. RODRIGUEZ: Good morning. MS. COFIELD: I'm going to put 3 on my glasses so I can see you. 4 5 MS. RODRIGUEZ: So you 6 mentioned that you had reduced processing times, that we were at some point at six months. What would you say an applicant 8 9 can expect the turnaround time? MS. COFIELD: A standard 10 11 turnaround time on applications, a completed application, is 30 to 45 days. 12 That is because our certification process 13 14 is fully automated. All documents are 15 submitted online. They're uploaded. 16 There's very little mailing back. 17 site visit is conducted as soon as a 18 certification application is complete. 19 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Valarie, 20 are there businesses that you would say 21 are not appropriate for certification or for whom certification may not 22 23 necessarily be a relevant tool for? MS. COFIELD: Well, I think 2.4 25 that any business that is not seeking to

Page 15 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. engage in the supply chain, the sourcing chain of large buying institutions may 3 not be appropriate for certification. 4 5 But I do think there is a relevant need 6 to identify those businesses that can provide B to B services to other businesses who may be operating in the 8 9 supply chain. And so not every business 10 should get certified. Like one of the 11 12 first things that we try to do is make sure that you are not a start-up coming 13 14 to get certified. Certification should 15 not be a check-the-box process. When you 16 come in to our office to get certified, 17 we are hoping, at minimum, that you are 18 either operating or you're seeking 19 certification as a direct result of an 20 opportunity that you have. And, 21 therefore, if you are a start-up, it is directly tied to an opportunity that is 22 23 presenting itself to you. 2.4 MR. BRADLEY: Question. Do you 25 accept other certifications from SEPTA or

Page 16 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 the City, or you still have to go through 3 the whole process? MS. COFIELD: We don't do 5 reciprocity in that regard because it is 6 a national certification. However, they are reviewed in conjunction with our 7 certification. 8 9 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Thank you so much. 10 11 MS. COFIELD: Thank you. 12 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: 13 appreciate you coming. 14 All right. Now I would like to 15 welcome up Della Clark and Victoria 16 Hosendorf. Are you coming up, Victoria? MS. HOSENDORF: No. 17 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Oh, Della 18 19 Clark from The Enterprise Center, and she 20 is going to share information with us 2.1 about a new initiative coming out of The Enterprise Center called the Center for 22 23 Equitable Solutions. 24 (Witness approached witness 25 table.)

Page 17 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. MS. CLARK: Good morning. T'm Della Clark. I'm President of The Enterprise Center, and I want to thank 4 5 you for the opportunity to share not only some information about the new division we're starting called the Center for Equitable Solutions, but also before I 8 9 speak about that, to kind of give you some additional background as to how this 10 11 new division came about. 12 The Enterprise Center celebrated 27 years in January, and I 13 14 have been with the organization for 25 of 15 those 27 years. And my two mottos since 16 I joined The Enterprise Center was build 17 an organization to last and also keep the 18 organization searching for excellence. 19 And so about two years ago, The 20 Enterprise Center looked at what it was 2.1 currently doing, which I think it has been doing a wonderful job in working 22 23 with MBEs for 27 years, but we decided that we wanted to take our work and our 2.4 25 tools in terms of working with small

Page 18 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE businesses to another level. So we engaged Temple University, the Fox 3 Management Consultant Group, to help us 4 5 look at our entrepreneur tools. So we 6 came up with three developmental tools. One of them is that we're coming up with an overarching 8 9 entrepreneur operating system that would be called Stage Coaching. 10 11 The second component of that is that we decided to use sales force and 12 13 embed an assessment tool that will help 14 us be able to assess eight core 15 competencies of a small business owner, 16 from accounting to marketing to 17 organizational, leadership, the major key areas we think they need to develop as 18 they go through the staging development 19 of their business, from start, scale, and 20 2.1 sustain. 22 And then, finally, we needed a more efficient tool to source our 23 clients, and we're calling it D Biz 2.4 25 Connect, which is essentially using sales

Page 19 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. force again that will combine not only the capability of our small businesses 3 but also the opportunity so we can do a 4 5 better job at matchmaking. As a result of these tools -and, by the way, we will have invested about \$250,000 in these tools when 8 9 they're done, and they should be ready to roll out probably at the beginning of our 10 11 fiscal year in July. 12 And so the second thing that has occurred in the past two years is 13 14 that we formed a construction consortium. 15 This is comprised of construction firms 16 in three different areas - professional 17 services and construction management; the second one is construction firms; and 18 then the final one is furniture, fixture, 19 20 and supplies. And so we pretty much 21 organize about 50 clients in those three buckets. 22 23 So for the past year, these 50 2.4 entrepreneurs have been meeting on the 25 third Friday of every month and getting

Page 20 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 2. organized, deciding how they can do business together, as well as listening 3 to subject-matter experts. And so I am 4 5 pleased to inform you today that we have 6 come a long way with this committee and that it is functioning. It's not a legal structure. It doesn't focus on 8 9 organization of the committee or the group or body, but it focuses on subject 10 11 matter, access to capital, and 12 opportunities. And it is a great way to connect construction firms to real 13 14 opportunities. 15 And I think all of you know or 16 probably have heard that west of the 17 Schuylkill Expressway there are probably about \$20 to \$30 billion of construction 18 19 projects on the drawing board with the major institutions, eds and meds in West 20 21 Philadelphia. And so the goal is to try to connect some of these construction 22 23 firms to these opportunities. So we're really excited about that. 2.4 25 Another way in which is laying

Page 21 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. the groundwork for the Center for Culinary Enterprises, about five years 3 ago The Enterprise Center opened up a 4 5 commercial kitchen. And so if you look 6 at west of the Schuylkill Expressway again with the eds and meds and the private sector, there is probably about 8 9 \$100 million annually being spent on food. Most of those eds and meds use 10 11 food service companies. Primarily the 12 three is Bon Appetit, which is owned by Compass; Aramark; Sodexo. And so with 13 14 our small food producers, we have been 15 trying to connect them to opportunities 16 through those food service companies. 17 Last year we did approximately 18 somewhere between \$250,000 to \$300,000 with these food service companies. Our 19 20 goal over the next two years is to double 21 that number and eventually get it to 22 about a million a year annually. Now, 23 that's not The Enterprise Center revenue. This is aggregately the revenue of the 2.4 25 small food producers.

Page 22 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. How we have done that, we serve 3 as the main vendor. We purchased a delivery truck. We managed their back 4 5 office, and we also do their invoicing, and when we get paid, we pay the client. 6 And so with these two consortiums, one being construction, one 8 9 being food, we started thinking about how can we put together a suite of services 10 11 that will be customized for them. 12 this is how the Center for Equitable Solutions has come about. 13 This is a brand new division 14 15 that we are currently rolling out. 16 will include strategic sourcing. 17 going to get into EOP monitoring and 18 outreach. We also would like to request from the City of Philadelphia to be 19 sanctioned to do certifications. We are 20 21 building a team to be able to do that, as well as we have looked at the 22 23 capacity-building services of The 2.4 Enterprise Center and we're bringing 25 those key areas over to this new center.

Page 23 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. And then, finally, one of the other areas that we are working in is 3 around capital. Capital is the number 4 5 one disruptor of growing a small business 6 and particularly to minority businesses who are undercapitalized. So last year we deployed about 2.5 million to 82 8 9 loans. This year we want to try to double that number closer to 5 million, 10 11 and in the next three years, we would 12 like to deploy about 15 million a year. 13 We have engaged two consultants 14 in that area, one to help us with a 15 capitalization plan and the other one 16 with a fundraising plan. So essentially 17 we're going to go out to banks and foundations and get them to loan us money 18 in the form of line of credits that we 19 20 will reloan then to small businesses, 2.1 because without access to capital, these small businesses, whether they're in 22 23 food, construction, regardless of the industry, will not be able to achieve 2.4 25 their goals without capital. Capital is

Page 24 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE the number one disruptor in scaling a business, and in most cases, since we 3 operate in the lane of minority business 4 5 enterprises, they start out underresourced, and if they never catch up on the capital side, the business is stifled and it really doesn't grow and it 8 9 hits these lows. And that's where we want to move the needle over the next 10 11 five years. 12 We have built capacity in that area, and so right now we're doing 13 14 business with Republic Bank, Customers Bank, and a number of foundations that we 15 16 are getting capital from. 17 The other area in capital that 18 we have made some movement and want to do a much better job is around equity. 19 20 the past two years, we raised about \$1.6 21 million in equity from both foundations 22 and the federal government. 23 invested in two businesses so far, a janitorial firm and an engineering firm, 2.4 25 and the goal is to invest more.

Page 25 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. The way this works is that the 3 business gets to use the capital for three years. They don't have to make any 4 5 payments during those three years. 6 don't have to service any debt. And at the end of the three years, they return the capital with what we call a coupon 8 9 rate, and that is a great way to provide patient capital to these small 10 11 businesses. 12 So I'd be happy to come back in September when we have our Center for 13 14 Equitable Solutions fully developed and 15 rolled out and staffed, but today I 16 wanted to publicly announce that we are 17 launching the Center for Equitable 18 Solutions. We think that the growth and 19 development of The Enterprise Center 20 times very well with this new division. 21 And so I am extremely excited about it and how we are aggregating all of our 22 resources to offer a suite of services to 23 our clients. 2.4 25 As I mentioned, we want to get

Page 26 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. into certification, but we're not interested in just being a certifier. 4 Our goal is to bring all of the other 5 components of The Enterprise Center 6 together, because as Val mentioned, it's not about certification. It is really about helping clients connect to 8 9 opportunities, and that is the ultimate goal of what we want to achieve at The 10 11 Enterprise Center. 12 So our overarching theme is that if the opportunity doesn't knock, 13 14 you have to build a door. And our goal is to help our clients build the doors 15 16 for new opportunities to not only create 17 jobs but increase their profitability. 18 So thank you, and I'll take any 19 questions. 20 MR. BRADLEY: My question is 2.1 for the contractor division, have you met with the people from Rebuild? Because 22 they've been doing a lot of outreach. 23 Have they had that opportunity to talk to 2.4 25 your --

Page 27 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. MS. CLARK: Yes. They did come and speak to the construction consortium. 3 4 MR. BRADLEY: Good. So you're 5 going to make sure they take advantage of 6 those opportunities? 7 MS. CLARK: Yes, we will. MS. RODRIGUEZ: For the 8 9 contracting consortium, is there a curriculum or is it -- how is it 10 11 directed? So you mentioned that this 12 group meets on a periodic basis and that they have subject-matter experts. 13 14 that, I would say, pre-scheduled or is it 15 more organic in the way that it operates? 16 MS. CLARK: It is scheduled the 17 third Friday of every month from 11 o'clock to 1 o'clock. The topics are 18 generated by the small businesses. Okay? 19 20 The leadership is driven by the small 21 businesses. So we try to understand 22 their needs and then go and identify a 23 subject-matter expert. So to give you an example, last 2.4 25 month we had heard conversation around

Page 28 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. bonding, surety bonds. So we brought in two experts around surety bonds. 3 one-half of the meeting is around a 4 5 particular topic of interest to them and 6 then, secondly, opportunities that are of interest to them. So we really are the convener of it, but we let them drive the 8 9 topic and the opportunities. CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Della, if a 10 11 business is already certified, where 12 would they fall in the ecosystem for the Center for Equitable Solutions? So if 13 14 they come to the Center already 15 certified, what is the product or service 16 that will be available for that type of 17 business owner? MS. CLARK: Well, the first 18 goal would be to establish where they are 19 20 in terms of their growth and development, 2.1 and that will be done through an 22 assessment tool. And we try to rank 23 them, and we rank them -- we will rank them over the time that they're a client, 2.4 25 and they too would get their score.

Page 29 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. And then once we determine 3 that -- so as you know, many entrepreneurs are weak in financial 4 5 That is one of the areas that we acumen. 6 try to get a sense of where they are in 7 that particular category, in that core competency. If they're strong in it but 8 9 weak in marketing, then we will put together a suite of services that will 10 11 help them build capacity around 12 marketing, getting their name out, finding about opportunities. If they're 13 14 weak in financial acumen, then we would 15 do the same. 16 So what we try to do is first 17 do an assessment of where they are 18 skills-wise and where they are in the development of their business, and then 19 20 from there, we would do a customization 2.1 of services around that particular 22 business and what they need. 23 MS. BAYLOR: I do have a 2.4 question, Ms. Clark. When you mentioned 25 about you are looking to be sanctioned by

Page 30 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 the City to offer certification, what would that certification consist of for 3 4 the business? 5 MS. CLARK: I'm sorry. The 6 last part? MS. BAYLOR: What would the certification consist of? Like how many 8 9 classes? What would be the topics? it, as you mentioned, that it's organic 10 11 or do you have a curriculum that would be 12 designed for that certification that you're looking for? 13 14 MS. CLARK: No. The certification that we want to do is that 15 16 we want to certify small businesses that 17 the City of Philadelphia would accept. So we have reviewed SEPTA's certification 18 19 checklist. We have reviewed other checklists. And so we think that we can 20 2.1 help our clients meet that checklist. 22 One of the things that prevent 23 many clients from completing that checklist is their tax returns. 2.4 25 Oftentimes they are slow in doing their

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2	taxes, because every checklist requires	
3	tax returns. So we are building	
4	relationships with CPA firms, so that	
5	when we price out our certification, it	
6	would include three years of their tax	
7	returns so that they won't have any	
8	excuse why they don't have their tax	
9	return.	
10	So we're looking at every	
11	single area of that checklist and saying	
12	how do we need to align services and	
13	align resources that will help them not	
14	only get their certification but also get	
15	contracts and build capacity.	
16	CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Thank you,	
17	Della.	
18	I'd like to welcome up the	
19	Mayor's Office of Education right now,	
20	Mary Strasser.	
21	(Witnesses approached witness	
22	table.)	
23	MS. STRASSER: Good morning.	
24	(Good morning.)	
25	MS. STRASSER: Good morning,	

Page 32 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. Mr. Bradley, a member of our Pre-K Advisory Board. My name is Mary Strasser 3 and I'm the Acting Director of the new 4 5 pre-K initiative in the Mayor's Office of 6 Education, and I'm joined by my colleague Julie Beamon, who is the Provider Coordinator. We also had expected to be 8 9 joined by Dr. Stacy Phillips, who is one of our providers, who has been awarded 90 10 11 slots for pre-K in West Philadelphia. 12 She runs Pee Wee Prep in West Philadelphia. But she's unable to make 13 14 it today because she had some teachers that had called in sick and she has to 15 16 cover the classrooms, which is really 17 important. She's a wonderful example of 18 how this pre-K initiative is not only a wonderful opportunity for young children 19 and families, but it's also a great 20 21 business opportunity for many women and 22 minority business owners in the City. 23 So Julie is going to provide 2.4 our testimony on behalf of the pre-K 25 initiative.

Page 33 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Julie, can just state your full name for the record. 3 MS. BEAMON: Sure. Julie 4 5 Beamon, B-E-A-M-O-N. Good morning again. Thank you 7 so much for inviting us to provide testimony on behalf of the Philly pre-K 8 9 providers. So today we just want to talk a 10 11 little bit about the economic impact that 12 our providers have experienced as a result of participating in Philly pre-K. 13 14 One of Mayor Kenney's signature 15 campaign promises was, and I quote, to 16 bring pre-kindergarten to as many kids as 17 we can reach. Establishing quality pre-K is essential to ensuring that our 18 children are able to enter kindergarten 19 20 with the foundation necessary to be successful in school. While this 2.1 foundation would most certainly include 22 23 basic literacy and numeracy skills, such as learning your ABC's and 123's, I'm 2.4 25 sure that many pre-kindergarten and

Page 34 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. kindergarten teachers alike will tell you that the social and emotional development that occurs in children during this 4 5 critical time is just as important. These teachers and childcare providers are the heartbeat of the pre-K experience. Most days their 8 9 responsibilities go far above and beyond what they may have originally intended or 10 11 anticipated they would be for that day. 12 In addition to providing quality pre-K and serving as CEO of their small 13 14 business, they may also have served that 15 day as a nurse, a social worker, 16 mediator, counselor or substitute teacher. Often they utilize, without 17 hesitation, their limited resources to 18 ensure that a child has an appropriate 19 20 winter coat or to provide other essential 2.1 items to their families in need, such as groceries, diapers or wipes. Many will 22 23 tell you this is simply what they do because they love the children and the 2.4 25 families that they serve. There are few

Page 35 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 2. opportunities for them to seek or receive 3 additional compensation for all that they do. 5 The Philly pre-K contract has 6 truly been a game changer for our providers. We received over 100 applications at more than 165 sites and 8 ultimately selected 88 providers to fill 9 2,000 slots. Of the 88 providers 10 11 selected, 64 are for-profit agencies and 12 24 are non-profit agencies, 17 are family childcare providers who provide services 13 14 in the home setting. A little more than half of our 88 providers meet the 15 criteria for classification as a small 16 17 business. 18 For this prorated contracted 19 year of January through June, providers will receive an allotment of \$5,100 per 20 This rate will increase to \$8,500 2.1 child. per child for the school year beginning 22 in September 2017, and that \$8,500 rate 23 is consistent with the state-funded Pre-K 2.4 Counts allotment that is awarded. 25

Page 36 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. Our slot allocations vary by provider and are based on a number of 3 factors, including location capacity, 4 5 availability of quality pre-K programming, and the number of risk factors experienced by children in the 8 area. 9 The most immediate area of economic impact that we've seen thus far 10 11 for providers has been in the area of employment and staffing. As of March 12 1st, the Philly pre-K program has 13 14 generated a total of 213 new positions 15 for our providers. Of this total, 122 16 are full-time teacher positions, 38 are 17 part-time teacher positions, and 53 are 18 support staff positions. The average hourly wage for all positions is \$14.79 19 20 per hour, which exceeds the current 21 minimum wage standard of \$12.10 required of City contractors. 22 23 In addition to now having the ability to hire more staff, our providers 2.4 25 have reported that they have been able to

Page 37 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 further enhance their centers through purchasing laptops, books, and additional 3 furniture. Another provider reported 4 5 being able to resurface her play space and buy additional playground equipment. One provider has the ability to now bring in specialist teachers one day a week to 8 9 teach gym and French. And we have a family provider who after 20 years of 10 11 being in operation has reported that she 12 is now able to open up a retirement account as a result of participation in 13 14 the Philly pre-K program. 15 To that end, the Mayor's Office 16 of Education has implemented three key initiatives surrounding workforce 17 development, technical assistance, and 18 building capacity to support the growth 19 and stabilization of our Philly pre-K 20 providers. Our first initiative involves 21 22 workforce development. 23 The field of early childhood education is historically known for 2.4 25 having a high turnover rate. First, with

Page 38 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. support from the current Administration, we were able to successfully advocate for 3 the pre-K teacher position to be added as 4 5 a high-priority occupation through 6 Philadelphia Works, the local workforce investment board. 7 Second, through the work of our 8 9 amazing Workforce Development Coordinator, Ms. Jade Wallace, we have 10 11 developed partnerships with District 12 1199C and Community College of Philadelphia to assist current teachers 13 14 working in our Philly pre-K programs to 15 obtain their Associate's degree. 16 addition, Jade has presented several 17 scholarship nights from our providers throughout the City to discuss the 18 scholarship and tuition assistance 19 opportunities available in early 20 childhood education. 2.1 22 As our centers continue to 23 expand, we are also supporting our providers by posting their available 2.4 25 positions on our Mayor's Office of

Page 39 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 2. Education website and sharing them through our social media feeds. Next, through our intermediary 5 contracts with PHMC and UAC, the Urban Affairs Coalition, we have been able to provide technical assistance and back-office support. UAC offers HR 8 9 support, benefits administration, accounting, payroll management, and audit 10 11 compliance. Our office has also 12 partnered with United Way's Success by 6 program to provide training to our growth 13 14 providers on how to move their centers to 15 high quality. There are currently seven 16 Philly pre-K providers enrolled in Success by 6. 17 In addition, our family 18 19 providers who traditionally have not had 20 access to participating in similar contracting opportunities, such as Head 2.1 Start or Pre-K Counts, are receiving 22 specialized technical assistance and 23 support to their unique structure as a 2.4 25 family provider through a partnership

Page 40 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. with District 1199C. Lastly, we are committed to working with our providers to help them 4 5 build capacity. Through a grant from PNC, the Mayor's Office of Education was able to offer a free series of early childhood education business management 8 9 workshops designed to teach financial literacy to our pre-K center owners and 10 11 directors. Some of the topics include 12 learning how to blend multiple funding streams, building the capacity of a small 13 14 business, and personnel management. 15 far, we have had 21 providers take 16 advantage of this opportunity. 17 The last and newest project that I'd like to mention is that our 18 office is currently planning, in 19 conjunction with the Office of Economic 20 21 Opportunity, to provide a pathway for our 22 providers to become certified through -minority, women, disabled business 23 enterprise certified. 2.4 25 In our current provider pool,

Page 41 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. we have 55 providers that are eligible for this certification. Fifty-one of the 3 55 are owned by women and at least 40 are 4 owned by a minority. 5 Becoming certified will allow providers to enjoy the benefits of being part of the OEO registry and allows them 8 9 to have preference for future City contracts. This is a crucial step in 10 11 validating the work that they do. 12 Daycare owners and childcare providers, whether big or small, are 13 14 often marginalized as babysitters. This 15 misconception has had a detrimental 16 economic impact on the early childhood education profession. This is most 17 18 evidently seen in the lower wages that they receive in comparison to educators 19 20 in the public school system. 2.1 As I mentioned in my opening remarks and as we all know, they do so 22 23 much more. We want our Philly pre-K providers to know that they are valued 2.4 25 and supported by our city, and that our

Page 42 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. city also supports diversity and inclusion. It's amazing to see how much 5 we've accomplished in just a few short 6 months. There are nearly 2,000 threeand four-year-old children now enrolled in Philly pre-K. Through the revenue 8 9 generated as a result of the sweetened-beverage tax, just imagine how 10 11 many more children we can enroll into 12 quality pre-K and also how many more providers we can help to expand. 13 14 Again, I'd like to thank the 15 Committee for inviting us to provide 16 testimony regarding the economic benefits to our Philly pre-K providers. 17 18 Thank you. 19 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: I just have 20 a quick one. Can you share with us the total contract -- the total amount of the 2.1 contracts that will go to these 22 23 businesses from the City of Philadelphia? MS. STRASSER: Yeah. 2.4 25 \$10.2 million in this abbreviated year,

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2	and it will expand to I should do the	
3	math more quickly 16 million next	
4	year.	
5	CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: For FY18?	
6	MS. STRASSER: Yes.	
7	CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Okay.	
8	MS. STRASSER: I can give you	
9	a I'm trying to sort out some of the	
10	other costs, but it's 10.2 in '17.	
11	CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Okay.	
12	MR. BRADLEY: I just wanted to	
13	thank you for the comprehensive data that	
14	you explained as far as the numbers,	
15	minority firms, disadvantaged firms. I	
16	mean, I think you made a very compelling	
17	argument. I appreciate that. Important.	
18	MS. BEAMON: Thank you.	
19	MS. STRASSER: We appreciate	
20	your support on the Advisory Board.	
21	CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: I'm excited	
22	about our partnership. Thank you so	
23	much.	
24	MS. STRASSER: Thank you.	
25	MS. BEAMON: Thank you.	

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2	MS. STRASSER: Have a great	
3	day.	
4	CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Next I'd	
5	like to welcome up Drexel University to	
6	talk about The Summit project.	
7	(Witnesses approached witness	
8	table.)	
9	MS. STELTZ: Good morning,	
10	Madam Chair and other distinguished	
11	members of the Committee. Thanks for	
12	giving us the opportunity to testify	
13	about The Summit project, which is	
14	located at 3400 Lancaster Avenue and was	
15	completed in September of 2015. I'm	
16	Sarah Steltz. I'm the Director of	
17	Workforce and Economic Inclusion at	
18	Drexel.	
19	The Summit development was part	
20	of the third-party model that the	
21	University often uses. In these	
22	instances, a development an	
23	independent developer enters into a	
24	long-term ground lease with the	
25	University. The projects are in line	
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Page 45 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 2. with the strategic interest of the University, but the developer has full 3 autonomy on the project, meaning that 4 5 they hire the contractors, they perform the EOP, and they fully fund the work. 6 In this case, we worked with our third-party partners at American 8 9 Campus Community and Hunter Roberts to maximize participation on the project. 10 11 An Economic Opportunity Plan wasn't required in this case because it was 12 approved by the Zoning Board of 13 14 Adjustment and not by a City ordinance, 15 but Drexel does ask that its partners in 16 Hunter Roberts and ACC establish an EOP 17 committee and report on a quarterly 18 basis, as we do on all our projects. 19 At Drexel, we seek third-party 20 partners that share our values around 21 local and diversity inclusion, and I believe that ACC and Hunter Roberts have 22 23 demonstrated through the work on this project that they share those principles. 2.4 25 So at this point, I'll turn it

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2	over to Talson Solutions and let them	
3	talk in more detail about the EOP report	
4	itself.	
5	MR. BOSTON: Good morning,	
6	everyone. My name is Tariq Boston. I'm	
7	a Senior Associate at Talson Solutions.	
8	Talson was hired as the EOP	
9	monitor for the duration of this project,	
10	and from March 2014 through October 2015,	
11	we facilitated and conducted eight	
12	quarterly oversight committee meetings,	
13	and that comprised of members from	
14	ownership of American Campus Communities;	
15	Drexel University, the development	
16	partner; Hunter Roberts Construction	
17	Group, who was the general contractor;	
18	members of the City of Philadelphia	
19	Office of Economic Opportunity; City	
20	Council representation; and	
21	representation from the Minority Business	
22	Development Agency Business Center.	
23	Throughout the project, some of	
24	the EOP best effort activities that	
25	occurred was essentially effective	
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Page 47 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. outreach with the MBDA and other community organizations; due diligence 3 through continued outreach in attracting 4 5 any minority and women business entity suppliers and subcontractors throughout 6 the project. Not just at the beginning and not just at the end but essentially 8 9 every month as the project was going on, there was some sort of outreach that was 10 11 occurring, and there was also a focused 12 effort on exceeding the contract commitments and workforce participation 13 14 EOP metrics through procurement 15 practices. 16 Some specific data as related 17 to the project. As stated before, the 18 project commenced in September 2013 and was completed in August 2015. Throughout 19 that time period, Talson reviewed 20 2.1 approximately 696,000 man hours. When it comes to the actual 22 contract commitments, there was 23 approximately \$104 million of available 2.4 25 contracting opportunities. Of that \$104

Page 48 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 2. million, \$28.2 million, or 27 percent of the total contract value, was committed 3 and paid to minority and women business 4 5 entities. That \$104 million excludes some contract values. And what's excluded are non-opportunities, and that means that there is not an opportunity 8 9 for a viable minority or women business entity. Some of that may be asbestos 10 11 removal, glass and glazing. It's very 12 specific trades where there just may be a very limited number of firms that are 13 14 actually capable of doing that work. Hunter Roberts contracted with 15 16 eight minority and women business entity 17 prime subcontractors, which totaled \$8.8 18 million, and those firms were 100 percent either minority or 100 percent women. 19 And Hunter Roberts also awarded \$20.7 20 2.1 million to local Philadelphia 22 neighborhood subcontractors, any 23 subcontractors that had a 191 zip code. When it comes to the actual EOP 2.4 25 metrics, MBE and WBE construction

Page 49 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 2. contract commitments were achieved at 18 percent and 9 percent, respectively, 3 combined 27 percent. And just for a 4 5 perspective, the OEO Dashboard at the time was at 30 percent. 6 When Talson reports on our EOP data, we like to use the OEO Dashboard 8 9 just to keep things in the context that the OEO Dashboard lists a number of 10 11 projects. The last I saw was 12 approximately 600 to 700 projects, and it gives you an average of all of the 13 14 metrics. So even though there are goals 15 that you certainly want to achieve on a 16 project, we do want to show the 17 comparison to the other projects as to 18 what was actually achieved. 19 For your minority journeymen, minority journeymen achieved a goal of 24 20 21 percent versus a goal of 32 percent. And just for perspective, at that time the 22 23 OEO Dashboard for minority journeymen was actually at 24 percent. So it was 2.4 25 actually still in line with other

Page 50 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. comparable City projects. 3 Female journeymen came in at 1 percent versus the goal of 2 percent. 4 5 The OEO Dashboard at the time was at 2 percent for female journeymen. 6 Minority apprentices ended up achieving a goal of 18 percent versus a 8 9 goal of 50 percent. And your female apprentices actually achieved 2 percent 10 11 even though there was no actual 12 established goal for female apprentices. When it came to Philadelphia 13 14 resident participation, a goal of 37 15 percent was achieved versus 50 percent. 16 And at the time for the OEO Dashboard, 17 the City of Philadelphia comparable 18 projects were actually at 33 percent. So Philadelphia on this one was actually 19 20 slightly above the rest of the City 2.1 average. 22 Within your Philadelphia 23 workforce metrics, 33 percent were minority workers versus a goal of 32 2.4 25 percent. And 2 percent were female

Page 51 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. workers versus a goal of 7 percent. Of your total minority 3 workforce participation, that came out to 4 approximately 21 percent cumulative. 5 And I tell you, some of the successes on this project had to do with a lot of the outreach efforts of a 8 9 combination of Hunter Roberts, ACC, and Drexel. Hunter Roberts utilized its best 10 11 efforts to collaborate with OEO, MBDA, 12 ACC, and Drexel during the subcontract award process in an effort to achieve the 13 14 EOP goals. Hunter Roberts also held 15 16 biweekly meetings throughout the project 17 with the subcontractors to discuss any 18 local and workforce diversity participation efforts. As I said, this 19 20 was a continued effort that was going on 2.1 throughout the lifecycle of the project. 22 And throughout the project, there were some walk-ins on the site. 23 There was approximately 145 individuals 2.4 that walked into the site seeking 25

Page 52 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE employment. Of the 145, 13 of those 2. 3 workers were hired, and that was approximately 9 percent of the people 4 5 seeking employment. 6 Some people seeking employment were members of the union; some people 7 were not members of the union. 8 9 Essentially the members of the union were directed to their local labor union hall, 10 11 and essentially they were hired from 12 there. I'll open up the floor right 13 14 now to any questions unless Drexel or ACC has anything else they would like to add. 15 16 MR. BRADLEY: As far as the 17 outreach, you were very competitive with your goals. Did you do any unique 18 outreach to achieve such success? 19 20 MR. BOSTON: I would say that a 2.1 lot of the successes come from early on outreach at the early onset of the 22 23 project before construction has started, so any of the pre-construction, and 2.4 25 basically just reaching out to

Page 53 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. subcontractors as well as any local labor unions just so that they essentially know 3 that a project is coming up and that they 4 can help line up some individuals that 5 6 may be able to work on a project. At the time of this project -this project commenced in September 8 9 2013 -- there were still other projects going on in the City, but right now in 10 11 the current market, there's a lot more projects going on, and I would say that 12 for projects to be successful, to be 13 14 involved as early on in the project. 15 as Hunter Roberts was still focusing on 16 conducting biweekly meetings throughout 17 the project, it is just the continued effort on an ongoing basis just to 18 essentially let the individuals know 19 what's needed and what numbers that 20 21 they're trying to achieve. 22 MR. BRADLEY: Do you have a 23 relationship with Della's organization? 2.4 MR. BOSTON: Talson Solutions, 25 we actually are involved with Drexel's

Page 54 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 2. organization. We actually --3 MR. BRADLEY: No. I said 4 Della's, The Enterprise Center. 5 MR. BOSTON: Yes. We only did 6 the monitoring of it, but we do have some involvement with her organization. As I noted, they do hold various outreach 8 9 matchmaking events, which we've actually participated in the past, and I actually 10 think that they're very, very useful and 11 have been successful. 12 MR. BRADLEY: 13 Great. 14 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: So I 15 appreciate the report and I also 16 appreciate your aggressive goal, but I do have a question and I'd be interested in 17 hearing from, I guess, your firm, 18 American Campus Community. 19 20 MR. GUNN: Yes, ma'am. 2.1 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: So for your minority apprentice goal, you had again a 22 23 very aggressive 50 percent goal and you fell a little short, and I'm curious if 2.4 25 you'd share with us what you perceive as

Page 55 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE the challenge. I mean, what is the 3 challenge and what can our Committee that's comprised of the Chambers and the 4 5 unions as well as everyone sitting in Chambers today, what can we do to begin 6 7 to work on this challenge? 8 MR. GUNN: That's a very good 9 question. 10 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Can you 11 just --12 MR. GUNN: Absolutely. Not a 13 problem. 14 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: And if you 15 could state your name for the record too, 16 that would be helpful. 17 MR. GUNN: Yes. My name is Emanuel Gunn and I work for American 18 19 Campus Communities as the Area Manager on 20 the management side of our company. 2.1 For this project specifically, 22 I didn't get involved until probably 23 halfway through the construction project, as I was more for the office side of it. 2.4 25 So I locally managed three of the

Page 56 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. properties, culminating with the development of The Summit that's at 3400 3 Lancaster Avenue. So unfortunately I 4 5 wasn't a part of those conversations at 6 the very beginning in terms of setting 7 those goals and targets. However, I mean, I do think the goal was ambitious, 8 9 and with time I'm assuming we'll be able to reach those eventually with our future 10 11 projects and developments with Drexel. 12 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Any 13 thoughts, Tariq, on what we can do to 14 ensure that the next project, that we get 15 a little closer to the goals that are set 16 for the project? 17 MR. BOSTON: Sure. One last thing I'll say, Kate Stillings from 18 Hunter Roberts will have a little add-on. 19 20 I would say that essentially a 21 few years ago there were more 22 pre-apprenticeship programs that were in 23 place in the City, whether it was through the Philadelphia Housing Authority or 2.4 25 some other agencies. So you had a large

Page 57 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 2. pool of qualified minority or women apprentices that were able to be fed into 3 the union. I do understand that some of 4 5 those apprenticeship programs no longer exist. I do know there are talks to create some new ones, but I think essentially for that apprenticeship goal 8 9 of 50 percent to be achieved would be to 10 have as many pre-apprenticeship programs 11 as possible within the City that people 12 can attend. 13 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Okav. 14 MS. STILLINGS: Good morning. 15 I'm Kate Stillings with Hunter Roberts 16 and I was the Senior Project Manager, the 17 one holding the meetings with the subcontractors and with different 18 entities trying to get as much 19 20 participation as we could get. 2.1 In relationship to the apprentices, Tariq's answer is right on. 22 23 In 2008, as everybody knows, the construction industry kind of died, and 2.4 25 when the economy went so bad, the

Page 58 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. apprenticeship programs went south. 3 People weren't entering into the 4 construction industry. There was no 5 work. So we lost a lot of trade folks 6 during 2008, '09, '10, '11 and we kind of had to start over again, and the apprenticeship programs just haven't 8 9 caught up yet. They need to get more apprenticeships going so that we can get 10 11 more qualified workers into the business. 12 We probably used less apprentices on this project because they 13 14 were just so hard to get and tried to get 15 the minority participation. People 16 weren't in the programs. So we did 17 pretty good, but we did not reach our 18 qoal. 19 But I think that over the last 20 few years, the industry and especially in 21 the City of Philadelphia, we have moved forward with getting a lot of 22 construction started, and that will get 23 2.4 us a lot of apprentices in the programs. 25 MS. BAYLOR: I just have a

Page 59 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. question. You said you did work for some unions in the past or you would send 3 workers back to their unions so that 4 5 their unions can work on projects. Do 6 you have an idea of what unions you 7 worked with in the past, where they came from? 8 9 MS. STILLINGS: I'd have to go back and check the sign-in sheet. We had 10 11 145 workers, you know, come in. Probably less than a third of those were from the 12 union halls, because they were already 13 14 working through their labor unions to get 15 work. But we did have an open-door policy where you come in, you sign in a 16 17 book. We sent that information to all 18 the subcontractors so that we would try 19 to get people hired. 20 I would say that MR. BOSTON: 21 the majority of the walk-ins that came in 22 on the walk-in sheet were most likely members of the labor union. There was a 23

handful of carpenters and a handful of

guys that were doing concrete or brick

2.4

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Page 60 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 mason work, but the majority were from the local labor union. 3 MS. BAYLOR: So just to follow 5 up, so is there opportunity for more work 6 to go to labor unions such as the electricians, the steel workers, the 7 laborers? Is there an opportunity? Like 8 9 is there any type of reach-out from Hunter to those labor organizations to 10 11 get journeymen enrolled in a project? MS. STILLINGS: Hunter Roberts 12 13 is a construction management firm, so we 14 don't hire very many of our own workers. We hire subcontractors, and all those 15 16 subcontractors go through their unions to 17 bring folks on board. 18 MS. BAYLOR: Thank you. 19 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: One other 20 question I'm waiting for. It's coming. 2.1 Just hang on for one second. MR. BRADLEY: So what's the 22 23 process for the next project? Have y'all started in thinking about the next 2.4 25 project and goals for the next project as

Page 61 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE far as now that you have a work pool and 2. a relationship? 3 MS. STELTZ: Sure. 4 Ongoing 5 projects at Drexel? 6 MR. BRADLEY: Yes. 7 I think right now MS. STELTZ: a lot of our construction -- we talked 8 9 today about third-party construction work, that type that we do. Our 10 11 on-campus projects that are Drexel-owned 12 construction are done by Bittenbender Construction. We have a contract with 13 14 them for all of our renovation work on 15 campus, and that has been in place for 16 about two years. 17 MR. BRADLEY: Okay. 18 MS. STELTZ: And in that case, 19 Bittenbender has been able to establish a 20 steady stream of workers, keeping many 21 diverse and local employees on for a consistent period of time instead of 22 23 having them jump from project to project. So that's been very successful. 2.4 25 their sort of in-place strategy that

Page 62 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. Bittenbender has used has also led them to be incredibly successful in their 3 contracting, coming in at over, I believe 4 5 it's about, 46 percent of diversity and 6 women-owned companies that they're 7 contracting with. 8 So that's our strategy going 9 forward for all internal projects, and they have another year on that contract. 10 So I think that's our -- where a lot of 11 12 our focus is right now, on that model. CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: 13 So T do 14 have -- it's kind of a question/comment. 15 There needs to be a new partnership with 16 the School District to get students into the union. How can CMs like Hunter 17 Roberts work with the School District and 18 unions to create a pipeline program, is 19 20 the question. 2.1 MS. STILLINGS: I can tell you that Hunter Roberts does reach out to 22 23 local schools and goes to local schools talking about the industry, just trying 2.4 25 to get more people involved.

Page 63 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 Roberts also hires a lot of interns, 2. 3 particularly out of Drexel, and those 4 people then become project managers 5 and/or superintendents within Hunter 6 Roberts. So we do do some outreach into local schools. 7 8 MR. BRADLEY: Do you currently 9 have a relationship with the School District? 10 11 MS. STILLINGS: I'm up in 12 Newark right now, so I've changed positions and gone through a different 13 14 job. Plus I'm pretty much tied to a 15 specific job for the length of that job. 16 There are folks in the office that do do 17 that. MS. STELTZ: And, Iola, I would 18 19 commend the work of your office recently 20 in bringing together a subcommittee 2.1 that's dedicated to talking about this topic. I think it's one of the first 22 23 times that Drexel as an owner has had the opportunity to sit at the table with 2.4 25 construction managers and subs and trades

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2	and folks from the School District and	
3	the workforce world to be in the same	
4	room discussing this problem in a	
5	realistic and practical way and thinking	
6	about how we can move forward. So we've	
7	been energized by that opportunity and	
8	feel very optimistic.	
9	CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Thank you	
10	very much.	
11	MR. BOSTON: Thank you.	
12	CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: All right.	
13	I'd like to welcome up Labor Standards.	
14	Manny, is that you?	
15	MR. CITRON: Yes.	
16	CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: He's going	
17	to give us an update on what's going on	
18	in Labor Standards and maybe some context	
19	on the role of Labor Standards.	
20	I'm not sure what you have.	
21	(Witness approached witness	
22	table.)	
23	MR. CITRON: Thank you, Madam	
24	Chairwoman, and good morning to the	
25	members of the Committee. So my name is	

Page 65 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. I'm the Chief of Staff Manny Citron. from the Mayor's Office of Labor. 3 4 On your agenda it would have 5 been Perry DiVirgilio, who is the Director of the Labor Standards Unit. Unfortunately he's unable to be here. don't have his testimony in front of me, 8 9 but I am familiar with the subject matter, so I'm going to be here to speak 10 11 a little bit about Labor Standards and 12 how they interface with OEO. But before I start, I do want 13 14 to say thank you to the Mayor's Office of Education. One of the other hats I wear 15 16 is, I administer the compliance process 17 for the City's living wage ordinance, and 18 I just learned that for the pre-K teachers, it's \$14 an hour or 14 and 19 20 change, which is well over the \$12.10 21 hourly, and they're going to come to our 22 Living Wage hearing tomorrow to speak to 23 that so it can be put into the record there also. 2.4 25 So Labor Standards and the

Page 66 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. interface with OEO, amendments to Chapter 3 17-1600 of The Philadelphia Code 4 established that the Labor Standards Unit 5 in the Mayor's Office of Labor is 6 responsible for monitoring and enforcing contractor compliance on workforce diversity goals that are included in 8 9 Economic Opportunity Plans on City contracts. So this is a little bit 10 11 different from the work that OEO has traditionally done. Traditionally OEO 12 has been responsible for managing 13 14 diversity participation in terms of the 15 ownerships of the companies. Here this 16 is just specifically the workforce that 17 shows up every day and turns the wrenches 18 and swings the hammers and that type of 19 stuff. Projects that fall under this 20 21 specification are, where the workforce 22 diversity requirements apply, are 23 projects that have EOPs. So these are public works contracts and contracts for 2.4 25 the purchase of services where the

Page 67 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. Procurement Department solicits sealed bids which will cost the City more than 4 \$100,000, and compliance with the 5 workforce diversity requirements is evaluated in stages throughout the term of the contract. 7 So I'll talk a little about the 8 9 work that's been done since this bill went live last July and kind of where we 10 are in terms of moving forward and really 11 12 formalizing the process. So basically from day one, the 13 14 Labor Standards Unit has been conducting on-site interviews with the workforce on 15 16 job sites to determine workforce 17 composition. There's an existing set of 18 questions which the Labor Standards Unit would ask about prevailing wages, and 19 20 they've amended the workforce diversity 21 questions specifically to ask about ethnic background, race, gender, that 22 23 type of stuff, while they're on the job 2.4 site. 25 So far, they've had -- they've

Page 68 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. had 100 percent response rate. No one has ever refused to answer those 4 questions and, as I said, those 5 interviews are occurring at any project 6 where prevailing wage is applied. it's any project over \$100,000 with the sealed bid. 8 9 Information -- so after they get back to the office, they have the 10 11 information from the interviews, and they correlate that with the racial and ethnic 12 background and -- racial, ethnic, and 13 14 gender background on the project's workforce that is submitted to them in 15 the term of -- in the form of certified 16 17 payrolls, which are a weekly reporting 18 requirement for any project of prevailing 19 wages. So they have the interviews that 20 they've done on site, and they can 2.1 correlate that and back that up to the data that they get from the contractors 22 who need to deliver the certified 23 2.4 payrolls. 25 So that's what's been

Page 69 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. happening, and that was -- a good way to 3 think about that is the law became live and our office put its head down and 4 5 started operating and working through what it looks like to do this and to ask 7 the questions and to get the responses from the people on site and to make sure 8 9 that looks right with what they see in their certified payrolls. 10 11 But moving forward, we want to 12 formalize, and we've been in this process for a number of months now. 13 14 current contracting process requires --15 the current contracting process for OEO 16 requires bidders to submit documentation 17 of best and good-faith efforts to find 18 diversity for the operation of -- for the ownership on the project. As a -- we are 19 20 updating this to also include a workforce 21 diversity component and some changes to 22 the bidding process. 23 So there will be winning

bidders. So after the sealed bids are

returned, they're scored. Then the

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Page 70 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 2. winning bidder is required or will be required to compete a best and good-faith 3 efforts form specific to how they will 4 5 hit the workforce diversity goals. form will be returned to the Labor Standards Unit, and it must satisfactorily document how the bidder 8 will achieve those goals before the City 9 will issue its notice to proceed. 10 11 During the course of the 12 project, Labor Standards will use that best and good-faith effort performance in 13 14 the form that was returned to benchmark 15 the actual performance in the field and will make course corrections with the 16 17 project manager and with the operating 18 department with the contractor as needed. 19 We have worked very closely 20 with the Procurement Department to 2.1 develop the process, and we've engaged with Water, Streets, Airport, and Public 22 23 Property to socialize these changes to their conformance managers so they 2.4 25 understand what enforcement will look

Page 71 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. like once we kind of step up to this next level of enforcement for this ordinance. 3 So that's the quick talking 4 5 points I have, but I'm happy to answer 6 any questions that arise. CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Well, you'll probably be invited back to all of 8 9 our hearings given your role. I thank you for coming, and I wanted to at least 10 have you share where you are right now 11 12 and what we can expect from your office 13 going forward. 14 So it looks like there are no 15 questions. 16 MR. CITRON: Thank you. 17 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: All right. 18 Thank you so much. 19 And then, finally, before we get to public testimony, I'd like to 20 invite our two staffers from the Office 2.1 22 of Economic Opportunity up just to share 23 some brief updates. We've got a lot going on and we will try to bring that 2.4 25 information to you via these Committee

Page 72 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 meetings and our monthly website --2. 3 monthly newsletter, I'm sorry, which will launch this month. 5 (Witnesses approached witness 6 table.) CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: So we've got Yvonne and Nick, if you could take us 8 9 through the final part. MS. FARRELL: Good morning. 10 11 name is Yvonne Farrell and I'm the Senior Director for the Office of Economic 12 Opportunity. Today I'd like to share 13 14 information about one of the strategies 15 that the OEO leadership has identified to 16 increase contracting opportunities for 17 minority businesses, that being the focus on OEO officers. 18 19 There are over 39 officers that 20 represent the City departments and 2.1 agencies, and their role is to impact contracting opportunities and also to 22 23 work with OEO to develop strategies to ensure that there's an inclusion message 2.4 25 and messaging across departments.

Page 73 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. We meet with the OEO officers quarterly. Our next meeting is October 3 14th. During those meetings, we usually 4 5 talk about the departments' performance 6 and to look at some of the strategies that we can do to improve their performance. We thought it would best --8 9 our next priority is to make sure that we focus on refining the roles and 10 11 responsibilities of the officers so that 12 there's a consistent message across the department about what the roles and 13 14 responsibilities are. We also want to 15 give departments an opportunity to look 16 at those roles and responsibilities to 17 make sure that they have appropriately assigned senior-level staff that have the 18 authority to impact on contracts. 19 20 also want to get their input in terms of 21 what training they might need so they can effectively function in their role. 22 23 Over the next several weeks, the OEO leadership will be meeting with 2.4 25 agency and department leadership to talk

Page 74 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. about what their strategy is to make sure there's inclusion with regard to minority 3 contracting and so that we can look at 4 5 also how they can include -- increase and 6 include contracting opportunities for miscellaneous purchase orders and single order purchases, as well as other 8 9 contract structures. We hope that these meetings 10 11 will be our first opportunity as ongoing 12 dialogue to create a partnership where we can actually forge together a plan as to 13 14 how to make sure the departments are 15 meeting their participation goals. 16 Thank you. 17 MR. JANN: Good morning, everybody. My name is Nick Jann. 18 the Director of Data and Policy for the 19 20 Office of Economic Opportunity. So I 2.1 oversee data collection and production within the office, and I also help to 22 23 develop and oversee Economic Opportunity 2.4 Plans, or EOPs. 25 An EOP is an agreement between

Page 75 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. the City and either the prime contractor on a City-owned project or the project 3 owner on a private development to strive 4 for certain levels of diverse business 5 and workforce participation on that 7 project. Since their creation in 2007, 8 9 OEO has drafted and executed over 900 EOPs. Currently, there are 350 active 10 11 EOPs being monitored by our office, and 12 this encompasses City-owned projects, developments in the private sector that 13 14 meet certain requirements, and some 15 administered by quasi-public agencies, 16 like the Office of Housing and Community 17 Development. 18 These projects represent over \$5 billion in total value, and on these 19 20 projects, over a billion dollars has been 21 paid or contracted to minority and women-owned firms. This amounts to about 22 23 a 26 participation rate, but this number factors in many variables, and 2.4 25 participation often changes drastically

Page 76 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 2. over the course of a project, because these are active projects rather than 3 closed ones. 5 Cumulatively on closed projects 6 over the course of the office's existence, there's been an average minority and women-owned business 8 9 participation of 31 percent. More information on EOPs is 10 11 always available in the recently 12 published 2016 EOP report, which is available on the OEO and Commerce 13 14 Department websites. 15 One of my other 16 responsibilities as they pertain to EOPs is organizing and participating in 17 oversight committees. Typically these 18 committees are on projects in the private 19 20 sector, but occasionally City-owned 21 projects have oversight committees as well. Some developments that OEO is 22 currently attending oversight committees 23 for include the new Comcast Tower, the 2.4 25 core renovation for the Art Museum, and

Page 77 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 2. the W Hotel. These oversight committees are convened at the discretion of the Deputy 4 5 Commerce Director for OEO. There has been discussion, however, to 6 legislatively require an oversight committee based upon a certain project 8 9 value. The two values that have been suggested are \$5 and \$10 million. Our 10 11 office is excited for the possibility of 12 increased accountability and transparency for EOP projects. Such legislation, 13 14 however, would greatly increase the 15 number of oversight committees and, thus, 16 the work of OEO. 17 There are currently 14 18 development projects in Philadelphia with EOPs that have an ongoing oversight 19 20 committee and 10 that will require one 2.1 once construction begins. These are 22 largely projects in the private and 23 non-profit sectors rather than City-owned projects. City projects are typically 2.4 25 monitored by the OEO specialist assigned

Page 78 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 to their department using contract compliance monitoring software. 3 If legislation does pass that 5 requires oversight committees for projects with a budget of at least \$5 million, the number of those committees would increase to 83. If the threshold 8 9 is 10 million, there will be 59 total projects with such committees. 10 11 These committees typically meet 12 monthly, bimonthly or quarterly. the 14 current active committees, OEO 13 14 staff spend on average about six hours 15 per week attending these committees. 16 This does not include time spent 17 coordinating and planning these meetings, 18 which is the responsibility OEO has for 19 some of them. If the number of committees is 20 2.1 increased to either 83 or 59, attending these committees would become a full-time 22 23 job unto itself. In addition to the oversight 2.4 25 committees, there is also a need to keep

Page 79 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 tabs on projects without official committees. For City-owned projects, 3 this is done primarily through the City's 4 5 payment systems and the contract compliance reporting system. 6 In the private sector, however, OEO receives reports generated by project owners and 8 9 their construction managers. currently lacks the resources to 10 11 independently verify these reports. 12 Thanks very much, and I'm happy 13 to answer any questions. 14 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: I need my 15 Staples button. That was easy. Thank 16 you both. 17 MR. JANN: All right. 18 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: So now I'd like to invite up those who have signed 19 20 up to come and speak. And so Mr. Allen from Mantua Civic Association and Mr. Ali 2.1 from the Contractors' Roundtable. 22 23 like to welcome you both up. Thank you 2.4 for coming. 25 (Witnesses approached witness

Page 80 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. table.) MR. ALLEN: Good morning. 4 to be here and glad to see this Committee 5 and participate in some of the future 6 projects and things that we need to do 7 here for the community. My name is Jimmy Allen. 8 I am 9 the coordinator for Mantua Civic Association's Youth Committee and 10 11 Community Outreach. I also participated 12 with the Youth Study Center for the Community Advisory Council. I was the 13 14 Chairman of the Construction and Employee Committee to make sure that minorities 15 16 participated, joined before and after the 17 program. We're doing very well there. So I'm here today because of 18 19 the December meeting when we talked about The Summit and some of the Drexel 20 21 projects. Based upon the community, 22 we're not really getting the 23 participation that we really look for. So I have a few things I wrote down. 2.4 25 So we are putting together a

Page 81 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. Promise Zone Review Committee. Many of our leaders that participated in some of 3 the projects didn't have the construction 4 5 skills or the skills to really go into 6 the project that they did. So we got 7 very little out of some of the projects that came about. 8 9 We need to see the database that they use where they pick their 10 11 workers and stuff like that. We don't 12 have apprenticeship programs. We don't 13 have internship programs. We don't have 14 an OJT process going on. I see all these beautiful 15 statistics and all, but how do we know 16 17 that these statistics are true? They're 18 not in most cases. 19 So we attend meetings and we 20 get information at these meetings, and then we find out later that we've been 21 22 put on there as a part of accepting the 23 project, and we really don't. We just 2.4 came to get some information. But they 25 say that, you know, we're a part of the

Page 82 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. project, and we're really not. 3 So how can this Committee get 4 evidence or proof of the evidence that's 5 given here and how can we find out 6 community access to some of these projects? We don't have really any viable information. 8 9 MR. BRADLEY: You're saying the outreach, you're not being part of these 10 11 conversations about outreach that they're 12 doing? 13 MR. ALTEN: No. We haven't 14 gotten it. Sometimes outreach comes a 15 week before, a day before. Sometimes it 16 comes later. 17 We just had a proposal agreed 18 to by Drexel that was written up in a hurry, and we're supposed to get with 19 20 them later to come to some agreements and 21 all, and we haven't done that yet. And when we do, I'm sure we won't get much 22 23 out of it. 2.4 MR. BRADLEY: So can we try to 25 work on the communication?

Page 83 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Absolutely. 3 Well, I have two suggestions right now, and I may think of some 4 5 others. If you have a meeting that 6 convenes on a regular basis --7 MR. ALLEN: Yes, we do. CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: -- I can 8 9 make sure someone from my office is 10 there. 11 MR. ALLEN: Thank you. 12 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: That's the 13 first thing. 14 Second thing is, there is some 15 information regarding the outcomes of a 16 lot of these projects that is publicly 17 available, and we can share with you how to access the publicly available 18 information. And I'm happy to brainstorm 19 20 with you further, but those are two that 21 I can at least offer up right now. 22 MR. ALLEN: Appreciate that. 23 And also even with West 2.4 Philadelphia High, we have a work-ready 25 program. We're pushing to make it a

Page 84 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. year-round program, because we train youth in all kinds of future jobs, 21st 3 century jobs, and we need to sit down 4 5 with some of these universities or some 6 of these contractors now before they come into our communities to have some type of 8 community agreement or training program. 9 Now, they always say they want to do this and do that, but for this reason, the 10 union can't do it, they can't do it, and 11 12 it never gets done. I lived at 13 T was in Mantua. 14 33rd and Market. It is now called 15 University City. Okay? So all of our 16 legacies and all of our family histories 17 and all have been wiped away. 18 University City High School is the same way. Nobody knows where those 19 20 kids are, what they did. Many of them 21 graduated from college. Many of them 22 done well. But who knows, who cares, 23 because the process happens when you want 2.4 to build your facilities and you come 25 into the communities and you get shoved

Page 85 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. and pushed around. 3 I was coming over the Spring 4 Garden Street bridge the other day and 5 coming into Mantua and Powelton Village, 6 but a big sign said University City. So we get intimidated. We get pushed around and shoved around based on future 8 9 projects, which are good. We can't stop prosperity. We just want to be a better 10 11 part of it. Mr. Ali. 12 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: 13 MR. ALI: Good morning, members 14 of this Committee, Ms. Harper, and the 15 other distinguished members of the 16 Committee. I'd like to give a shout-out 17 to Councilman Wilson Goode, Jr. sitting 18 in the back, because it was through his efforts in the Council Chambers that we 19 20 got these legislations enacted. I also would like to thank 2.1 Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell, who has 22 23 been a big advocate on behalf of disadvantaged businesses. I can recall 2.4 25 when she once said, you know, I hear all

Page 86 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE these glowing reports, but something must 2. be wrong because people are stopping by 3 my office asking for things. 4 5 I wanted to follow up where he 6 just ended, where he talked about the community, because when you think about it, when you think -- when Drexel talks, 8 9 like when Drexel talked about the American Campus Communities, they shot 10 11 some numbers by you real quick. And so 12 we refer to those as like a magic trick. With magic, you got to -- you see one 13 14 thing, but you also have to keep in 15 mind -- it gives you the logic, you see 16 A, B, and C, but what you really have to 17 know is what happened before A, what happened in between A and B, and what 18 happened between B and C. So at the end 19 20 of the day, American Communities, let me 21 give you my interpretation of American Communities. 22 First of all, I never really 23 heard of them until, I think it was, in 2.4 25 2003. They first arrived in

Page 87 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 1 2. Philadelphia. They did -- American 3 Communities did University Crossings with Drexel. That was roughly like 747 bids. 4 5 And the thing to remember when you're 6 talking about universities and housing is we're talking about beds, not units. you look at multi-family housing and if I 8 9 say apartments or I say give me a one-bedroom apartment, a three-bedroom 10 11 apartment, when I rent that, I'm renting 12 that apartment with the three beds in it. However, when the University talks, they 13 14 have a lease called a limit liability 15 lease, where they're renting those beds 16 to students typically on a 12-month or a nine-month basis. That's how that goes, 17 and that's important for you to know that 18 when you're talking to the universities. 19 Because in terms of beds -- and beds are 20 2.1 students coming into these neighborhoods. So American Communities arrives 22 23 in 2003. It brings a building in play

and they put 747 students in it.

they come back in 2004 at Temple and they

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Page 88 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. do University Village at Temple, and they put -- I'm sorry. The number is wrong 3 for American Crossings. They put 1,011 4 5 students in University Crossings at 6 Drexel. When they come back in Temple, 7 they put University Village and they put 747 students there. Then they come back 8 9 in 2008 -- I'm sorry; 2013. They do Chestnut Square. That's something like 10 11 861 beds. And then they do The Summit, which is 1,374 beds, for a total roughly 12 of about 3,996 beds. 13 14 So those are people that's 15 coming in. And if you look at the Third 16 Councilman District where Ms. Clark is 17 from, you got roughly 4,000 students --I'm sorry; 3,200 students coming through 18 that neighborhood every day. So when we 19 look at those communities and this 20 21 organization, American Communities, as 22 the person from Drexel, the lady 23 testified that they work in -- they work some deals with them, and when she 2.4 testified, she talked about the three 25

Page 89 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE projects that Drexel had did because they 2. 3 weren't aware of the fourth project because it was Temple. 4 5 At the end of the day, that organization is making \$40 million a 6 year, roughly \$4 million a month. And so when they come and do these projects, we 8 9 expect black people to participate. Now, to the two young people 10 11 that came up here from -- the brother from Talson, I'm familiar with Talson. 12 They're a real reputable company and the 13 14 young guy from American Communities. 15 Now, at your last hearing, I was under --16 well, I read the transcript. Brian Keech 17 was here, and he said one of the officers 18 or one of the higher, I quess, organizational members of the 19 20 organization was coming. And that's 21 important, because when we start talking about this money, we want to know what is 22 23 their responsibility, because in those relationships where they have -- where 2.4 25 the University has a ground lease,

Page 90 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. they're granting a ground lease to 3 somebody, well, American Communities takes full responsibility for everything. 4 5 So when you have Hunter Roberts get up 6 here and talk about -- she mentioned to 7 you this thing about apprentices. started with 2008. So we'll give them 8 9 2008. Let's give them until 2012. typical apprentice program is what? 10 11 years. And so we have from 2012 to 2016. 12 There's no really reason why to answer that question, why did they do so bad. 13 14 Why did they fail in achieving that 15 number for apprentices? And the real 16 reason for that is -- see, this game 17 is -- numbers don't lie, but they will 18 tell a story depending on what kind of story you want the numbers to tell, but 19 20 you have to be knowledgeable about the 21 subject. 22 I'm sorry. Are you Ms. Baylor? 23 MS. BAYLOR: Yes. 2.4 MR. ALI: Because you're in 25 that union mindset, you got to remember

Page 91 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. how that whole dialogue is going. 3 when they start talking about unions, you 4 have to break them unions down. When you 5 talk about apprentice programs, you can't 6 talk to me about a pre-apprentice program 7 unless you tell me it was approved by the State of Pennsylvania, the Department of 8 9 Labor, or approved by -- or it's in an apprentice program approved by the U.S. 10 11 Department of Labor. Anything else in 12 that is nonsense and it's nothing but 13 bamboozling you. So you have to be clear 14 on that. 15 And so we're not getting young 16 black men and women into that. Because 17 if you look at those numbers, when the 18 previous person testified, he ran numbers by you. He said, well, you know, we 19 achieved, I think, 696,000 man hours. 20 21 That sounds very impressive. So you have to have the formula for what does that 22 23 mean. Well, that really means that they achieved 353 men and women working. 2.4 25 already know that 1 percent of that

Page 92 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. number was women. So what does it mean in terms of the 18 percent that they 3 achieved for black men and, let's say, 4 5 Hispanics, right, out of respect for other minorities. Let's say minorities. 6 So of that number, 60 people worked. Sixty people worked on that job, which 8 9 was \$175 million. Sixty black men and Latinos and maybe Asians worked on that 10 11 job for one year. So the remaining 275 12 white men, of that number 37 percent of 13 them were Philadelphians. So that's 37 14 percent of that number was all 15 Philadelphia, white males included, came 16 from that number, but the vast majority 17 of that number, the other 152, they came from outside the City, and that's the 18 thing to remember. 19 20 When we taught unions -- when 2.1 the woman from Hunter Roberts talked, she 22 is a union company. She's not -- she has 23 to stay in her lane, and when you talk 2.4 unions, you got to stay in your lane. 25 the unions, the labor unions, when we

Page 93 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. talk, we're talking about -- we're really 3 talking about a regional union, but they use the word Philadelphia. Because when 4 5 you talk unions, you're talking Philly. 6 When they talk unions, they're talking regional, because all of them are councils. 8 9 When you talk about the Philadelphia building trades, you need to 10 11 know what that council is. You need to know that that council is composed of 17 12 leaders of other trades, and each one of 13 14 those leaders have jurisdictions outside 15 the City. 16 So that's the game, and that's 17 the things I wanted to just tell you 18 about. But that concludes my testimony about American Communities, but I want to 19 20 just touch on the Rebuild. And the 21 Rebuild, there's a lot of dialogue in 22 there about this apprentice program. 23 what my previous testimony was, you need to be mindful about that. 2.4 25 And then in this recent RFP

Page 94 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. they put out, they're talking about creating a new apprentice program. Well, 3 that's caution there, because it can't be 4 5 new unless it's approved by who? 6 Department of Labor or the Labor 7 Department. So the thing is, you can't make 8 9 the assumption that because they're unions -- and you would know, 10 Ms. Baylor -- that they have authority to 11 12 create a new apprentice program. needs to be vetted by the U.S. Department 13 14 of Labor if it's an apprentice program, 15 and the same thing if it's a 16 pre-apprentice program. 17 The other thing about that, 18 about the pre-apprentice program, the Rebuild program, is that there's talk on 19 20 the street about having these third 21 parties monitor that program. The word 22 is the Library and PIDC. Look at your 23 record, Ms. Harper. Look at the participation record and see what were 2.4 25 they able to achieve. What has the

Page 95 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE Library achieved in terms of 2. 3 participation? PIDC, keep in mind, the building trades has a seat on the PIDC 4 5 Board and they also have a seat on the 6 parent corporation, PAID. So you have to keep that in mind that if you're going to get these 8 9 programs approved, you need to be knowledgeable about it and you need to 10 11 start talking about it. 12 And the third thing, as you said at the start of this hearing, 13 14 there's two purposes. One is for you to 15 give us an update and for us to give some 16 feedback and some of the recommendations we want. So one of the things I'd like 17 to talk about is debarment. And I would 18 like to bring to your attention, 19 20 Ms. Harper, the case out of 4601 Market 21 concerning D.A. Nolt, a subject that 22 you're thinking about. But I'm 23 recommending that as you find out more about it, that you debar D.A. Nolt, 2.4 25 because you have to come in -- as a new

Page 96 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. sheriff in town, you got to come in with 3 law and order. You got to come in with crime and punishment. So my thought on 4 5 that is -- and anybody, any of these reports. You talked about Drexel. You 6 mentioned to Mr. Allen that you're going 7 to share information. The only thing 8 9 about your annual disparity -- your annual participation report that I 10 11 question is the integrity of the data, 12 because there's so many reports in there that you have no data. Simply they just 13 14 didn't send it in to you. Look at all --15 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: You're 16 speaking of the EOP? MR. ALI: EOP. 17 The annual 18 report, the final report, the participation. So you have a lot of 19 20 projects that there's no data in it. 21 Drexel, very rarely you had -in the last one, I think you had one 22 23 project from Drexel in there, although they've had a number of projects. 2.4 25 project, American Cities, was actually

Page 97 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. reported in the first. 3 So, you know, that's really 4 where we need to tighten up on that. 5 And the third thing I think 6 you're doing -- I heard -- in conclusion, 7 I want to say, you know, I took my gloves off, right? I kept them on for a while. 8 9 I took them off. I know you're here. CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: 10 Thank you. 11 I appreciate that. 12 MR. ALI: I know you're doing a great job. Most of the people up there, 13 14 you know me. I know you're all concerned 15 about this issue. My caution to you is 16 just that you're dealing with people who 17 are knowledgeable. I used to have black hair and 18 was a young guy. Now I'm an old guy and 19 20 I got gray hair. We've been in that 21 battle for 30 years, and most of those leaders of these unions, they started 22 23 when I started. Look where they are now. So you have to be knowledgeable about 2.4 25 your opponent so you can come up with

Page 98 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. solutions. Because if we're about coming up with solutions, we need to know what 3 we need to ask for. 4 5 Everything that we're talking about is achievable. We're talking about 6 7 giving black men and black women, Latinos -- please excuse me when I'm 8 9 talking, because I get passionate. we're talking about giving them an 10 11 opportunity, and all that takes is negotiation, but you have to be level on 12 both sides. 13 14 So I'd like to thank you for 15 allowing me to talk today. 16 MR. ALLEN: And just in 17 conclusion for myself and the community, 18 what do we want? We want sustainability. We want when these projects are done and 19 20 these people move on, that in our 21 communities we have people who have been trained, who can sustain the jobs in 22 23 those facilities, because they're going to be there for 20 or 30 years. We want 2.4 25 people to have residential opportunities

Page 99 1 3/6/17 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2. and move in some of these facilities, but they can't because we have more poverty 3 than we ever did in the Promise Zone. We 4 5 have more unemployment than we ever did. 6 Our schools are closing down more than before. 7 So what we want to do is start 8 9 building sustainability so that when these projects are over, the professors 10 11 move on, the contractors move on, we have 12 trained people, either internships or apprenticeships or OJT or opportunities 13 14 of employment that will last. That's 15 what we want. 16 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: Thank you 17 both. 18 MR. ALI: Thank you. 19 CHAIRWOMAN HARPER: I'd like to 20 adjourn the meeting, and I'd like to 21 thank all of you for coming out and our -- we do this quarterly and our next 22 meeting date is in your meeting packet. 23 If you did not receive a meeting packet, 2.4 25 I believe there are some extra ones

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2	available, and then transcripts for	
3	today's meeting will be available on	
4	OEO's website, as I mentioned earlier	
5	today.	
6	(Economic Opportunity Review	
7	Committee concluded at 11:35 a.m.)	
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1		
2	CERTIFICATE	
3	I HEREBY CERTIFY that the	
4	proceedings, evidence and objections are	
5	contained fully and accurately in the	
6	stenographic notes taken by me upon the	
7	foregoing matter, and that this is a true and	
8	correct transcript of same.	
9		
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14	MICHELE L. MURPHY	
15	RPR-Notary Public	
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20	(The foregoing certification of this	
21	transcript does not apply to any reproduction	
22	of the same by any means, unless under the	
23	direct control and/or supervision of the	
24	certifying reporter.)	
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