

City of Minneapolis Request for Committee Action

To: Public Safety, Civil Rights & Emergency Management Committee
Date: June 22, 2016
Referral: N/A
From: Minneapolis Department of Civil Rights
Lead Staff: Velma Korbel
Presented by: Velma Korbel
File Type: Receive & File
Subcategory: Report

Subject:

Report on Regional Best Practices work re: Business and Workforce Inclusion

Description:

Receiving presentation outlining regional efforts to maximize inclusion of minority and women owned businesses/workers in business and workforce inclusion.

Previous Actions:

File Number: 15-00948; File Number 15-00276

Ward/Address:

Not Applicable

Background/Analysis:

In March 2015, the Minneapolis Department of Civil Rights (MDCR) was asked to research and identify the best practices and processes used on the projects in Minneapolis and the region that have been most successful in meeting workforce and business inclusion goals. To complete this task, MDCR enlisted the help of its regional partners. In April 2015, MDCR invited agencies to share best practices, promising programs, and techniques and methodologies in “best practices conference calls.” From April 2015 to May 2015, MDCR hosted four conference call discussions: two focused on business inclusion and two focused on workforce inclusion. Later that spring, MDCR developed a questionnaire which allowed agencies to provide detailed accounts of the policies and practices utilized in their organizations.

While collecting information, MDCR learned that many agencies wanted to gather for a regional discussion on best practices, which would include both procurement staff and compliance practitioners. Acting on this request from practitioners, MDCR convened administrators and practitioners of both business and workforce inclusion programs to discuss initiatives and practices that maximize inclusion. From this initial convening a valuable regional collaboration has evolved. This collaboration is known as the “Best Practices Roundtable” (Roundtable).

The Best Practices Roundtable is led by administrators from the following organizations: Minnesota Department of Administration, Minnesota Department of Human Rights, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority, Metropolitan Council, Metropolitan Airports Commission, Hennepin County, Ramsey County, City of Minneapolis, City of St. Paul, and the University of Minnesota.

Roundtable members include both contract compliance and procurement staff of the respective organizations. Since its inception, the Best Practices Roundtable has worked to equip regional contracting practitioners and procurement staff with the tools needed to fulfill their responsibility to include women, minority, and small businesses and women and minority workers in projects and contracts. The Roundtable facilitates information sharing, training and development, and process improvement.

Financial Review:

No financial impact.

Attachments:

1. Presentation