



**MBE/WBE and Small Business Council Subcommittee
Minutes**

**Regular Meeting
Tuesday April 12, 2011**

The MBE/WBE and Small Business Council Subcommittee convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 301 W. 2nd Street Room 1101 in Austin, Texas.

Committee Members in Attendance:
Council Member Cole, Council Member Shade

1. CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Cole called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the March 8, 2011 regular meeting were approved on 2-0 vote from a motion by Council Member Shade, seconded by Council Member Cole.

3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

There were no citizens signed up to speak.

Council Member Shade made a motion to postpone item 5a to the May agenda, the motion was seconded by Council Member Cole and approved on vote of 2-0.

4. MBE/WBE ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Monthly report from the Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MBE/WBE) and Small Business Advisory Committee regarding its activities and minority-owned and women-owned business enterprise issues

Adrian Neely, Chair of the MBE/WBE and Small Business Advisory Committee reported on the April regular meeting. He said the committee's recommendations regarding the Small Business Enterprise (SBE) program were as follows:

- Can SMBR handle the increased workload?
- Will the department allow there to be more time for public input
- The committee wants to know more about what is going on around the country in regards to SBE programs
- The committee asked to speak with Collette Holt regarding her thoughts on the program and is it possible for her to attend a meeting
- How long will it be before the program is implemented, suggests taking more time to allow for more public input
- Once the program is launched, requested continuous updates regarding participation

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Adrian Neely gave an update regarding a new building that has been built and occupied by People Fund with a gold Leed rating.

Carol Hadnot, Austin Area Black Contractors Association thanked the Council and Subcommittee for their support at the Council Meeting regarding the Weatherization program.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Aviation presentation regarding MBE/WBE participation from Airport Concessionaires

This item was postponed to the May Agenda.

b. Small & Minority Business Resources (SMBR) and Contract and Land Management (CLMD) department presentation regarding the Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Program (HAND OUT)

Veronica Briseño Lara, Director SMBR and Rosie Truelove, Director CLMD presented an overview of the program and the committee requested an update at the next meeting.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Carol Hadnot, Austin Area Black Contractors Association, said that she would like for staff to have done more research on SBE programs across the country. While it is not the intent of staff to get rid of the MBE/WBE program, creating an SBE program is the first step in doing so. She also asked why SMBR is administering this program instead of the Small Business Development Program.

Alayne Johnson, Austin Area Black Contractors Association, said that the SBE program would create more barriers for sub contractors due to the bonding requirements, because subs are used to performing as sub contractors instead of prime contractors and because no goals on projects limits subcontracting opportunities. She also said that this program is a set aside for SBE's.

Adrian Neely said that there are many implications that might have an adverse affect on the current ordinance so the community would like to learn more about this program and get more community input along with discussions with Council and Ms. Collette Holt.

6. STAFF REPORT

Monthly report from the Small & Minority Business Resources (SMBR) department regarding request for changes

Veronica Briseno Lara, Director- SMBR, presented the request for change report.

7. AGENDA ITEMS

Aviation presentation regarding MBE/WBE participation from Airport Concessionaires
Discussion regarding the SBE program

8. ADJOURMENT

Council Member Cole adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.