



Potential City of Austin Mentor Protégé Program

Presented by SMBR
July 1, 2014

Mentor Protégé Program

- Goal is to facilitate positive relationships between prime firms and subcontracting firms
- Provides Mentors with opportunities to be recognized for their efforts to develop Protégé firms
- Contingent upon Mentor Protégé Application and Agreement

Program Benefits

- Mentors and protégés benefit from learning opportunities
 - Two-way flow of knowledge ↔
 - Participants are not required to operate within same industry
- Protégé firms obtain new strategies to improve business operations and build capacity

Overview

- SMBR began researching Mentor/Protégé Program options and is developing initial recommendations for a Mentor/Protégé program
- SMBR will facilitate feedback from the Mentor/Protégé working group and stakeholders
- Based on collective input, SMBR will work with other departments to develop and implement a program

Initial considerations

- Identify an initial procurement area while exploring expansion
 - Pilot program in technology
- Define program eligibility
 - Be in good standing with the City and possess current and necessary state and local licenses
 - Mentors must possess financial strength
 - Protégés must be M/W/D/SBE certified by SMBR
- Define program requirements
 - Application process
 - Mandatory orientation (1 hour)
 - Minimum one (1) year commitment
- Program evaluation (annual)

Recommended Program Parameters

- Contract-based agreements will not be accepted for program
- Protégé firms will be limited to one agreement at a time
 - Anticipated limited supply of mentor firms
 - Anticipated wait-list of protégé firms
- Protégé firms may not concurrently participate as a protégé and a mentor firm.
- Incentives for mentor participation

Next Steps

- Meet with Mentor-Protégé working group to solicit input and develop program (July-September)
- Report back to MBE/WBE Advisory Committee (October)
- Implement program (January)

Questions?



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