



Financial Services Audit Committee Communication

Date: March 25, 2022

To: Great Lakes Water Authority Audit Committee

From: Megan Savage, Vendor Outreach Coordinator

Re: Business Inclusion & Diversity Program Update

Background: On November 25, 2020, the GLWA Board of Directors approved an amendment to the Procurement Policy allowing for the formation of a new Business Inclusion & Diversity (B.I.D.) Program within the Financial Services' Procurement Group. The B.I.D. Program Team, which includes internal GLWA Team Members as well as external consultants, executed a Phase I launch of the program on February 1, 2021 and a Phase II launch on July 1, 2021.

Analysis: This month we present tables to recap B.I.D. Program activity from the date of the program launch on February 1, 2021 through February 28, 2022 for procurements budgeted to exceed \$1 million.

Table 1: B.I.D. Eligible Procurements as of February 28, 2022

Table 1 provides an overview of the total number of B.I.D. Program-eligible Procurements awarded, in evaluation, or advertised as active opportunities in GLWA's Bonfire Procurement Portal. Each vendor who submits a response to a B.I.D. Program-eligible procurement must also submit a Business Inclusion and Diversity Plan. The total number of Diversity Plans that GLWA has received for B.I.D.-eligible procurements that have been awarded and that are in evaluation is also provided.

	Awarded	In Evaluation Phase	Active (Advertised)	Total
Procurements Requiring B.I.D. Submittals	23	14	6	43
Total Number of Diversity Plans Submitted	61	44	n/a	105

Table 2: Scored Criteria for Awarded Procurements

Table 2 provides a breakdown of the percentage of B.I.D. Program-eligible procurements awarded thus far that met the B.I.D. Program scored criteria. This scored criteria is based on whether the vendor has a business presence in the state of Michigan, GLWA’s Member Partner service area, or a disadvantaged municipality within GLWA’s service area.

	Procurements Awarded Meeting B.I.D. Criteria as a % of Total Awards
Michigan Location	91%
Member Partner Service Area	83%
Disadvantaged Service Area Territory	52%

Table 3: Non-Scored Criteria - Disadvantaged, Minority-owned, Women-owned, and Small Businesses

Table 3 provides a breakdown of the percentage of B.I.D. Program-eligible procurements awarded thus far that met the B.I.D. Program Non-Scored Criteria. This Non-Scored Criteria refers to any diversity certifications that the vendor may hold as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE), Minority-Owned Business Enterprise (MBE), Women-Owned Business Enterprise (WBE), or Small Business Enterprise (SBE).

	Procurements Awarded as a % of Total Awards
Awarded	65%

Table 4: Overall Contracts Awarded

Table 4 provides a breakdown of overall dollars awarded under the B.I.D. Program thus far, distinguishing between firms that met all four B.I.D. Program scoring criteria (including scored and non-scored criteria) and firms that met all three criteria (scored criteria only).

	Total Contract Count	Total Contract Amount (in millions)
Eligible Procurements	23	\$231.4
Firms that met four criteria	15	\$75.8
Firms that met three criteria	8	\$155.6

Other activities completed this month to expand awareness of the B.I.D. Program and to foster the development of effective diversity plans included the following.

- Presented at the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) 41st Annual Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Small Business Development Virtual Conference on March 22, 2022.
- Continued attendance of the B.I.D. Program Liaison at all Pre-Bid and Pre-Proposal solicitation meetings to overview the B.I.D. Program requirements and answer any questions from vendors/contractors.

Additionally, the following tasks remain at the top of our priority list.

- Developing contract language for B.I.D. Program requirements.
- Evaluating the insurance and bonding requirements for small, minority-owned, and disadvantaged business enterprises.
- Identifying meaningful reporting and performances measures.
- Review vendor registration and reporting capabilities within Bonfire.

Proposed Action: Receive and file this report.