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ORDINANCE	NO.
VIIIIIIIVE.	1 1 1 7 .

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 2-9D RELATING TO THE MINORITY-OWNED AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROCUREMENT PROGRAM.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. Section 2-9D-1 of the City Code is amended to add new paragraphs (P), (Q), and (R), and renumber the remaining paragraphs accordingly.

§ 2-9D-1 FINDINGS.

- (P) In 2006, the City updated the ordinance to repeal City Code Chapter 2-9 and replace it with four distinct chapters addressing separate aspects of the program: Ordinance 20060608-058 adding Chapter 2-9A. Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program:

 Construction; Ordinance 20060608-059 adding Chapter 2-9B. Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program:

 Professional Services; Ordinance 20060608-060 adding Chapter 2-9C.

 Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program: Nonprofessional Services; and Ordinance 20060608-061 adding Chapter 2-9D. Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program: Commodities.
- (Q) As the City updated the ordinance, the City commissioned Colette Holt & Associates in late 2005 and NERA Economic Consulting in late 2006 to conduct an updated availability analysis and other statistical and anecdotal investigations regarding the presence of disparities in the City's marketplace. The results of these efforts are consolidated in the May 2008 report entitled "Race, Sex, and Business Enterprise: Evidence from the City of Austin".
- (R) Based on the evidence from the 2008 study, the City determined that:
 - (1) There are identifiable adverse and statistically significant disparities in business formation and business owner earnings for all M/WBE types in the City's marketplace.
 - (2) There are identifiable adverse and statistically significant disparities in access to capital for all M/WBE types in the City's marketplace.

- (3) Despite the City's efforts to create equal opportunities in its marketplace, the evidence continues to indicate that, absent the programs authorized under this ordinance, MBEs and WBEs would be underutilized on City contracts relative to their availability.
- (4) Austin's program continues to be narrowly tailored.

PART 2. Section 2-9D-4 of the City Code is amended to read:

§ 2-9D-4 DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of this chapter the following definitions shall apply. With the exception of specifically defined terms set forth herein, all words shall have their ordinary and usual meanings. In the event of conflict, the specific definition set out herein shall presumptively, but not conclusively prevail over the ordinary and usual meanings.

- (1) ADVERSE DECISION. An Adverse Decision includes a notice of violation, denial of certification, decertification, sanction or similar action taken by <u>SMBR</u> [DSMBR], a Contract Awarding Authority, or other City official under the Program with respect to a Firm or Business Enterprise.
- (2) AFFILIATE. A person or entity is an Affiliate of another person or entity that directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls or is controlled by, or is under common control with, the person or entity. In determining affiliation, the City shall consider all appropriate factors, including common ownership, common management, and contractual relationships. Affiliates must be considered together in determining whether a firm is a MBE/WBE.
- (3) ANNUAL PARTICIPATION GOALS. The targeted levels established by the city council for the annual aggregate participation of MBEs and WBEs in City contracts with respect to Commodities procurement, as set forth in Section 2-9D-3 (*Establishment of Program*), and as may be amended from time to time.
- (4) AUSTIN METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA. The specific area defined by the Census Bureau, which is presently limited to Travis, Williamson, Hays, Bastrop and Caldwell Counties.
- (5) BID. A complete, properly signed response to a competitive bidding Solicitation issued by the City, submitted on the prescribed forms required by the relevant Contract Awarding Authority, to perform or provide labor,

- materials, equipment, supplies or services to or for the City for a stated price.
- (6) BIDDER. A person, Firm or Business Enterprise that submits a Bid in response to a Solicitation. A Bidder may be represented by an agent if such agent provides evidence demonstrating the agent's authority.
- (7) BROKER. A person or entity that fills orders by purchasing or receiving supplies from a third party supplier rather than out of its own existing inventory, and provides no Commercially Useful Function other than acting as a conduit between his or her supplier and his or her customer.
- (8) BUSINESS ENTERPRISE or FIRM. A corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, Joint Venture, joint stock company, professional association or any other legal entity, that is properly licensed and/or otherwise authorized to do business in the State of Texas.
- (9) CITY and CITY LIMITS. The City of Austin, Texas and its full purpose annexed boundaries, as established by Chapter 90, page 634, Special Laws of Texas, 1909, 31st Legislature, as the same may be amended from time to time and as extended by ordinances of the City of Austin enacted subsequent thereto.
- (10) CITY MANAGER. The person serving as the chief administrative and executive officer of the City, as appointed and serving under Art. V, Section 1 of the Austin City Charter (or any successor provision) and includes his or her designee.
- (11) CITY MARKETPLACE. The geographic and procurement areas in which the City contracts on an annual basis.
- (12) COMMERCIALLY USEFUL FUNCTION. A Firm is responsible for the execution of a distinct element of the work of the Contract and carries out its responsibilities by actually performing, managing, and supervising the work involved, or fulfilling its responsibilities as Joint Venturer. To determine whether a Firm is performing a Commercially Useful Function, the City will evaluate the amount of work subcontracted, normal industry practices and other relevant factors. In determining whether a MBE/WBE Firm is performing a Commercially Useful Function, the following considerations shall be counted:
 - (a) A MBE/WBE performs a Commercially Useful Function when it is responsible for the work of the Contract and is carrying out its responsibilities by actually performing, managing, and supervising the

work involved. To perform a Commercially Useful Function, the MBE/WBE must also be responsible, with respect to materials and supplies used on the Contract, for negotiating price, determining quality and quantity, ordering the material, and installing (where applicable) and paying for the material itself. The determination that a MBE/WBE is performing a Commercially Useful Function will be determined by the amount of work subcontracted, normal industry practices, whether the amount the Firm is to be paid under the Contract is commensurate with the work it is actually performing, and other relevant factors.

- (b) A MBE/WBE does not perform a Commercially Useful Function if its role is limited to that of an extra participant in a transaction, Contract, or project through which funds are passed in order to obtain the appearance of MBE/WBE participation.
- (c) Generally, if a MBE/WBE does not perform or exercise responsibility for at least 30 percent of the total cost of its Contract with its own work force, or the MBE/WBE subcontracts a greater portion of the work of a Contract than would be expected on the basis of normal industry practice for the type of work involved, it is not performing a Commercially Useful Function.
- (13) COMMODITIES. For purposes of this Section 2-9D, Commodities shall include goods, supplies, or equipment to be provided or supplied under a Contract by a Contractor to a Contract Awarding Authority or User Department, as the case may be.
- (14) COMPLIANCE PLAN. The plan submitted with the Bid/Proposal detailing the Bidder/Proposer's achievement of the Goals or Subgoals or its Good Faith Efforts to meet the Goals or Subgoals for all elements of the Solicitation, as defined in Section 2-9D-21 (*Pre-Award Compliance Procedures*), subject to the rules established by the relevant Contract Awarding Authority. A Compliance Plan must be submitted with a Bid/Proposal for any City project for which Goals or Subgoals have been established.
- (15) CONSTRUCTION. The construction, repair, rehabilitation, alteration, conversion or extension of buildings, parks, utilities, streets or other improvements or alterations to real property.
- (16) CONSULTANT. A person or Business Enterprise that submits a Proposal to provide professional or nonprofessional services to the City by Contract,

- (20) DBE or DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE. Defined as provided in 49 Code of Federal Regulation Part 26 or other applicable federal regulations.
- [(21) DSMBR. The City's Department of Small and Minority Business Resources.]
- (21) [(22)] DIRECTOR. The City official who heads the department which manages the Program authorized by this chapter, and the Director's successor, and the successor agency or department.
- (22) [(23)] ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE. With respect to an individual owner of a Business Enterprise or Firm, Economic Disadvantage means personal net worth equal to or less than \$1,300,000 [\$900,000], which figure shall be (a) indexed annually, beginning January 1, 2009 [2007], for the South Region Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) [Austin Metro Area Consumer Price Index], published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards and (b) exclusive of the individual owner's equity in (i) a Business Enterprise or Firm seeking certification under this Program, and (ii) the personal residence of the individual owner of such Business Enterprise or Firm.
- (23) [(24)] EXPERTISE. Verifiable and demonstrable skills, knowledge or ability to perform in the field of endeavor in which certification is sought by the Business Enterprise as defined by normal industry practices, including licensure where required.
- (24) [(25)] FRONT. A business which purports to be a MBE/WBE but that is actually owned, controlled or managed in a manner that is inconsistent with the requirements for certification set forth in this chapter.
- (25) [(26)] GOALS. The goals or Subgoals established for a particular Solicitation or Contract, as set forth in Section 2-9D-3 (*Establishment of Program*) and calculated as authorized in Section 2-9D-19 (*Establishment of MBE/WBE Participation Levels for Individual Contracts in Commodities Procurement*).
- (26) [(27)] GOOD FAITH EFFORTS. The actions undertaken by a Bidder, Contractor, or Proposer to achieve a MBE/WBE Goal with respect to a Contract. Minimum standards are as set forth in Section 2-9D-21 (*Pre-Award Compliance Procedures*).
- (27) [(28)] JOINT VENTURE. An association of two or more persons, or any combination of types of Business Enterprises and persons numbering two or more, proposing to perform a single Contract, in which each Joint Venture

partner contributes property, capital, efforts, and skill and/or knowledge, and in which the MBE/WBE is responsible for a distinct, clearly-defined portion of the work of the Contract and whose share in the capital contribution, control, management, risks and profits of the Joint Venture is equal to its ownership interest. A Joint Venture seeking certification pursuant to the Program must have an agreement in writing specifying the terms and conditions of the relationships between the partners and their relationship, risks, and responsibilities under the Contract.

- (28) LEASE. A long-term agreement, contract, or instrument conveying property to another at the will of either lessor or lessee for compensation, not on an ad hoc or contract-by-contract basis.
- (29) LIKE-KIND. For purposes of substitutions of previously designated MBEs and/or WBEs, a MBE for a MBE, if MBE and WBE Goals are used in a Solicitation; a member of a racial or ethnic group for a member of the same racial or ethnic group, if racial or ethnic Subgoals are used in the Solicitation; or a WBE for a WBE.
- (30) MBE/WBE AND SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE. The Minority-owned and Women-owned Business Enterprise and Small Business Enterprise Procurement Program Advisory Committee [committee] appointed by the city council to serve those functions described in Section 2-9D-13 (MBE/WBE and Small Business Advisory Committee). It is composed as set forth in Chapter 2-1 (City Boards) [Section 2-1-163 (Minority-Owned And Women-Owned Business Enterprise And Small Business Enterprise Procurement Program Advisory Committee)] of the Code.
- (31) MANUFACTURER. A Firm that operates or maintains a factory or establishment that produces, on the premises, the materials, supplies, articles, or equipment required under the Contract and of the general character described by the specifications.
- (32) MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE or MBE. A business including, without being limited to, a sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, Joint Venture, limited liability company, or any other business or professional entity:
 - (a) which is at least 51 percent owned by one or more Minority Persons, or in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of all classes of the stock of which is owned by one or more Minority Persons;

1 2 3		(b)	whose management, policies, major decisions and daily business operations are independently controlled by one or more such Minority Persons;
4		(c)	which performs a Commercially Useful Function;
5 6		(d)	the size of which does not exceed the size limits established by the United States Small Business Administration [rule];
7 8		(e)	doing business in the <u>State of Texas</u> [City's Marketplace] for at least three months prior to the date of application for certification;
9		(f)	which is certified by the City; and
10		(g)	which is Economically Disadvantaged.
11 12 13 14	(33)	presu State	ORITY PERSON. A person is a Minority Person, and is rebuttably amed to be Socially Disadvantaged, if he or she is a citizen of the United s or a lawfully admitted resident alien and a member of one of the wing groups:
15 16		(a)	Blacks or African-Americans (persons whose origins are in one of the Black racial groups of Africa);
17 18 19		(b)	Hispanics (persons whose origins are in Mexico, Central or South America, Spain or any of the Spanish-speaking islands of the Caribbean, regardless of race);
20 21		(c)	Native Americans (persons whose origins are in any of the original peoples of North America);
22 23 24		(d)	Asian-Americans (persons whose origins are in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the islands of the Pacific or the Northern Marianas, or the Indian Subcontinent);
25 26 27 28 29		(e)	other groups, or other individuals, found by the Director pursuant to rule, to be Socially and Economically Disadvantaged, and to have suffered actual social and economic discrimination and decreased opportunities to compete in the City's Marketplace or to do business with the City; and
30 31		(f)	for purposes of contracts funded by other sources, groups found to be eligible for the designation of DBE by such governmental sources.
32 33	(34)		NED, MANAGED AND INDEPENDENTLY CONTROLLED. A ness Enterprise or Firm is Owned, Managed and Independently Page 8 of 21

Controlled if one or more Minority Persons or Women who own the requisite interest in or assets of a business applying for certification possess the customary incidents of such ownership, including an equivalent interest in profit and loss, and have contributed an equivalent percentage of capital or equipment and Expertise to the business. Ownership shall be measured as though not subject to the community property interest of a spouse, if both spouses certify in writing that the nonparticipating spouse relinquishes control over his or her community property interest in the subject business (but by doing so is not required to transfer ownership interest or to characterize the property as the separate property of the spouse). The ownership and control of the Firm shall be real, substantial, and continuing and shall go beyond the pro forma ownership of the Firm as reflected in its ownership documents.

- (35) PROGRAM. The Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program as authorized by this chapter.
- (36) PROPOSAL. A complete, properly signed response to a Solicitation that, if accepted, would bind the Proposer to perform the resultant Contract.
- (37) PROPOSER. A person, Business Enterprise or Firm that submits a Proposal in response to a Solicitation. A Proposer may be represented by an agent if such agent provides evidence demonstrating the agent's authority.
- REGULAR DEALER. A Firm that owns, operates, or maintains a store, (38)warehouse, or other establishment in which the materials, supplies, articles or equipment of the general character described by the specifications and required under the Contract are bought, kept in stock, and regularly sold or leased to the public in the usual course of business. To be a Regular Dealer, the Firm must be an established, regular business that engages, as its principal business and under its own name, in the purchase and sale or lease of the products in question. A person may be a Regular Dealer in such bulk items as petroleum products, steel, cement, gravel, stone, or asphalt without owning, operating, or maintaining a place of business if the person both owns and operates distribution equipment for the products. Any supplementing of Regular Dealers' own distribution equipment shall be by a long-term lease agreement and not on an ad hoc or Contract-by-Contract basis. Packagers, Brokers, manufacture representatives, or other persons who arrange or expedite transactions are not Regular Dealers.
- (39) SIGNIFICANT LOCAL BUSINESS PRESENCE. A Firm has a Significant Local Business Presence if it has an established place of business in the Austin Metropolitan Statistical Area at which one or more of its employees

is regularly based. Such place of business must have a substantial role in the MBE's/WBE's performance of a Commercially Useful Function. A location utilized solely as a post office box, mail drop or telephone message center or any combination thereof, with no other substantial work function, shall not be construed to constitute a Significant Local Business Presence.

- (40) SMBR. The City's Small and Minority Business Resources Department.
- (41) [(40)] SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED. A Minority Person or Woman is Socially Disadvantaged if he or she has been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice or cultural bias within American society because of his or her identity as a member of a group and without regard to individual qualities. Social Disadvantage must stem from circumstances beyond the individual's control.
- (42) [(41)] SOLICITATION. A Solicitation means, as the case may be, an invitation for Bids, a request for Proposals, a request for qualifications, a request for quotations, or such other request as defined by the City.
- (43) [(42)] SUBCONSULTANT. A person, Firm or Business Enterprise providing professional or nonprofessional services to a prime Consultant if such professional or nonprofessional services are procured or used in fulfillment of the prime Consultant's obligations arising from a Contract with the City, and including every level of subconsulting required to fulfill a Contract with the City.
- (44) [(43)] SUBCONTRACTOR. Any person or Business Enterprise providing goods, labor or services to a Contractor if such goods, labor or services are procured or used in fulfillment of the Contractor's obligations arising from a Contract with the City. Subcontractor includes every level of subcontracting required to fulfill a Contract with the City.
- (45) [(44)] SUBGOALS. The targeted levels established by the city council for the annual aggregate participation of each group of Minority Persons and Women with respect to Commodities procurement, or the targeted levels for the participation of each group of Minority Persons and Women as project participation Goals established pursuant to Section 2-9D-19 (Establishment of MBE/WBE Participation Levels for Individual Contracts in Commodities Procurement).
- (46) [(45)] USER DEPARTMENT. The department or office of the City that is funding the Contract for the goods or services procured by a Contract and is the consumer of the goods and/or services under Contract on behalf of the City.

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§ 2-9D-10 DUTIES OF [DEPARTMENT OF | SMALL AND MINORITY BUSINESS RESOURCES DEPARTMENT.

The Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program with respect to Commodities [Construction] shall be administered and executed by a [Department of |Small and Minority Business Resources Department, whose Director shall report to the City Manager. The Director has final administrative authority over the operations of the Program. The duties and function of the [Department of]Small and Minority Business Resources Department shall include the following:

- Formulating, proposing and adopting rules and regulations for the further (1) development, implementation and monitoring of the Program, in accordance with the process established in Section 2-9D-6 (Adoption of Rules).
- (2) Assuring that MBEs and WBEs are informed of City contracting and consulting opportunities.
- Providing information and assistance to MBEs, WBEs, and DBEs relating to (3) City procurement practices and procedures and Bid specifications, requirements and prerequisites.
- **(4)** Certifying businesses as MBEs, WBEs, and DBEs, maintaining certification records, and ensuring that all City departments have an up-to-date certification register.
- Reviewing Contractors' achievement of the Goals or documentation of Good (5)Faith Efforts made to comply with the participation Goals for Contracts, and rendering decisions on whether Good Faith Efforts have been sufficient.
- Working with User Departments to monitor Contracts to ensure prompt (6) payments to MBEs, WBEs, and DBEs and compliance with participation Goals and commitments.
- (7) Establishing project participation Goals and/or Subgoals in accordance with Section 2-9D-19 (Establishment of MBE/WBE Participation Levels for Individual Contracts in Commodities Procurement).
- (8) Receiving, reviewing, and acting upon complaints and suggestions concerning the Program, and reporting violations of this chapter when such violations occur as provided in Section 2-9D-25 (Sanctions).

1 2 3 4	(9)	Advi Man	sory Cager, ca	taff support and reports to the MBE/WBE and Small Business ommittee and forwarding its recommendations to the City ity council and City departments to further the policies and of the Program.
5 6	(10)	_	_	he availability of MBEs, WBEs, and DBEs certified by the City Contracts for the City.
7	PART 5. S	Section	2-9D-	11 of the City Code is amended to read:
8				F <u>THE FINANCIAL</u> [FINANCE] AND ERVICES DEPARTMENT.
10 11 12			_	ffice of the Financial [Finance] and Administrative Services ne following duties and responsibilities with regard to the
13	(1)	Mair	ntaining	g records of:
14 15		(a)	the d DBE	ollar amounts of awards of prime Contracts to MBEs, WBEs, and s;
16 17 18		(b)	WBE	ctual dollar amounts paid under subcontracts awarded to MBEs, Es, and DBEs compared to total dollars paid on Contracts. These nents shall be measured against projected payments or Goals;
19 20 21		(c)		otal annual expenditures to MBEs, WBEs, and DBEs as a entage of the total expenditures on all Contracts awarded by the
22 23		(d)	_	erly [monthly] reports for all procurements valued in excess of 00, which shall include, at a minimum:
24 25			(i)	the number of Contracts and subcontracts awarded to MBEs, WBEs, and DBEs;
26			(ii)	the total dollar value of Contracts and subcontracts;
27 28 29			(iii)	the percentage of the dollar value of all Contracts and subcontracts awarded during this period that were awarded to MBEs, WBEs, and DBEs;
30 31 32			(iv)	an indication of whether, and the extent to which, the percentage of Contracts and subcontracts awarded met the Annual Participation Goals, if any have been established;
				Page 13 of 21

1 § 2-9D-12 DUTIES OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENTS. 2 The Public Works Department and any other departments or offices of the (A) City which receive appropriate delegation for project management, Contract 3 4 management and/or design Contract responsibility shall have the following 5 duties and responsibilities with regard to the Program: (1) assisting the Director with setting project participation Goals and/or 6 7 Subgoals for Contracts as authorized by Section 2-9D-19 (Establishment of MBE/WBE Participation Levels for Individual Contracts in Commodities 8 9 *Procurement*) hereof; 10 (2) assuring integration of all vendor lists with the vendor list maintained by the Finance and Administrative Services Department; 11 12 (3) assisting in the identification of available MBE, WBE, and DBE Contractors and Subcontractors, and providing other assistance in meeting the Goals; 13 performing other activities to support SMBR [DSMBR], as set forth in the 14 (4) 15 rules; gathering and maintaining subcontracting data for those Contracts which 16 (5) 17 they manage; submitting subcontracting data to the Finance and Administrative Services. 18 (6) Public Works, and/or such other City departments as may be required by the 19 20 relevant Contract Awarding Authority, within 15 calendar days of month's 21 end; 22 managing Commodities procurement Contracts in a consistent manner to (7) 23 assure Contract compliance in utilization of MBE, WBE, and DBE 24 Subcontractors; and 25 (B) [(8)] Nothwithstanding [notwithstanding] the provisions of this section, no 26 project management department shall have the authority to conduct any activities without express ordinance or rule delegation to such department. 27 28 **PART 7.** Section 2-9D-13 of the City Code is amended to read: § 2-9D-13 MBE/WBE AND SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE. 29 30 The MBE/WBE and Small Business Advisory Committee shall perform 31 those functions as set forth in Chapter 2-1 [Section 2-1-163 (Minority-Owned And 32 Women Owned Business Enterprise And Small Business Enterprise Procurement 33 *Program Advisory Committee*)] of the Code.

PART 8. Subsection (K) of Section 2-9D-15 of the City Code is amended to read:

§ 2-9D-15 PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY.

- (K) The certification status of all MBEs and WBEs shall be reviewed on an annual basis by SMBR [DSMBR] or its designee, as approved by city council. The annual review may be conducted through examination of a sworn affidavit of continuing eligibility (including all such attachments as may be required by rule) submitted by the Business Enterprise or Firm seeking certification. MBEs and WBEs are required to seek recertification upon the third anniversary of their initial certification and upon the third anniversary of all subsequent certifications. Failure of the Firm to seek recertification by filing the necessary documentation with SMBR [DSMBR] within 60 calendar days from the date of receipt of written notification from SMBR may [DSMBR shall] result in decertification of the Firm.
- **PART 9.** Section 2-9D-16 of the City Code is amended to read:

§ 2-9D-16 PROCEDURE FOR APPEALING AND PROTESTING ADVERSE DECISION.

- (A) A Firm that is subject to an Adverse Decision, or has received written notice from the Director or other City official of intent to impose an Adverse Decision, is entitled to appeal such Adverse Decision as set forth herein.
 - (1) Within seven calendar days of the date the Firm receives notice of intent to impose an Adverse Decision, the Firm must file written notice of intent to appeal. Failure to file a written notice of intent within this time waives all rights to appeal or protest the Adverse Decision.
 - (2) <u>SMBR</u> [DSMBR] shall set forth by rule the procedures a Firm must follow to file a written appeal, which appeal must be filed within 21 calendar days of the date the Firm receives notice of intent to impose an Adverse Decision.
 - (3) The Director will determine whether the grounds for an appeal are sufficient, and, if the Director so determines, shall set a date for an appeal hearing, usually within five calendar days. The appeals hearing is an informal meeting, not subject to the Open Meetings Act (Texas Government Code Chapter 551), and is not an adversarial proceeding. SMBR [DSMBR] shall set forth by rule the persons who may attend an appeal hearing.

- (B) For ease of Program administration, Solicitations may contain Goals and/or Subgoals, if applicable, expressed as round numbers, using mathematical rounding principles.
- (C) The Director shall rely on the information systems operated and maintained by the Finance and Administrative Services Department for the availability percentages used to establish project participation Goals or Subgoals.
- (D) The Director shall establish by rule a process for Contract awarding authorities to apply for project participation Goals or Subgoals in a timely manner.

PART 11. Subsection (G) of Section 2-9D-21 of the City Code is amended to read:

§ 2-9D-21 PRE-AWARD COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES.

- (G) The Director shall review the compliance plan prior to award, including the scope of work, [and the letters of intent from any MBE/WBE Subcontractors] within a reasonable time so as not to unduly delay award of the Contract.
 - If the Director determines that the compliance plan demonstrates that (1) the Goals or Subgoals have been achieved, then the Contract Awarding Authority, with the concurrence of the Director, after the Contract Awarding Authority and Director review the letters of intent, recommend award to the city council. For all competitively Bid projects, signed letter(s) of intent between the certified low Bidder and the MBE and/or WBE Subcontractor(s) must be received by the Contract Awarding Authority within three business days of notification of the status as certified low Bidder. For procurements conducted through the request for Proposal or request for qualifications process, no later than after final execution of a professional or nonprofessional services agreement but before the issuance of a notice to proceed, the successful Proposer must deliver signed subcontracts between itself and the MBE and/or WBE Subcontractor(s) and/or Subconsultant(s) for the scope of work reflected in the Proposal as awarded.
 - (2) In the event the applicable Goal(s) or Subgoals have not been achieved, then the Director shall evaluate the Bidder's/Proposer's Good Faith Efforts to achieve those Goals or Subgoals as documented in the compliance plan. The Director shall evaluate the compliance plan based on the criteria established in Subsection (E) of this section. The Director may request clarification in writing of items listed in the

- compliance plan, provided such clarification <u>is minor and</u> shall not include the opportunity to augment listed MBE/WBE participation or Good Faith Efforts.
- (3) If the Director finds that a Bidder/Proposer did not make sufficient Good Faith Efforts, the Director shall communicate his finding to the Contract Awarding Authority or other appropriate City official. The Director shall recommend to the Contract Awarding Authority that the Bid/Proposal be rejected based on failure to comply with this chapter. The Contract Awarding Authority may reject the Bid/Proposal as not in compliance with this chapter, or may advise the City Manager of additional considerations which may form the basis for accepting the Bid/Proposal as being in the best overall interest of the Program and the City.
- (4) If the Contract Awarding Authority finds that the Bid/Proposal does not comply with this chapter, a Bidder/Proposer may request a protest hearing. The City Manager has the authority to make the final decision, subject to council action, if required. In determining whether compliance with this section has been met, the City Manager may determine that the effort of the Bidder/Proposer substantially complies with the purpose of this chapter and such determination is in the best interest of the Program and the City.
- **PART 12.** Subsection (I) of Section 2-9D-21 of the City Code is amended to read:
- § 2-9D-21 PRE-AWARD COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES.
 - (I) The City purchasing officer or relevant Contract Awarding Authority may waive minor informalities in the compliance plan. A minor informality is one that does not affect the competitiveness of the Bid/Proposal.
- **PART 13.** Subsection (F) of Section 2-9D-22 of the City Code is amended to read:
- § 2-9D-22 POST-AWARD COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES.
 - (F) Notice of appeal from an Adverse Decision under Subsection (E) must be filed with the Purchasing Office or relevant Contract Awarding Authority within 14 calendar days from the date of receipt of the finding[with the Purchasing Office], including any written documentation to demonstrate how the Contractor or Consultant, as the case may be, has complied with the contracted Goals or Subgoals. The Purchasing Office or relevant Contract Awarding Authority shall hold a hearing within 15 calendar days of receipt of notice of appeal on whether the Contractor or Consultant has complied

	, 2008	§ § §	
		3	Will Wynn Mayor
APPROVED:		ATTEST: _	
	Allan Smith Attorney		Shirley A. Gentry City Clerk