

THE BANKS PROJECT
Small Business Enterprise Program Summary

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Hamilton County (the "County") and the City of Cincinnati (the "City") are committed to maximizing subcontracting and procurement opportunities for all qualified and available small business enterprises ("SBEs"). For this purpose, the County and the City (The "Public Parties") have established the Banks Small Business Program (the "SBE Program"). The SBE Program requires Contractors to use their "good faith efforts" to facilitate achievement of SBE participation goals.

The requirements of the SBE Program do not apply to individual contracts and/or procurements valued at \$5,000.00 or less. The SBE Program includes the following components:

- **SBE Participation Goal:** This component *encourages* Contractors to make subcontracting opportunities available to small businesses which have been certified as SBEs by the City in order to achieve the percentage SBE participation goal assigned to the related contract as specified in the bid/RFP/RFQ package. To count towards the SBE participation goal, the SBE must be certified in the commodity or service code(s) that will be used on the project. A list of SBEs certified by the City is available on the City's website at www.cincinnati-oh.gov or from the City's Office of Contract Compliance ("OCC").
- **Outreach/Good Faith Efforts.** This component requires Contractors to provide evidence of the outreach efforts made to SBEs in connection with the contracts related to the Banks Project.

All contracts and procurements awarded for the Banks Project, except those for professional services, will be awarded to the "lowest and best" bidder. Therefore, the inability of a Contractor to meet the SBE goals established under the SBE Program will not exclude the Contractor from award of a contract or procurement if the Contractor's proposal or bid otherwise is deemed by the County and/or the City, as the case may be, to be the "lowest and best bid." However, a Contractor's failure to submit a SBE utilization plan with the Contractor's proposal or bid may result in a determination that the submitted proposal or bid is non-responsive, and rejection of the proposal or bid.

Pursuant to the SBE Program requirements, the following items are included in the bid/RFP/RFQ package and must be completed, signed and submitted with each submitted proposal or bid; failure to complete these forms with all the requested information may cause a proposal or bid to be determined to be non-responsive:

1. **Statement of Good Faith Efforts (Form 2007)**
2. **Outreach/Good Faith Summary Sheet (Form 2007-a)**
3. **Subcontractor Utilization Plan (Form 2003)**

The following forms are included in the proposal or bid invitation package for information purposes only and do not have to be completed or returned with the proposal or bid.

1. **Form 2004 – Subcontractor Approval Request: (must be completed and submitted to OCC after contract award and prior to commencement of work on the project).**
2. **Form 2005 – Subcontractor Monthly Business Utilization Report: (must be submitted with monthly invoice).**
3. **Form 2006 – Subcontractor Substitution Form: (must be submitted for advance approval for any proposed change in subcontractors).**

**If you have any questions or need assistance in meeting these requirements, please feel free to contact
OCC at (513) 352-3144.**

(The Banks - Revised February 2008)