



COMMUNITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS MILWAUKEE COUNTY

CERTIFICATE OF GOOD FAITH EFFORTS

The intent of this certification is to document the good faith efforts implemented by the contract bidder/proposer in soliciting and utilizing DBE firms to meet DBE participation requirements. This certificate will assist Milwaukee County in determining whether the contract bidder/proposer has implemented comprehensive good faith efforts.

Failure to demonstrate good faith efforts to meet the assigned DBE participation requirements to the satisfaction of Milwaukee County could result in the rejection of the bid/proposal.

I, _____, do hereby acknowledge that I am the _____ of _____, who has been identified as a bidder/proposer on the following Milwaukee County Project:

Project No.	Project Title	Total Contract Amount	DBE Percentage	
			Goal	Pledged

Provide a brief summary on why you believe your firm is unable to meet the DBE participation goals on this project (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

I hereby certify that I have utilized comprehensive good faith efforts to solicit and utilize DBE firms to meet the DBE participation requirements of this contract, as demonstrated by my responses to the following questions:

A. Identifying Contractible Work Items

Bidder/Proposer is encouraged to select portions of work to be contracted in a manner that will increase the likelihood of meeting DBE goals. In selecting work to be contracted, bidder/proposer will consider, where appropriate, breaking down contracts into economically feasible units to facilitate DBE participation.

1. Which portion(s) or section(s) of the contract, in terms of the nature of work, was/were selected to be contracted to DBE firms (or broken down into economically feasible units to facilitate DBE participation)?

B. Notifying DBE Firms of Contracting Opportunities

2. In the table below, indicate which firms received written notification of work items to be subcontracted. In the appropriate space, also indicate when firms received subsequent telephone solicitations. Please attach additional page(s) so that all companies contacted are listed. (Attach photocopies of all written solicitations to DBE firms to this certificate.)

Company Contacted	Date of Written Notification	DBE (Yes/No)	Date of Follow-up Telephone Call

3. Identify publications in which announcements or notifications were placed and published, if any. (Attach copies of proof of each announcement or notification.)

Published Announcement/Publication (please describe)	Date

4. Identify DBE associations or organizations that received written notifications, including dates of all notifications. Provide name of person and date of follow-up call. If no follow-up calls made, explain why not. (Attach copies of letters sent as proof of notification.)

DBE Association/Organization	Date of Notification	Contact Person	Date of Follow-Up Call

5. Were the services of Milwaukee County's Community Business Development Partners Department (CBDP) used to assist in the recruitment of DBE firms?

Yes _____ No _____

Contact was made by: Telephone _____ Correspondence _____

Date contacted: _____ Person Contacted: _____

C. Providing DBEs With Assistance

6. Explain any efforts undertaken to provide DBE firms with adequate information about project scope of work and requirements of the contract:

7. Describe any efforts undertaken to assist interested DBE firms in obtaining lines of credit or insurance required by Milwaukee County and/or the contractor/consultant:

8. Describe any other efforts initiated to provide special assistance to DBE firms interested in participating in the project.

D. Soliciting Proposal/Quotes From Interested DBE Firms

Bidder/Proposer must solicit quotes in good faith with interested DBE firms. Quotes, proposals and/or bids, from interested DBE firms shall not be rejected without sound justification.

9. Indicate in the table below which DBE firms submitted quotes on the contract. Also, if any DBE quotes were rejected, provide a brief explanation as to why. Please attach additional pages(s) if necessary.

Name/Address/Contact Person of DBE Firm	Work Quoted and Explanation for Rejecting Quotes

10. Other comments you want Milwaukee County to consider:

NOTE: The information requested as set forth above is the minimum information required by Milwaukee County's Community Business Development Partners Department (CBDP) and CBDP may request the contractor/consultant to submit information on certain other actions taken to secure DBE participation in an effort to meet the contract goal.

AFFIDAVIT OF CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, having been first duly sworn, affirms that the information given in the above certificate is true and correct to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Signed: _____

Authorized Representative

Subscribed and sworn to before me:

This _____ day of _____, 20 ____.

Notary Public

My commission expires _____, 20 ____.

GUIDANCE CONCERNING GOOD FAITH EFFORTS

When Milwaukee County assigns a DBE contract goal, a bidder/proposer shall, in order to be responsive, make good faith efforts to meet the DBE goal. The bidder/proposer can meet this requirement in either of two ways. First, the bidder/proposer can meet the goal, documenting commitments for participation by DBE firms sufficient for this purpose. Second, even if it doesn't meet the goal, the bidder/proposer can document adequate good faith efforts toward that end. This means that the bidder/proposer must show that it took all necessary and reasonable steps to achieve the DBE goal, which, by their scope, intensity, and appropriateness to the objective, could reasonably be expected to obtain sufficient DBE participation, even if they were not fully successful.

In any situation in which Milwaukee County has established a contract goal, 49 CFR, part 26, requires the use of the good faith effort mechanism delineated herein. CBDP will make a fair and reasonable judgment as to whether a bidder/proposer that did not meet the goal made adequate good faith efforts according to these requirements. It is important to consider the quality, quantity, and intensity of the different kinds of efforts that the bidder/proposer has made. The efforts employed by the bidder/proposer should be those that one could reasonably expect a bidder/proposer to take if the bidder/proposer were actively and aggressively trying to obtain DBE participation sufficient to meet the DBE contract goal. Mere pro forma efforts are not good faith efforts to meet the DBE contract requirements. CBDP determination concerning the sufficiency of the firm's good faith efforts is a judgment call: meeting quantitative formulas is not required.

The following is a list of types of actions, which Milwaukee County will consider as part of the bidder/proposer's good faith efforts to obtain DBE participation. It is not intended to be a mandatory checklist, nor is it intended to be exclusive or exhaustive. Other factors or types of efforts may be relevant in appropriate cases:

1. Soliciting, through all reasonable and available means (e.g., attendance at pre-bid meetings, advertising and/or written notices), the interest of all certified DBEs who have the capability to perform the work of the contract. The bidder/proposer must solicit this interest within sufficient time to allow the DBEs to respond to the solicitation. The bidder/proposer must determine with certainty the DBEs are interested by taking appropriate steps to follow up initial solicitations.
2. Selecting portions of the work to be performed by DBEs in order to increase the likelihood that the DBE goals will be achieved. This includes, where appropriate, breaking out contract work items into economically feasible units to facilitate DBE participation, even when the prime contractor/consultant might otherwise prefer to perform these work items with its own forces.
3. Providing interested DBEs with adequate information about the plans, specifications, and requirements of the contract in a timely manner to assist them in responding to a solicitation.
4. Negotiating in good faith with interested DBEs.
 - a. It is the contractor/consultant's responsibility to make a portion of the work available to DBE contractors and to select those portions of the work consistent with the available DBE contractors, so as to facilitate DBE participation. Evidence of such negotiation includes the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of DBEs that were considered; a description of the information provided regarding the plans and specifications for the work selected for contracting; and evidence as to why additional agreements could not be reached for DBEs to perform the work.
 - b. A contractor/consultant using good business judgment would consider a number of factors in negotiating with subcontractors, including DBE subcontractors, and would take a firm's price and capabilities as well as contract goals into

consideration. However, **the fact that there may be some additional costs involved in finding and using DBEs is not in itself sufficient reason for a bidder/proposer's failure to meet the contract DBE goal, as long as reasonable.** Also, the ability or desire of a contractor/consultant to do the work of a contract with its own organization does not relieve it of the responsibility to make good faith efforts. Prime contractors/consultants are not, however, required to accept higher quotes from DBEs if the price difference is excessive or unreasonable.

5. Not rejecting DBEs as being unqualified without sound reasons based on a thorough investigation of their capabilities. The contractor/consultant's standing within its industry, membership in specific groups, organizations, or associations and political or social affiliations (for example union vs. non-union employee status) are not legitimate causes for the rejection or non-solicitation of bids in the contractor/consultant's efforts to meet the project goal.
6. Making efforts to assist interested DBEs in obtaining lines of credit or insurance as required by Milwaukee County or the contractor/consultant.
7. Making efforts to assist interested DBEs in obtaining necessary resources or related assistance or services.
8. Effectively using the services of available minority/women community organizations; minority/women contractors' groups; local, state, and Federal minority/women business assistance offices; and other organizations as allowed on a case-by-case basis to provide assistance in the recruitment and placement of DBEs.

In determining whether a contractor/consultant has made good faith efforts, Milwaukee County may take into account the performance of other bidders/proposers in meeting the DBE contract goal. For example, when the apparent successful contractor/consultant fails to meet the contract goal, but others meet it, Milwaukee County may reasonably raise the question of whether, with additional reasonable efforts, the apparent successful contractor/consultant could have met the goal. If the apparent successful bidder/proposer fails to meet the goal, but meets or exceeds the average DBE participation obtained by other contractors/consultants, Milwaukee County may view this, in conjunction with other factors, as evidence of the apparent successful bidder/proposer having made good faith efforts.