

**2021 Environmental Protection Agency
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Utilization Report Summary
for Environmental Services**

The Metropolitan Council has a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Goal of **11%** for the triennial period of 2021 – 2023.

The Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) is responsible for reporting annual DBE utilization to the Public Facilities Authority (PFA) in October of each calendar year. PFA then forwards the report to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EPA reviews the yearly utilization and compares it to the Council’s aspirational triennial goal. In 2019, the EPA did away with Fair Share Goals, but the OEO still breaks it down by Women Business Enterprise (WBE) and Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) to better understand the data.

This summary includes the report information for October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021. Utilization percentages are calculated by dividing the amounts paid to DBE firms by the cumulative disbursement amount for the applicable reporting period.

Metropolitan Council achieved **10.58% (3.44% MBE / 7.14% WBE)** DBE utilization this reporting period.

	Construction	Supplies	Services	Total	Utilization
MBE	\$828,012.66	\$529,499.49	\$585,345.02	\$1,942,857.17	3.44%
WBE	\$2,303,510.10	\$726,770.08	\$997,214.81	\$4,027,494.99	7.14%

\$ 5,970,352.16

Total Disbursement = \$56,424,858.01 10.58%

DBE Payments Breakdown

	Women	Minority	Total Dollars	# Women firms	# Minority Firms	Total # of Sub-Contracts	% of DBE Total
Black		\$283,992.22	\$283,992.22		5	5	4.76
Hispanic	\$150,629.35	\$251,704.10	\$402,333.45	1	5	13	6.74
Native American		\$348,670.56	\$348,670.56		3	7	5.84
Asian-Pacific		\$682,391.62	\$682,391.62		2	13	11.43
Subcontinental Asian		\$225,469.32	\$225,469.32		2	6	3.78
Caucasian	\$4,027,494.99		\$4,027,494.99	42		81	67.46
Total	\$4,178,124.34	\$1,792,227.82	\$5,970,352.16	43	18	125	100%

The payments made in this reporting period reflect projects that are currently in process stemming from as far back as 2013. In fact, the projects include: 1-2013, 1-2014, 6-2015, 4-2016, 4-2017, 6-2018, 3-2019 & 2-2020.

DBE payments in 2021 were nearly \$1.85M less in 2021 than in 2020. In addition, the PFA total disbursement in 2021 was nearly \$30M more than in 2020. This resulted in a lower DBE achievement than in the 2020 report. While overall DBE spend was down, there was an increase in spend with Black American DBE firms. In 2020, Black American spend was roughly \$50K. However, in 2021 Black American spend increased to nearly \$285K. Of the nearly \$285K, \$205K comes from two firms that previously had not worked on Council projects (Songhai Construction and USAFRIK). This is a significant improvement and OEO is excited to see this trending up as Black American spend has historically been the lowest spend category.

There was a significant increase in the minority supply spend between 2020 and 2021. The 2020 data reported roughly \$155K for minority payments in supply; whereas, 2021 minority payments for supply was roughly \$530K.

In reviewing the firms that are listed as having received payments, OEO found that of the \$828K of construction payments that went to MBE firms, roughly \$595K (or 72%) of that was performed by only 3 contractors (Bald Eagle, Camacho Contractors and Songhai Construction). Of the \$2.3M of construction payments that went to WBE firms, nearly \$2M (or 87%) was performed by 7 firms (All State Traffic Control, Gunnar Electric, Husky Construction, Midwest Electric Corp, Rice Lake Boring, Safety Signs, and Woody's Rebar).

The Office of Equal Opportunity acknowledges a shortfall in meeting the overall Triennial Goal of 11% for this reporting period. Moving forward, the OEO Small Business Unit, along with the new OEO Engagement and Development Unit, will continue their efforts to develop a more targeted business outreach approach to specifically touch the communities underrepresented in this report. It is critical to create education and awareness that will yield an increase in the number of firm's participating on Council Environmental Service contracts.

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