

306 - Fiscal 2024 Annual HUB Report Supplemental Letter

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) is committed to providing procurement and contracting opportunities for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs). TLSAC is devoted to providing opportunities for HUBs in all TSLAC procurement needs.

Our good faith efforts include the following:

- Utilizing HUB vendors for spot, service, and catalog purchases whenever possible.
- Attending HUB events to network and gain insight from HUB vendors.
- Guiding prime vendors in completing their HUB Subcontracting forms and reports.

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TSLAC has made no expenditures in the "Heavy Construction" or "Building Construction" categories during this period and very few in the "Professional Services" categories.

The "Special Trade" expenditures are typically services purchased at the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center in Liberty, some of which have been reimbursed by local support organizations from that area. Our agency has found it challenging to locate responsive Vendors willing to provide services in this area, and the selection of HUB vendors has been limited.

The "Other Services" category presents an ongoing challenge. The majority of dollars spent in this category are for online publications and resources, which TSLAC competitively procures for academic and public libraries throughout Texas as part of the resource-sharing consortium established under Texas Government Code §441.222. These resources are very costly, and the pool of potential vendors for these specialized products and services is minimal.

The "Commodities" category is an area in which we strive to utilize HUB vendors as much as possible. It continues to be challenging to locate HUB vendors who can provide archival supplies, specialized library applications, and software licenses needed for our programs. All other commodities can typically be purchased by required sources such as WorkQuest or through statewide term contracts.

TSLAC always strives to utilize HUB vendors in the statewide contracts, such as Term, TXMAS, and DIR Cooperative contracts, as well as for spot purchases.

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission continues to increase our HUB participation at every opportunity. Please contact me should you have further questions.

Sincerely,

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## **TSLAC**

Preserving yesterday Informing today Inspiring tomorrow