



Update on Public Agency Partnership to Increase Opportunities for Underserved and Underrepresented Businesses

Organization, Personnel and Technology

Item 9-2

January 11, 2022

Metropolitan's Current Program

- Small Business Program - 2001
 - Board Established Goal of 25%
- Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Enterprises - 2006
 - Board Established Goal of 3%
- Economic Development
 - 80-85% of businesses in the region
- Contract Compliance & Accountability Program
 - Track monthly payments to subcontractors

Total SBE Utilization (as of 2020)



Historically Underutilized Business Initiative

Five “Mover” Agencies, including Metropolitan invited to join a new nationwide effort to increase opportunities for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB)

First meeting with Biden Administration officials, and labor was in Washington, DC in December 2021



Goals of the Initiative

- Support Biden Administration's Justice40 Initiative and increase federal-state-local partnerships for infrastructure funding and financing to improve DBE procurement
- Increase access and reduce barriers for disadvantaged business enterprises
- Deliver 40% of investments in climate and clean energy to disadvantaged communities

Funding and financing for community wealth building

Administrative and certification alignment

Direct contracting by procuring agencies

Proposed Local Action Goals



Next Steps

- Update and get input from Board of Directors
- Continue to participate in Pledge working group to define local and federal scope of work and workplan
- Leverage Metropolitan's current Small Business Program
- Host listening sessions with existing business organizations, ethnic chambers, and small business partners to get input

