

October 18, 2024

FY 2024 Annual HUB Report Supplemental Summary Letter for Agency # 448

The Office of Injured Employee Counsel (OIEC) is administratively attached to the Texas Department of Insurance and therefore TDI procures goods and services for OIEC. OIEC and TDI are committed to including Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs) in procurements by providing opportunities for both direct contracting and subcontracting.

OIEC and TDI's "Good Faith Efforts" to ensure continued HUB participation during FY 2024 included:

- Continued support of the Texas Association of African American Chambers of Commerce (TAAACC) and the Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce (TAMACC).
- Attended several HUB forums sponsored by organizations, businesses, and governmental entities to locate businesses that would provide goods and services for the agency.
- Attended and actively participated in monthly HUB Discussion Workgroup meetings.
- Ensured that contract specifications, terms, and conditions reflected the agency's actual requirements, were clearly stated, and did not impose unreasonable or unnecessary contract requirements.
- Prepared and distributed information on procurement procedures in a manner that encouraged participation in agency contracts by all businesses.
- For informal purchases, encouraged purchasing staff to procure items from a HUB if the HUB's bid was within 10 percent of the lowest bid and the HUB was able to meet TDI's procurement needs.
- In accordance with Section 2161.252 of the Texas Government Code, required respondents to solicitations with an expected value over \$100,000, for which the agency determined subcontracting opportunities were probable, to complete and submit a HUB Subcontracting Plan.
- Upon request, provided a list of HUBs by the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP) class and item code to vendors to assist the vendors in locating potential subcontractors to respond to solicitations.
- Assisted potential respondents with the HUB Subcontracting Plan (HSP) process by offering courtesy reviews of draft HSPs prior to final proposal submission.

OIEC and TDI support the Texas HUB Program and will continue to pursue HUB participation in the agency's procurement process. Questions regarding the TDI HUB Program can be forwarded to me at 512-676-6153 or tricia.schulze@tdi.texas.gov.

Tricia Schulze

Tricia Schulze, CTCM, CTPM
Procurement Director/HUB Coordinator
Procurement Office