## City of Philadelphia Economic Opportunity Plan [ BID 2790 ]

#### I. Introduction, Definitions and Goals

A. Chapter 17-1600 of The Philadelphia Code requires the development and implementation of "Economic Opportunity Plan(s)" for certain classes of contracts and covered projects as defined in Section 17-1601. The Economic Opportunity Plan ("Plan") memorializes the successful Bidder's best and good faith efforts to provide meaningful and representative opportunities for Minority Business Enterprises ("MBEs"), Woman Business Enterprises ("WBEs") and Disabled Business Enterprises ("DSBEs"), Disadvantaged Business Enterprises¹ ("DBEs") (collectively, "M/W/DSBEs") and an appropriately diverse building trades workforce in connection with the contract or covered project.

This Invitation and Bid and any resulting contract are subject to the Plan requirements as described in Section 17-1603 (2). Accordingly, by submission of its Bid, a responsive and responsible Bidder makes a legally binding commitment to abide by the provisions of this Plan which include Bidder's commitment to exercise its best and good faith efforts throughout the contract term to provide meaningful and representative contracting opportunities for M/W/DSBEs and to employ an appropriately diverse workforce of tradespeople including minority and female persons in all phases of any contract awarded under this Bid.

Bidder hereby verifies that all information submitted to the City including without limitation, the Plan and all forms and attachments thereto, are true and correct and is notified that the submission of false information by Bidder is subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. Section 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities. Bidder also acknowledges that if it is awarded a contract resulting from this Invitation and Bid, it is a felony in the third degree under 18 Pa.C.S. Section 4107.2 (a)(4) if, in the course of this contract, it fraudulently obtains public moneys reserved for or allocated or available to minority business enterprises or women's business enterprises.

B. For the purposes of this Plan, MBE, WBE, DBE and DSBE shall refer to certified businesses so recognized by the City of Philadelphia through its Office of Economic Opportunity ("OEO"). Only the work or supply effort of firms that are certified as MW/DSBEs by an OEO approved certifying agency<sup>2</sup> at the time of bid opening will be eligible to receive credit as a Best and Good Faith Effort. In order to be counted, certified firms must successfully complete and submit to the OEO an application to be included in the OEO Registry which is a list of registered M/W/DSBEs maintained by the OEO and available online at www.phila.gov/oeo/directory. If bidder or bidder's subcontractor(s) is certified by an approved certifying agency, a copy of that certification should be furnished with the bid.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Disadvantaged Business Enterprises ("DBEs") are those socially or economically disadvantaged minority and woman owned businesses certified under 49 C.F.R. Part 26. If Bidder makes solicitation(s) and commitment(s) with a DBE, Bidder shall indicate which category, MBE or WBE, is submitted for credit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>A list of "OEO approved certifying agencies" can be found at www.phila.gov/oeo

C. For this Plan, the term "Best and Good Faith Efforts," the sufficiency of which shall be in the sole determination of the City, means: a Bidder's efforts, the scope, intensity and appropriateness of which are designed and performed to foster meaningful and representative opportunities for participation by M/W/DSBEs and an appropriately diverse workforce and to achieve the objectives of Chapter 17-1600. Best and Good Faith Efforts are rebuttably presumed met, when a Bidder makes commitments within the M/W/DSBE Participation Ranges established for this Bid and commits to employ a diverse workforce as enumerated herein.

#### D. Goals

## 1. M/W/DSBE Participation Ranges

As a benchmark for the Bidder's expression of its Best and Good Faith Efforts to provide meaningful and representative opportunities for M/W/DSBEs in the contract, the following participation ranges have been developed. These participation ranges represent, in the absence of discrimination in the solicitation and selection of M/W/DSBEs, the percentage of MBE, WBE and DSBE participation that is reasonably attainable on this contract through the exercise of Bidder's Best and Good Faith Efforts. In order to maximize opportunities for as many businesses as possible, a firm that is certified in two or more categories (e.g. MBE and WBE and DSBE or WBE and DSBE) will only be credited toward one participation range as either an MBE or WBE or DSBE. The firm will not be credited toward more than one category. These ranges are based upon an analysis of factors such as the size and scope of the contract and the availability of MBEs, WBEs and DSBEs to perform various elements of the contract:

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1	2790	15% - 17%	10% - 12%	

## 2. Workforce Goals

Bidder agrees to exhaust its Best and Good Faith Efforts to employ minority persons, by race and ethnicity, and females in its workforce of apprentices and journeypersons at the following levels<sup>3</sup>:

African American Journeypersons – 22% of all journey hours worked across all trades Asian Journeypersons –3% of all journey hours worked across all trades Hispanic Journeypersons – 15% of all journey hours worked across all trades Female Journeypersons – 5% of all journey hours worked across all trades

Minority Apprentices – 50% of all hours worked by all apprentices Female Apprentices – 5% of all hours worked by all apprentices

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> These goals have been informed by the City of Philadelphia Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Disparity Study, Economic Opportunity Plan Employment Composition Analysis.

- B. Upon award, letters of intent, quotations, and any other accompanying documents regarding commitments with M/W/DSBEs, including the M/W/DSBE Participation and Workforce Commitments Form, become part of the contract. M/W/DSBE commitments are to be memorialized in a written subcontract agreement and are to be maintained throughout the term of the contract and shall apply to the total contract value (including approved change orders and amendments). Any change in commitment, including but not limited to termination of the subcontract, reduction in the scope of committed work, substitutions for the listed firms, changes or reductions in the listed dollar/percentage amounts, must be pre-approved in writing by OEO. Throughout the term of the contract, Bidder is required to continue its Best and Good Faith Efforts.
- C. In the event Bidder does not identify on the M/W/DSBE Participation and Workforce Commitments Form that it has made M/W/DSBE commitments within the participation ranges established for this Bid and/or does not agree to the employment goals described herein, Bidder must complete and submit a *Documentation of Best and Good Faith Efforts Form* ("BGFE Form"), documenting its solicitations and any commitments with M/W/DSBEs, and detailing any efforts made to include M/W/DSBEs in the contract and to employ a diverse workforce. The submission of the BGFE Form is an element of bid responsiveness and failure to include this form may result in the rejection of the Bid. The BGFE Form must include at a minimum, certification and documentary evidence that the following actions were taken:
- 1. Solicitation directed to both qualified M/W/DSBEs registered with OEO and qualified M/W/DSBEs certified by agencies approved by OEO. Bidder must provide a list of all certification directories used for soliciting participation for this Bid. Bidder must determine with reasonable certainty if the M/W/DSBEs are interested by taking appropriate steps to follow up on initial solicitations; one time contact, without follow up, is not acceptable; and
- 2. Bidder provided interested M/W/DSBEs with adequate information about the plans, specifications, and requirements of the contract in a timely manner to assist them in responding to a solicitation; and
- 3. Bidder negotiated in good faith with interested M/W/DSBEs. A Bidder using good business judgment would consider a number of factors in negotiating with subcontractors, including M/W/DSBE subcontractors, and would take a firm's price and capabilities as well as the objectives of the Plan into consideration; and
  - 4. Documentation of the following:
- i. Any commitments to use M/W/DSBEs in its bid for subcontracted services and materials supply even when Bidder would otherwise prefer to self-perform/supply these items; and
- ii. Correspondence between the Bidder and any M/W/DSBE(s) related to this Bid; and
- iii. Attendance logs and/or records of any scheduled pre-bid meeting; and

- 5. Certification and evidence that the following actions were taken or documentation of the following, or an explanation why these actions were not taken or why documentation does not exist:
- i. Any arms length business assistance provided to interested M/W/DSBEs which may include access/introduction to major manufacturer/suppliers, lines of credit and union halls; and
- II. Solicitation through job fairs, newspapers, periodicals, advertisements and other organizations or media that are owned by M/W/DSBEs and/or focus on M/W/DSBEs; and
  - iii. Telephone logs of communications related to this Bid; and
- iv. Notification of and access to bid documents at the Bidder's office or other office locations for open and timely review; and
- v. Bidder sought assistance from jobs training and employment referral agencies such as the Urban Affairs Coalition, PA CareerLink Philadelphia, Philadelphia OIC and Philadelphia Works to identify candidates for employment and to perform employment outreach; and
- vi. Bidder published its policy of nondiscrimination in the hiring, retention and promotion of employees; and
- vii. Any agreement with an apprenticeship or training program that targets the employment of minority persons, disabled persons and women.

# III. Evaluation of Responsiveness and Responsibility

### A. Evaluation and Determination

1. The City, acting through its OEO, will evaluate the responsiveness of the Bidder's Plan to these requirements. OEO reserves the right to request further documentation and/or clarifying information at any time prior to the award of the contract which may result in Bidder's amendment of its M/W/DSBE Participation and Workforce Commitments Form or BGFE Form.

## B. Administrative Reconsideration

1. If the OEO determines that the apparent low Bidder has not made sufficient Best and Good Faith Efforts, the Bidder will be notified and may file a written appeal with OEO within forty-eight (48) hours of the date of notification. The decision of OEO may be appealed in writing within forty-eight (48) hours of the date of OEO's decision to Chief Operating Officer of the Commerce Department or his designee whose decision shall be final. If it is determined that the apparent low Bidder did not make sufficient Best and Good Faith Efforts, its Bid will be rejected.

2. Notwithstanding compliance with the requirements set forth herein, the City reserves the right to reject any or all bids as deemed in the best interest of the City.

# IV. Compliance and Monitoring of Best and Good Faith Efforts

A. A copy of the Successful Bidder's Plan, as certified below by OEO, will be filed with the Chief Clerk of Council by the Procurement Department on behalf of the Successful Bidder, within fifteen (15) days of the Procurement Department's issuance of the notice of award.

The Successful Bidder agrees to cooperate with OEO and the Labor Standards Unit ("LSU") in their compliance monitoring efforts, and to submit, within the time limits prescribed, all documentation which may be requested by OEO and LSU relative to the awarded contract, including the items described below. The Successful Bidder must provide as required and maintain the following contract documentation for a period of three (3) years following acceptance of final payment under the contract:

- Copies of signed contracts and purchase orders with M/W/DSBE subcontractors;
- Evidence of payments (cancelled checks, invoices, etc.) to subcontractors and suppliers to verify participation;
- •Telephone logs and correspondence relating to M/W/DSBE commitments.
- Certified Payroll records for all on-site contractors.
- B. The Successful Bidder is required to use the City's electronic systems for payment verification, B2GNOW Contract Compliance Reporting System and certified payrolls, LCP Tracker.

## C. Prompt Payment of M/W/DSBEs

- 1. The Successful Bidder shall within five (5) business days after receipt of a payment from the City for work performed under the contract, deliver to its M/W/DSBE subcontractors their proportionate share of such payment for work performed (including the supply of materials). In connection with payment of its M/W/DSBE subcontractors, the Successful Bidder agrees to fully comply with the City's payment reporting process which may include the use of electronic payment verification systems.
- Each month of the contract term and at the conclusion of the contract, the Successful Bidder shall provide to the OEO documentation

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

SIGNATURE OF BIDDER AND TITLES

| Maricoles Ministration Compared 1/4/17
| PRINT NAME OF BIDDER | DATE

| DEA HARPER, Executive Director, Office of Economic Opportunity's | DATE

[See Forms on following pages; these Forms, as completed by Bidder, must be submitted with the Bid as a matter of Responsiveness and Responsibility]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Bidder is required to sign and date, but the City reserves the right to obtain the Successful Bidder's signature thereon at any time prior to Plan certification. The Successful Bidder will receive from the City a certified copy of its Plan which will be filed by the Procurement Department with the Chief Clerk of City Council within fifteen (15) days of the Procurement Department's issuance of a notice of award and published by OEO, in a downloadable format, on the OEO website.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Pursuant to Section 17-1603 (2) of The Philadelphia Code, the representative of the City of Philadelphia's Office of Economic Opportunity, the "certifying agency", certifies that the contents of this Plan are in compliance with Chapter 17-1600.