Minutes of EORC Meeting (Conference Call) on March 18, 2020

Commissioners’ in Attendance: Erin Conley, Jenna Cramer, Sara Segel, Tracey McCants-Lewis, Earl Buford, Dr. Karen Hall, Jennie Sweet-Cushman and Andrea Vasquez

- The minutes for February 2019 meeting were approved by a unanimous motion.

Housing Authority- One Contract Approved

- Housing Authority represented by RaJeanna Lewis, presented the plan for Authority Wide Site Improvement. One of their Prime Contractor’s Joseph Palmieri Construction/ John Zottola Landscaping had called in. The contract value is $2,400,000.

Motion approving the Housing Authority contract was unanimously passed.

Housing Authority- One Contract on Hold

- Housing Authority represented by RaJeanna Lewis, presented the plan for Development Professional and Advisory Services–Authority Wide. The Prime Contractor, Cosmos Technologies Inc. is waiting to hear on their outreach efforts, as offices are closed on account of the pandemic. The decision on this contract has been held off until the April meeting. The contract value is $5,000,000.

Department of Mobility & Infrastructure (DOMI)

- DOMI represented by Dara Braitman, presented the plan for Uptown Parking and TDM study. The Prime Contractor Kittelson & Associates Incorporated has 15% MBE participation. However, since the contract value is small amounting to $59,420 getting 25% DBE participation is difficult.

Motion approving DOMI contract was unanimously passed.

Invitation to Qualify (ITQs’) Proposal – Five Approved

Six ITQs’ were submitted, five of those were resubmissions from February. Five were approved.

The following Prime Contractors for Professional Design, Engineering, and Planning Services were approved-

- Branch Pattern
Fehr & Peers DC
MacLachlan, Cornelius & Filoni, Inc.
Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc.
Studio for Spatial Practice LLC

Invitation to Qualify (ITQs’) Proposal – Not Approved

The following Prime Contractor for Professional Design, Engineering, and Planning Services was not approved because of inadequate M/WBE participation. This company will be reconsidered by EORC in the April meeting, if they submit adequate Good Faith Effort.

Joy Kuebler Landscape Architect PC

- The need for Good Faith Effort and supporting documentation for all submitted projects was emphasized.

- Ricardo Williams shared about an upcoming meeting with City of Cleveland. This would involve information sharing about diversity, women and equity inclusion policies and procedures in procurement space adopted by City of Pittsburgh. City of Cleveland is also interested in learning more about EORC involvement. Going forward, they want to adjust and align their Ordinance, and form a task force based on best practices. This would be a good starting point to share and learn with other cities across the country.

- Ricardo Williams also provided an update about the recent cancellation of the March 12, WBE event, and exploring ways to reach out to WBEs through digital recordings of sessions and distribution through City channels.

- Letters of Approval/Disapproval will be sent by Office of Business Diversity to the Department of Procurement.