

## **BUSINESS DIVERSITY & INCLUSION (BDI) PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

Mecklenburg County has made great strides to ensure we do business fairly and with diverse populations in our community, but more can be done. Mecklenburg County's Office of Economic Development engaged Griffin & Strong, P.C. (GSPC) to conduct a disparity study on the availability and utilization of minority and women owned business enterprises and examine relevant evidence of race – or gender – based discrimination in the County's contracting process.

The [2020 Mecklenburg County Disparity Study](#) revealed areas for improvement, for which GSPC made recommendations to assist the County in remediating the disparities to ensure that all qualified firms within the relevant market are given equal chance to succeed in doing business with the County. (The full report and recommendation list can be found [here](#))

Because the implementation of the Disparity Study recommendations will impact internal and external stakeholders, the County has decided on a phased transitional approach to implement the objectives.

Mecklenburg County Government will provide Minority-owned, Women-owned, and Small Business Enterprises (collectively "MWSBE") as well as other responsible vendors with fair and reasonable opportunity to participate in Mecklenburg County's business opportunities.

Mecklenburg County's BDI Program is committed to support the economic development of small business enterprises and the minority community. The BDI Program Provisions Guide requires contractors and subcontractors to take all necessary steps to ensure maximum opportunity for the participation of MWBE firms in its contracting activities with Mecklenburg County. It is further the intent of the program to widen opportunities for participation, increase competition, and ensure the proper and diligent use of public funds. The BDI Program Provisions Guide includes aspirational goals for MWBE utilization in proportion to the availability of qualified vendors in particular areas of procurement.

For assistance, contact the Office of Economic Development's BDI Program.

Mecklenburg County - Office of Economic Development  
**Business Diversity & Inclusion (BDI) Program**  
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center  
600 East 4th Street, Suite 226 Charlotte,  
North Carolina 28202

Email: [BDI@mecknc.gov](mailto:BDI@mecknc.gov)

Website: [OED.MeckNC.gov/BDI](http://OED.MeckNC.gov/BDI)

The aspirational goals for MWBE participation on this project are set at \_\_\_\_% MBE and \_\_\_\_% WBE.

<b>Name of Bidder:</b> <i>(Company Name)</i> _____ <b>Project Name:</b> _____ <b>Total Bid Amount:</b> _____	<b>Certification Status:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> NCHUB <input type="checkbox"/> NCHUB-SBE <i>(if applicable)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> CBI-SBE <input type="checkbox"/> NCDOT-DBE <b>Solicitation #:</b> _____
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MWBE groups are defined as follows:

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 1. <b>ABE:</b> Asian Business Enterprise    | 2. <b>BBE:</b> Black Business Enterprise | 3. <b>NBE:</b> Native American Business Enterprise |
| 4. <b>HBE:</b> Hispanic Business Enterprise | 5. <b>WBE:</b> Women Business Enterprise | 6. <b>DBE:</b> Disadvantage Business Enterprise    |

Do you customarily subcontract portions of your contracts and projects with the County?  Yes  No  
 Do you intend to subcontract portions of this contract?  Yes  No

List any services in this proposal for which you could seek quotes from MWBE groups.

1.	
2.	
3.	

**MWBE UTILIZATION COMMITMENT**

We, **Insert Bidder's Name**, do certify that on the **Insert Solicitation Name** we will expend a minimum of **Insert %** of the total dollar amount of the contract with Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) and **Insert %** with Women Business Enterprises (WBE).

Name of Company	MBE or WBE <i>(check one)</i>	Description of Work	Dollar Value
	<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE		
	<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE		
	<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE		
	<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE		
	<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE		
<b>Total Subcontracting Amount</b>			

To locate certified MWBE firms, use the directories listed below

- NC Dept of Administration – Office for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB/MWBE firms): [website](#)
  - NC Department of Transportation – Office of Civil Rights (DBE firms) – *only for specified projects*: [website](#)
- If you need additional assistance or have questions, contact the BDI Program Office at [BDI@mecknc.gov](mailto:BDI@mecknc.gov)

The County reserves the right to request that the awarded contractor(s) attend meetings, trainings, and provide verification of compliance, utilization, and payments through documentation submissions.

The County's BDI Program Provisions are hereby incorporated into these specifications by reference.

The undersigned hereby certifies that the bidder has read the terms of this form and is authorized to bind the firm to the information herein set forth.

Email _____	Telephone _____
Name of Authorized Officer _____	Signature _____ Title _____ Date _____