



Information Update – Local Funding Pre-Bid Language Enhancement

To: Chair and Board of Directors
Through: President/CEO Inez P. Evans
From: Senior Supplier Diversity Officer (DBELO) Greg Garrett
Date: October 19, 2022

LOCAL FUNDING XBE GOAL INFORMATION UPDATE

BACKGROUND:

When IndyGo’s Procurement Department releases a notice of a bid opportunity for a locally funded project, one of the documents included in the solicitation packet is a document from the Supplier Diversity Department that sets forth the XBE utilization goals for the project. In addition to setting the goals, the document informs potential bidders that to be responsive, their proposal must either meet the goal or show that they have made a good faith effort to meet the goal.

For locally funded projects the XBE utilization goals are:

- Minority-Owned Business Enterprise (MBE): 15%
- Women-Owned Business Enterprise (WBE): 8%
- Veteran-Owned Business Enterprise (VBE): 3%
- Disabled-Owned Business Enterprise (DOBE): 1%

Currently, the document also states that “The bidder shall meet one of the four goals,” which conflicts with IndyGo’s objective of maximizing diversity participation on projects. To remedy this issue, Supplier Diversity is removing this language from the current document. Language has been added to the document to clarify that the goals above are not a quota and they do not create a mandate. Additional language has been added to show that IndyGo is aware that the goals may not always be practicable. Supplier Diversity will take account of the number of XBEs in the area, the type of project, and other factors when determining good faith efforts of individual bidders.

The revised document clearly establishes what bidders must include with their proposals to demonstrate that they have either met the goal or made a good faith effort to meet the goal. Supplier Diversity expects the outcome of this change to expand diversity participation on locally funded projects because the document will no longer advise bidders that they only need to meet one of the four goals to be responsive.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive the report.

Greg Garrett
Senior Supplier Diversity Officer