



PURCHASING
OFFICE
City of Austin

Disparity Study & MBE/WBE Program Overview

Water & Wastewater Commission August 2020

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Objectives

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PROVIDE A GENERAL
OVERVIEW OF THE
DISPARITY STUDY



HIGHLIGHT THE SMBR
PROGRAM



PROVIDE DETAILS
REGARDING MBE/WBE
REQUIREMENTS IN
CONTRACTING



REVIEW AUSTIN WATER'S
MBE/WBE
PARTICIPATION AND
CONTRACTING EFFORTS

What is a Disparity Study?

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- ▶ Examines the procurement history of a government agency during a specific time frame to determine if there is statistical and or anecdotal information to suggest that the agency's past or current practices in the solicitation and award of contracts have been exclusionary, disparate or discriminatory in nature in the awarding of contracts to minority-owned, women-owned, and disadvantaged business enterprises (MWDBEs).

Why is a disparity study necessary?

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Legally required to
continue the City's
MBE/WBE Program.



Assists with making
recommended
improvements to the
MBE/WBE Program.



Provides a legal
defense regarding
the City's established
MBE/WBE Goals.

What are the legal requirements of a disparity study?

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Collect and analyze data such as availability and utilization for both minority and non-minority firms as well as subs and primes.



Analyze multiple years of data. Courts recommend at least 3 to 5 years.



Analysis should be relative to specific industries: construction, professional services, commodities, etc.



Broad analysis for availability, capacity and willingness of firms to participate on contracts.



Disparity analysis should be inclusive of surrounding markets



Balanced analysis of past and present industry and contract discrimination



Collect and analyze anecdotal evidence

Disparity Study Contact Information

Study information

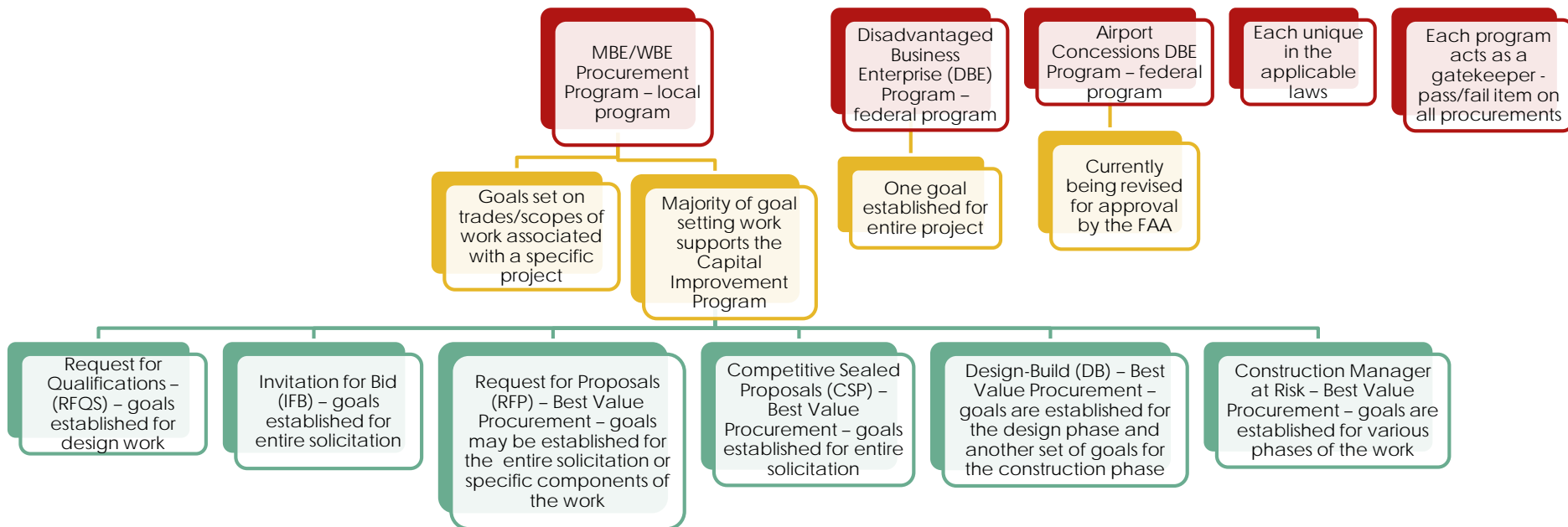
- <http://austin.disparity-study.com>
- austin-study@mwbelaw.com
- 855-692-3529 (855-MWBELAW)

City of Austin Study Manager:

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DisparityStudy@austintexas.gov

SMBR Programs

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COA Goal Setting Methodology

All COA's procurements
over the City Manager's
Authority are reviewed for
goals except for:



Procurements exempted from SMBR Program (MBE/WBE Rules Section 1.2)

1. COA sale of personal and real property	2. Loan transactio ns where COA is a debtor	3. Lease and franchise agree- ments	4. Agreement s to use COA real property	5. Gifts to COA for material, equipment, supplies or services	6. Interlocal or intergovern mental agree- ments between or among political subdivisions	7. Sole Source Purchases	8. Public Heath and Safety Emergency Purchases
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Setting Goals

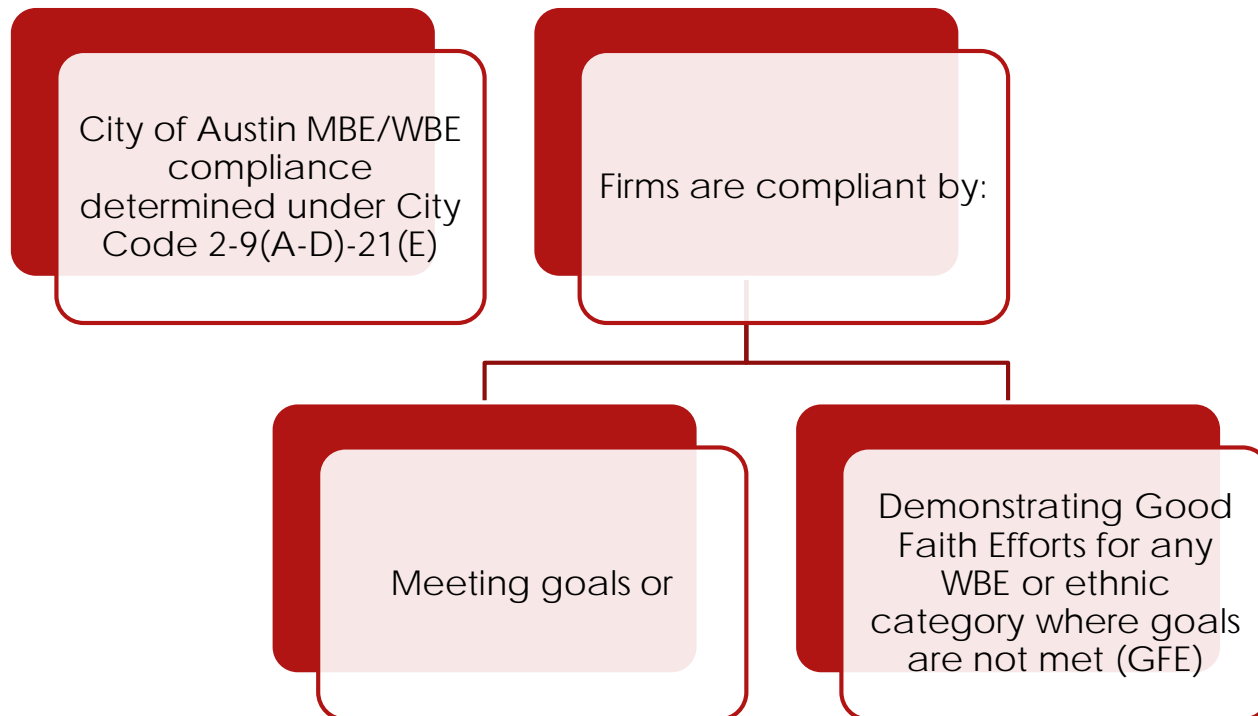
▶ Contract Specific Goal Setting

- Solicitation document provides project overview
- Trade Summary Sheet identifies scopes of work
- Percentages reflect the anticipated amount of materials/supplies and services

Trade Summary

Compliance Determination

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Counting Participation

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Prime certified firms may count their own participation



Firm must be certified by the City of Austin



Firms are certified for commodity codes on Compliance Plan



Every level of subcontractor participation may be counted toward the goals



Dually certified firms are counted as either MBE or WBE but not both

Post Award Contract Monitoring

Monitor contracts to assure MBE/WBE Program Compliance to include:

- ▶ Monitor contracts to assure compliance plan goals are being met and MBE/WBE subcontractors/suppliers are being utilized
- ▶ Reviews RFC changes to assure compliance and opportunities to MBE/WBEs on any new scopes of work where there is availability.
- ▶ Reviews and process Subcontract SUBK Expenditure Reports
- ▶ Reviews and process Contract Closeouts assuring MBE/WBE participation and payment
- ▶ Assist with MBE/WBE- Prime subcontract issues

Purchasing Office: MBE/WBE Reporting

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Competitive awards with MBE/WBE availability is defined as:



Competitive Award:

- Reporting reflects contracts awarded through a competitive process.
- Data is not reflective of contracts that are exempt from the SMBR Program.

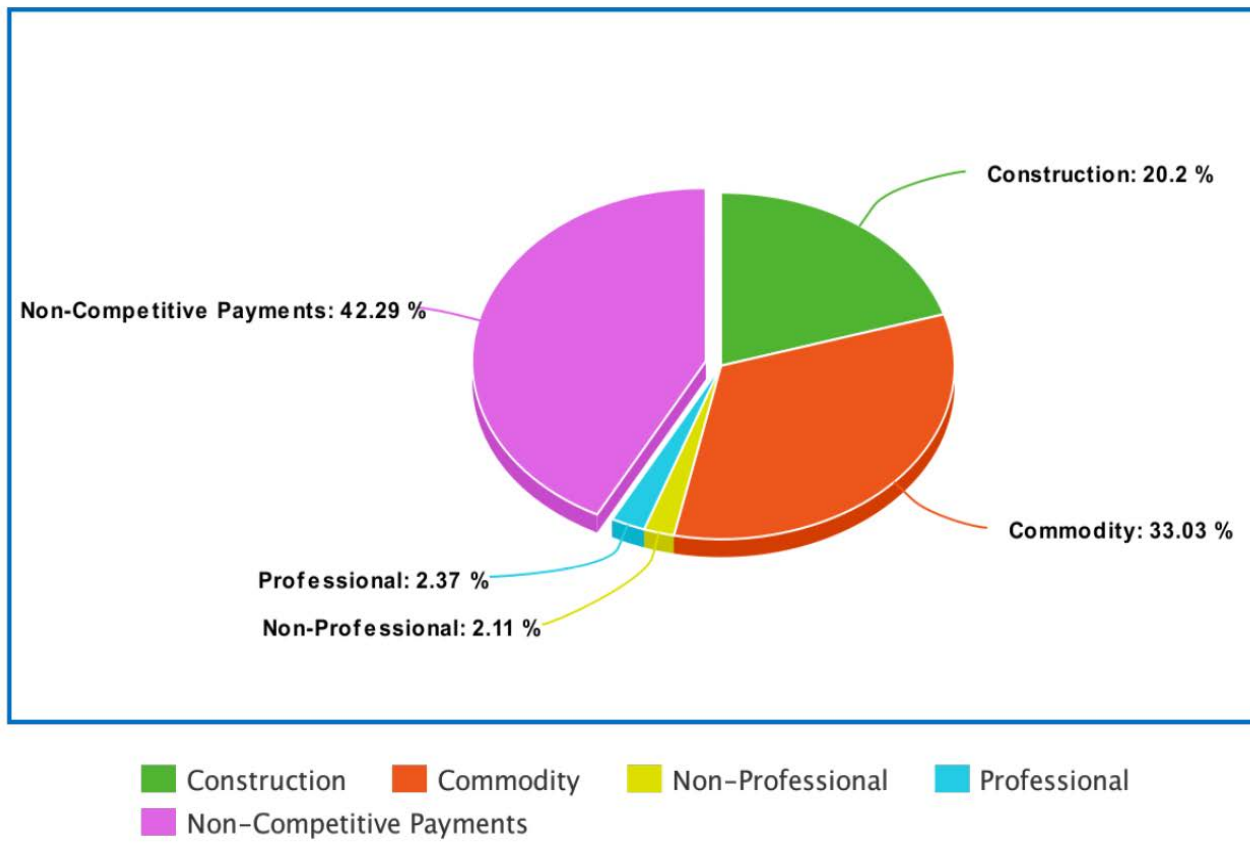


MBE/WBE Availability:

- Reporting reflects contract awards in which there was at least three or more MBE/WBE's registered under the commodity code that corresponds with the scope of work.
- If contract is awarded to MBE/WBE when there is no availability in the commodity code, those numbers are still reflective in the reporting.

Austin Water FY19 MBE Payments

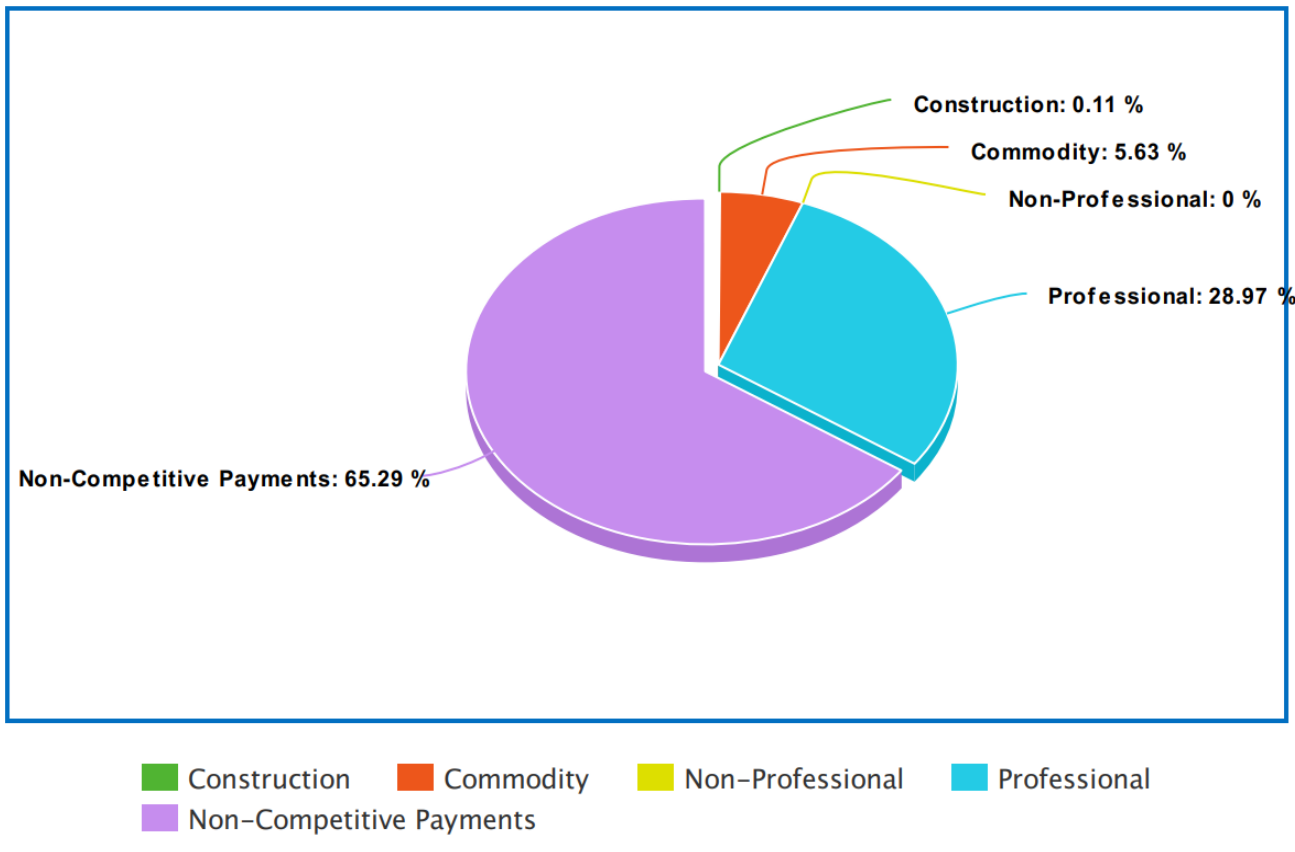
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Category	Possible Competitive Payment	Actual Competitive Payment
Construction	\$66,370,632	\$13,404,736 (20.20%)
Commodity	\$299,058	\$98,794 (33.03%)
Non-Professional	\$4,266,896	\$89,975 (2.11%)
Professional	\$1,059,169	\$25,068 (2.37%)

Austin Water FY19 WBE Payments

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Category	Possible Competitive Payment	Actual Competitive Payment
Construction	\$9,071,325	\$10,345 (0.11%)
Commodity	\$119,216	\$6,712 (5.63%)
Non-Professional	\$2,850,128	\$0 (0%)
Professional	\$1,037,621	\$300,582 (28.97%)

Similar Department Comparison:

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Analysis of Total Payments for FY19

WBE

MBE

Departments	Total Competitive Payments with Availability	Total Competitive WBE Payments	Total Competitive WBE Sub Payments	% of WBE to Total	Total Competitive Payments with Availability	Total Competitive MBE Payments	Total Competitive MBE Sub Payments	% of MBE to Total
Austin Water	\$13,078,290	\$305,875	\$11,764	2.43%	\$71,995,755	\$11,022,423	\$2,596,150	18.92%
Austin Energy	\$51,679,217	\$310,620	\$65,823	0.73%	\$104,798,552	\$835,842	\$2,418,575	3.11%
Austin Resource Recovery	\$1,302,148	\$138,943	\$0	10.67%	\$2,435,837	\$129,921	\$0	5.33%
Fleet Services	\$273,277	\$675	\$0	0.25%	\$3,310,677	\$412,698	\$0	12.47%
Aviation	\$3,080,468	\$693,876	\$0	22.53%	\$4,441,836	\$266,147	\$111,761	8.51%

Purchasing Office Vendor Outreach

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- ▶ Annual Small Business Contracting Forum
- ▶ 500+ small businesses attend
- ▶ Austin Water & SMBR attends and participates annually
- ▶ 70 new vendors registered at the event

Austin Water Purchasing Services Vendor Outreach

- ▶ Extensive Market Research to ensure that viable vendors are reached even if they are not registered as a City of Austin vendor.
- ▶ Attend Pre-Solicitation Meetings to answer questions and entice vendor participation.
- ▶ Collaboration between Austin Water, Purchasing Office, and SMBR to carve out specific scopes for MBE/WBE participation.
- ▶ Partnering with SMBR to review future projects and initiatives.



Questions?