

# Economic Development Committee

## Cooperative Purchasing and MWBE Inclusion

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# Cooperative Procurement



- **Competitively** bid and compliant solicitation process conducted by, or on behalf of, one or more government agency for use by other government agencies.

# Cooperative Organization Examples



**GOVMVMT**



Texas Department of Information Resources



1Government Procurement Alliance



# Lead Agencies



- The lead agency prepares and issues solicitations
- Suppliers respond
- The lead agency evaluates and awards a contract
- The contract is made available to other agencies by the cooperative organization

# Cooperative Contract Decision Process



- Review demands on procurement operations
  - Backlog of projects
- Assess the impact
- Additional Resource for emergency or expedited requests

# Small Supplier Opportunities



- 7 Informal Bids Released October 2023
- 1-3 Informal Bids Released Each Month

# Opportunities for MWBE Participation



- MWBE Contract Goals Continue to Be Assessed
  - Goals are applied where the work on the project is divisible and there are available certified MWBEs to perform the work.
- MWBE Goals are only waived when these 2 criteria are not met. Reason for waivers include:
  - Items are drop ship (e.g., vehicles, supplies/parts)
  - MWBE participation is not at the subcontractor level, instead MWBE is a distributor
  - Specialized consulting services
- Ensuring maximum MWBE participation requires exploration of alternate avenues for inclusion.

# Expanding Opportunities for MWBE Participation



- Recognition of untapped opportunities in the cooperative purchasing space, including at the prime level
- OBO and SPD held a 3-Part Series in September 2023
  - Informational on Cooperative Purchasing
  - Cooperatives and its Members: HGAC, Choice Partners, TDI & MSC
  - Other forms of Collaborations: Joint Venture & Teaming
- Next Steps
  - Augment Existing OBO Programming
  - Leverage Mentor-Protégé Relationships



# Coming Soon!



- Vendor Engagement Team
- SAP Business Network
  - Electronic Submission
- New Vendor account and registration
- Vendor helps and training



Thank You!

Contact us at:

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