

URBAN REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF PITTSBURGH

OVERVIEW OF MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

On behalf of the Board and the Management of the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) of Pittsburgh, we thank you for considering an investment in the City of Pittsburgh by starting or expanding your business here. As you know, your project will be assisted by funds with interest rates fixed at below prime interest rate, or by land assembled for future development that will save your business considerable dollars during the long term. In addition to the programs operated by the URA, we work in partnership with many funding sources, including various federal, state, and local industrial development and economic development entities. Funds are available for significant projects to facilitate development, to increase your competitiveness, and to reduce employment costs and other expenses.

There are many benefits and cost savings available to your project in the City of Pittsburgh. In return, the City of Pittsburgh and city Authorities, such as the URA, have established certain requirements on development proposals submitted by developers/borrowers to the City or the URA in which:

1. The development and/or construction costs exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) and the development entails:

EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS

2. There is transfer of land by the Authority to the developer or transfer or sale of land by an Authority to the developer where such land was acquired, in whole or in part, from the City pursuant to the cooperation agreement between the City and the Authority;

OR

3. Loans or grants to the developer from the City or the URA, in any case where the city is the applicant or recipient of the funds from such loan or grant from a federal or state agency.

For any project meeting condition 1 and either 2 or 3, URA requires that all developers, borrowers and/or contractors must demonstrate a good faith effort to obtain the participation of Minority Business Enterprises (MBE's) and Women Business Enterprises (WBE's) in work to be performed, and make available employment opportunities in connection with URA funded projects over \$250,000.

All City development projects are required, by the Mayor's executive order, to have an effective M/WBE Plan. URA's Administration Director oversees the Authority's M/WBE endeavors and is available to provide assistance in helping to achieve this participation. URA also monitors these efforts through its internal auditing compliance procedures. These efforts include:

- Examination of records and reports to ensure that M/WBE's are being utilized on a project and being paid, and,
- That issues regarding prevailing wages, Davis Bacon, and employment opportunities are being carried out in a proper manner.

The MBE Program is a goal and not a set-aside or quota. We seek to ensure that good faith efforts are made to fulfill compliance.