CITY OF AUSTIN

COMMODITY CODES CROSSWALK PROJECT

Presentation to MBE/WBE & Small Business
Procurement
Advisory Committee
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Robin Camp, Project Manager Public Works Department







Key Project Objectives

- Establish methodical relationships between City Bid Items and commodity code selections.
- Increase the accuracy and consistency of commodity codes used in conjunction with project trade summaries.
- Improve participation of Certified Minority and Women Owner Business Enterprises.







Some Key Terms & Concepts

- Commodity Code is a classification tool
- Cross-Walk builds relationships between two or more standardized sets of commodity or service codes
- Construction Standards Institute (CSI) MasterFormat Specification Divisions
- National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP) Code used for COA vendors
- Standard Bid Items City of Austin construction specifications
- Trade Summary (Cost estimate with trade scopes)
- eCAPRIS (City of Austin electronic reporting system)

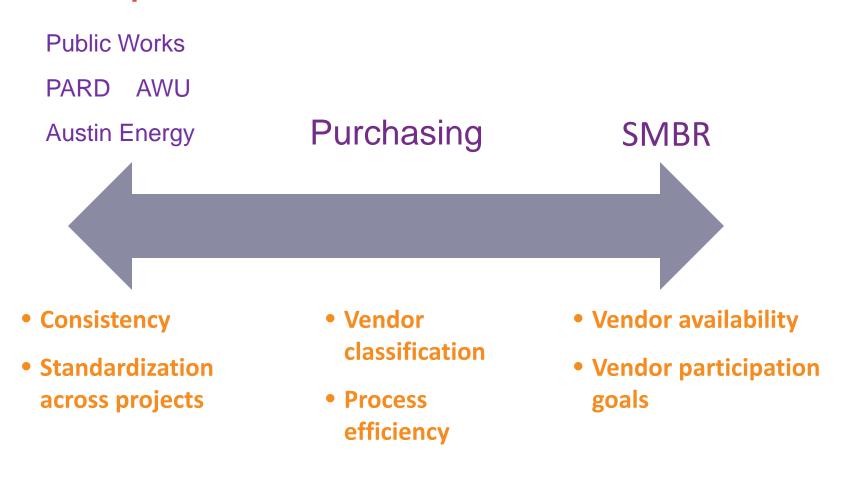
Process Now

- City uses a single database for all suppliers across all procurement types (e.g., construction projects, historically disadvantaged businesses, vendor products, "standard")
- Design Consultants provide Probable Opinion of Cost in various formats
- City Project Managers enter cost and trade scopes into eCAPRIS using best professional experience
- Availability list for each project based on trade summary

The Task

- When planning and acquiring construction, many engineering firms use the Construction Standards Institutue's MasterFormat[™] as a way of breaking down supplies and services.
- There has not been a fully rationalized process to connect the CSI MasterFormat to the NIGP Commodity Code structure.
- This complicates selecting both prime- and subcontractors, who, when they register do so at the 5and 7-digit NIGP level.

Broad Spectrum of Stakeholders & Goals



The Process

- End-to-End Process Review
 - Internal stakeholders
 - Public Works Project Management
 - Department of Small and Minority Business Resources
 - Purchasing
 - IT
 - External Stakeholders
 - Austin General Contractors
 - Minority and woman-owned business community
- RFI
 - Potential providers
- RFP
 - Competitive acquisition and contract negotiation

Vertical vs. Horizontal Construction

Cross-Walk = Translation Between Commodity Codes











Project Activities

- Inquiry search identified contracts with Certified subs
- Cross checked those items with most often used codes.
- Identified 1,128 NIGP codes to cross-walk

Results: Separate codes into 3 groups:

- 1. NIGP codes applicable to construction with related CSI code
- 2. NIGP codes not applicable to construction or no related CSI code.
- Codes not registered with NIGP







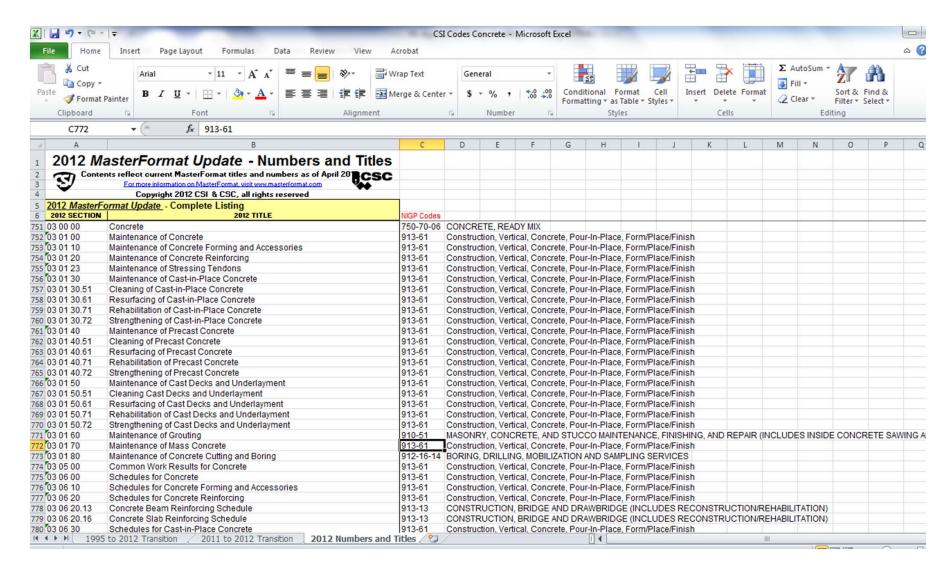
1. NIGP Codes with Applicable CSI Code

- Use 5 digit NIGP Codes
 - Vendors currently registered under 7 digit code will be rolled up to 5 digit code
- Use first 3 to 4 digits of CSI Codes
 - 08 50 00 Windows vs. 08 51 13 Aluminum Windows
 - Window vendor would not need to register for large number of codes
- Project Managers currently reviewing code list

08 50 00	Windows
08 51 00	Metal Windows
08 51 13	Aluminum Windows
08 51 16	Bronze Windows
08 51 19	Stainless-Steel Windows
08 51 23	Steel Windows
08 51 66	Metal Window Screens
08 51 69	Metal Storm Windows
08 52 00	Wood Windows
08 52 13	Metal-Clad Wood Windows
08 52 16	Plastic-Clad Wood Windows
08 52 66	Wood Window Screens
08 52 69	Wood Storm Windows
08 53 00	Plastic Windows
08 53 13	Vinyl Windows
08 53 66	Vinyl Window Screens
08 53 69	Vinyl Storm Windows
08 54 00	Composite Windows
08 54 13	Fiberglass Windows
08 54 66	Fiberglass Window Screens
08 54 69	Fiberglass Storm Windows



Commodity Code Cross-Walk Project



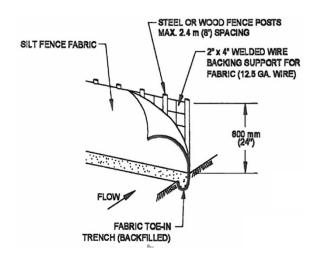




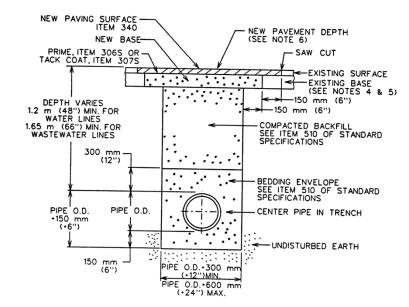


Examples

Silt Fence



Pipe: 6-inch DIP waterline





Commodity Code Cross-Walk Project

				Asphalt			
Bid Item	\$/unit (square yard)	Component	Component Cost (%)	Commodity Code	Commodity Description	\$,	/Code
340S-B	\$ 23.60	HMAC	37%	745-21	Asphaltic Concrete, Hot Laid Including Bituminous Material	\$	8.82
				913	CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, HEAVY (INCL. MAINTENANCE	AND	REPAIR
		Tack Coat	1%	913-50	Construction, Street (Major and Residential)(Includes Reco	\$	0.34
		Hauling (includes labor and equipment)	6%	962-39-06	HAULING SERVICES, ASPHALT MATERIAL	\$	1.37
		Equipment (includes demolition of existing HMAC, paving, compaction, grading,					
		emulsion)	16%	760	ROAD AND HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT: EARTH HANDLING, GR.	\$	3.72
		Labor(includes demolition of existing HMAC, paving, compaction, grading,					
		emulsion)	20%	912-40-20	DEMOLITION SERVICES	\$	4.63
				913-94	Paving/Resurfacing, Alley and Parking Lot		
				913-95	Paving/Resurfacing, Highway and Road		
				913-96	Paving/Resurfacing, Street (Major and Residential)		
				913-50	Construction, Street (Major and Residential)(Includes Reco	nstr	uction)
		Overhead & Profit (20%)	20%			\$	4.72
		Total	100%			\$	23.60
		Assumptions:					
		Existing HMAC 3" thick					
		New HMAC 3" thick, Type C					
		12 CY dump truck, 10 mi round trip, 0.6 load/hr					
		10% compaction (1 CY = 1.1 LCY)					
		Tack coat, emulsion, 0.05 gal/SY,					
		Compaction cost (labor and equi	pment) included in paving co	ost			
		Used 2007 RS Means for compor	nent break down				
		Maximum allowable O&P					ļ







Project Activities

- Phase 1: Proof of Concept
- Sample Bid Items and CSI Cross-walks
- Stakeholder Input
- City Staff process interviews
- Phase 2: Implementation
- Build Cross-Walks
- Coordinate with City CTM
- Stakeholder Input and Review
- Findings and Recommendations







What We've Discovered

- Not practical to break out every bid item into multiple components
- Most common bid items assigned to subcontractors include erosion control, hauling and traffic handling
- Some categories (i.e. paving) have few competitors in the local market
- Many bid items require broad assumptions which can lead to inconsistent application



Horizontal Projects (SBI to NIGP)

Phase 2 Implementation

- Completed preliminary bid item component breakdowns for 12 identified bid items.
- Reviewed preliminary bid item components and percentages with City and local Contractor Central Road & Utility (CRU).
- Received comments from City and CRU regarding bid item components and percentages.







Vertical Projects (CSI to NIGP)

Phase 2 Implementation

- Periscope built initial crosswalk of NIGP Codes to CSI Codes.
- Reviewed the mapped and unmapped items with Public Works.
- Reviewed NIGP Codes with recent City contracting and compared to codes in initial crosswalk.
- Propose strategy to produce a core CSI-NIGP Code Crosswalk implemented for maximum initial benefit to the City and its vendor community.
- LAN assisted Periscope with this effort as a technical resource.
- The result organized the City's utilized NIGP codes into 3 categories:
 - NIGP codes applicable to construction with related CSI code
 - NIGP codes not applicable to construction or no related CSI code
 - Codes not registered with NIGP







Recommendations for Moving Forward

Horizontal Projects:

- Continue crosswalk effort for approximately 40-45 additional standard bid items methodology established through above coordination.
- Pilot test crosswalk on completed construction projects.
- Seek public input from contractors and external stakeholders.
- Analyze number of additional standard bid item crosswalks needed for City projects.







Recommendations for Moving Forward

Vertical Projects:

- Identify NIGP Codes utilized by M/WBE vendors for which no contracting activity exists; work with City on communication to the vendor community.
- Conduct internal stakeholder group meeting to review crosswalk and discuss impact of 5-digit vs. 7-digit approach.
- Seek external stakeholder input on the initial crosswalk.
- Adjust crosswalk based on feedback.
- Discuss implementation considerations with IT and other stakeholders.
- Identify test cases with the city and assess the crosswalk's impact on the test cases in conjunction with SMBR.







Challenges & Lessons Learned



- Crosswalks are never perfectly "clean"
- Reasonable debate between registering vendors at different Code levels
- Testing required to answer a key question: Are we simply cutting smaller pieces, or are we making the pie bigger?



NEXT STEPS





