



# City of Chicago



R2019-685

Office of the City Clerk

## Document Tracking Sheet

**Meeting Date:** 9/18/2019

**Sponsor(s):** Lightfoot (Mayor)  
Vasquez, Jr. (40)

**Type:** Resolution

**Title:** Call for Chief Purchasing Officer and Department of Procurement Services to make business development resources available to LGBT business enterprises

**Committee(s) Assignment:** Committee on Contracting Oversight and Equity

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO

LORI E. LIGHTFOOT  
MAYOR

September 18, 2019

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

At the request of the Chief Procurement Officer, together with Alderman Vasquez, I transmit herewith a resolution regarding LGBT business enterprises.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

  
Mayor

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, The City of Chicago ("City") is a home rule municipality as described in Section 6(a), Article VII of the 1970 Constitution of the State of Illinois, and, as such, may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, The City, through its Department of Procurement Services ("DPS"), is responsible for the contracting of goods and services for the City; and

**WHEREAS**, The City's significant lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender ("LGBT") populations make it one of the most diverse cities in the country; and

**WHEREAS**, Many members of the City's LGBT community are business owners; and

**WHEREAS**, Ensuring the success of the business community is vital to the City's growth, and improving the quality of life for its residents; and

**WHEREAS**, The City is committed to providing historically underrepresented business owners equal opportunities to compete and succeed, and to increasing the number and diversity of supplier options for City procurement; and

**WHEREAS**, The City already provides inclusionary measures for underrepresented business enterprises that are minority-, women-, or veteran-owned, or owned or operated by people with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, The City already adheres to non-discrimination and equal employment opportunity policies that include LGBT individuals with regard to individual hiring practices; and

**WHEREAS**, The City recognizes LGBT inclusion as a best practice conducted by private industry, as well as by state and municipal governments across the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, The City seeks to better understand the LGBT business community by collecting data related to LGBT-owned Business Enterprises ("LGBTBEs"), so that the City can help foster development of, and expand the significant economic benefits created by, LGBTBEs; and

**WHEREAS**, The City wishes to partner with the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce and other entities that provide independent scholarship programs, mentorship and leadership training, networking opportunities, and other business development tools to further support the City's LGBTBEs; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this 18th day of September, 2019, do hereby call upon the Chief Procurement Officer and the Department of Procurement Services to make business development resources available to LGBTBEs, and to gather information to determine whether there is a need for a citywide program to promote opportunities in the City's procurement process for LGBTBEs, as follows:

### **SECTION 1. Definitions.**

For purposes of this Resolution, the following definitions shall apply:

"Assistance Agency" means a chamber of commerce or other not-for-profit organization that represents the interests businesses.

"Contract" means any contract, purchase order, or other agreement (other than a delegate agency contract, lease of real property, or collective bargaining agreement) awarded by the City and whose cost is to be paid from funds belonging to or administered by the City.

"LGBT" means any individual who is lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender.

"LGBT-owned Business Enterprise," or "LGBTBE," means a Local Business Enterprise which: (1) is at least 51 percent owned and controlled by one or more LGBT persons, or in the case of any publicly-owned business, at least 51 percent of the equity of which is owned and controlled by one or more LGBT persons; (2) whose management and daily operation is controlled by one or more of the LGBT owners; and (3) has been certified as an LGBT Business Enterprise by (i) the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce and/or an NGLCC affiliate or partner; or (ii) other certifying agency or Assistance Agency whose certification process the Chief Procurement Officer deems sufficiently dependable for the purposes of gathering data relating to LGBT-owned businesses.

"LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois" or "LGLCC-IL" is an Assistance Agency affiliated with NGLCC.

"Local Business Enterprise" means a business entity located within the Six-County Region.

"National LGBT Chamber of Commerce," or "NGLCC," is an Assistance Agency headquartered in Washington, D.C. that certifies LGBT-owned businesses.

"Owned" means having all of the customary incidents of ownership, including the right of disposition, and sharing in all of the risks, responsibilities and profits commensurate with the degree of ownership.

"Six-County Region" means the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will in the State of Illinois.

## **SECTION 2. Business Development for LGBT-Owned Business Enterprises**

To further the goal of increasing participation of LGBTBEs in City procurement, DPS shall:

(i) develop and maintain relationships with Assistance Agencies representing LGBTBEs and solicit their support and assistance;

(ii) keep Assistance Agencies representing LGBTBEs informed of conferences, contractor fairs, and other services that are available to LGBTBEs;

(iii) conduct, coordinate, and facilitate technical assistance and educational programs for LGBTBEs designed to increase the potential for successful bid or proposal submissions or to enhance their participation in the Chicago business community; and

(iv) develop a clearinghouse of information on programs and services available to LGBTBEs.

### **SECTION 3. Information Gathering and Data Review**

The Chief Procurement Officer, in consultation with the Department of Law, shall gather all relevant data that may assist the City in determining the need for a citywide program to promote opportunities in City procurement for LGBTBEs. This data may include, but is not limited to, the number of LGBTBEs:

- (i) within specific industry classifications;
- (ii) submitting bids or proposals in response to City procurements; and
- (iii) awarded City Contracts.

The Chief Procurement Officer and the Department of Law may work collaboratively with the NGLCC, NGLCC-IL and other Assistance Agencies in order to carry out the directives in this Resolution.

The Chief Procurement Officer shall submit to the Mayor a written report describing and summarizing the information collected by September 23, 2020.