

**Management Committee**

Meeting date: December 11, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of December 11, 2019

**Subject:** Resolution: Commitment to Reducing Disparities in Contracting and Procurement  
**District(s), Member(s):** All Districts; All Members  
**Policy/Legal Reference:** Minn. Stat. §§ 473.142, 471.345; Council Procurement Policy  
**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Mary Bogie, Deputy Regional Administrator 651-602-1359  
Jody Jacoby, Procurement Director 651-602-1359  
**Division/Department:** Regional Administration/Procurement

**Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council adopt Resolution No. 2019-29 expressing the Metropolitan Council’s commitment to reducing barriers and increasing opportunities for small businesses participating in the Metropolitan Council’s Underutilized Business (MCUB) Program.

**Background**

The Council establishes Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goals for federally funded. The Council’s Underutilized Business (MCUB) Program helps traditionally underutilized small businesses participate in Council contracting opportunities that are not federally funded.

In 2018 the Uniform Municipal Contracting Law was amended to increase the dollar threshold when contracts for goods and services must be procured with sealed bids and solicited by public notice. The threshold amount was increased from \$100,000 to \$175,000. Increasing the \$100,000 threshold amount currently stated in Council procurement policies and procedures to \$175,000 will make the Council’s procurement policies and procedures consistent with current law and it will increase contracting opportunities for small businesses participating in the Council’s MCUB Program.

**Rationale**

Increasing the dollar threshold for micro purchases from \$5,000 to \$10,000 and increasing the threshold amount for which sealed bids and public notices are required to \$175,000 will increase MCUB vendors’ ability to obtain Council contracts for goods and services.

**Thrive Lens Analysis**

Increasing the dollar thresholds for contracts for goods and services is consistent with the Council’s *Thrive* Equity Outcome and will promote equity by using the Council’s influence and investments to build a more equitable region.

**Funding**

No funding is tied to the proposed action. Funding for individual contracts for goods and services are covered in the Council’s budget.

**Known Support / Opposition**

There is no known opposition to the proposed action.



**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-29**

**RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL'S COMMITMENT TO  
REDUCING BARRIERS AND INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES  
PARTICIPATING IN THE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESS  
(MCUB) PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Council's procurement policies and procedures currently require competitive procurements for goods and services valued at greater than \$5,000 and sealed bids or proposals by public notice for procurements valued at greater than \$100,000; and

**WHEREAS**, Metropolitan Council procurements are governed by the Uniform Municipal Contracting Law (Minnesota Statutes, section 471.345) which requires sealed bids solicited by public notice when contract amounts are estimated to exceed \$175,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Council can reduce barriers and increase opportunities for traditionally underutilized small businesses owned by people of color, women, people with disabilities, and veterans by modifying existing procurement thresholds for locally funded contracts for goods and services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Metropolitan Council modify its procurement policies and procedures as follows:

- (1) Increase the threshold for Micro Purchases from \$5,000 to \$10,000 when the procurement is not federally funded and MCUB-certified vendors are available to provide the goods or services.
- (2) Increase the estimated contract amount for which solicitations by sealed bids and public notice are required from \$100,000 to \$175,000.

Council staff are directed to: make appropriate modifications to *Policy–Procurement* (Section/Number 3-4-3) and *Policy–Inclusion of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) and Metropolitan Council Underutilized Businesses (MCUBs)* (Section/Number 3-4-6); and make corresponding modifications to the Metropolitan Council's MCUB program procedures and other procurement procedures.

Adopted this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2019.

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Molly Cummings, Acting Chair

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Elizabeth Sund, Recording Secretary