UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESS OPERATIONS

The University of Houston #730 (UH) and #783 (UHS) is committed to increasing HUB participation and contracting opportunities. The HUB Operations Department (HOD) is responsible for compliance with state HUB requirements and implementation of strategies to help the University meet state HUB goals. During the reporting period (September 1, 2023-August 31, 2024) UH good faith efforts included a variety of actions such as: serving as an exhibitor and/or panelist at community sponsored HUB outreach events (e.g., East End Chamber of Commerce Business EXPO; Asian Chamber of Commerce Business, Tri-County Black Chamber of Commerce, Houston Minority Supplier Development Council, Golden Triangle; Greater Houston Partnership; Greater Houston Procurement Forum, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Bexar County SMWVBO Conference, Choice Partners Market Place, Texas Association of Mexican American Summit, Texas Black EXPO and many other HUB outreach events.

Outcomes: During FY24 UH HUB Dept. outreach consisted of a hybrid of (in-person and virtual) events:

- HUB Vendor Fair where select HUBs providing priority goods/services made presentations to UH Colleges/Division staff.
- HUB Forum where 230 HUBs learned how to do business with the various UH components and workshops on how to increase contract award.
- Large Construction Projects Informational meeting where over 200 people participated. The forum consisted of exhibitors from the bonding, insurance, lending, purchasing cooperatives, prime contractors and resource partners. Forum panelist representing UH and the construction industry addressed: Owners key considerations when selecting a company, prime contractors address subcontractors' opportunities and process for subcontractors to be considered. Attendees also asked panelist questions as well having time to network one-on-one with the panelist and other attendees.
- Construction Management Talent Pipeline Program- Partnership with UH College of Engineering, Technology Division Construction Management Department, National Association of Minority Contractors (NAMC) Houston Chapter initiative to increase the construction industry talent base. The class content addresses skills and knowledge needed to be competitive as a prime contractor on UH and similar agencies construction projects. The class size is purposely small (16-20) participants.

In terms of new strategies to promote HUB inclusion on UH construction projects, UH HUB Operations Department (HOD) staff began development of a HSP training video to undergird vendors knowledge of how to develop a compliant HSP.

UH is committed to the HUB program and will continue our good faith efforts to increase expenditures with HUBs.

Respectfully, Vinella Clath

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