



# Office of the City Clerk

City Hall  
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Chicago, IL 60602  
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## Legislation Text

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**File #:** R2021-1306, **Version:** 1

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### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the recently issued Disparity Study for Construction Contracts ("study") showed the importance of certifying M/WBE firms; and

WHEREAS, the study stated a number of M/WBE firms reported experiencing lengthy delays in processing initial certification applications; and

WHEREAS, the study also stated a number of M/WBE firms reported experiencing lengthy delays in reviewing applications for recertification; and

WHEREAS, M/WBE firms, particularly in construction, incur substantial costs to get their business started; and

WHEREAS, any delay in certification causes these M/WBE firms to unnecessarily incur even more costs; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Procurement Services is charged with the responsibility of certifying M/WBE firms; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recently approved the creation of the new Office of Contracting Equity as part of the 2022 budget; and

WHEREAS, the City Council appropriated monies for additional personnel in the Office of Contracting & Equity; and

WHEREAS, the City Council also recently approved the appointment of a new Chief Procurement Officer; and

WHEREAS, raising the number of M/WBE certified firms in Chicago is of paramount interest to the Chicago City Council;

RTHER RESOLVED that we the members of the City Council also invite representatives of Agencies and M/WBE firms to appear before the Committee on Contract Oversight & Equity meeting to share their experiences with the City's M/WBE certification process.

Leslie A. Hairston Alderman 5<sup>th</sup> Ward

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we the members of the City Council do hereby invite the Chief Procurement Officer and the head of the Office of Contracting Equity to appear before the Committee on Contract Oversight & Equity

to discuss their plans to eliminate the delays in M/WBE certification; and

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WHEREAS, the City Council recently approved the creation of the new Office of Contracting Equity as part of the 2022 budget; and

WHEREAS, the City Council appropriated monies for additional personnel in the Office of Contracting & Equity; and

WHEREAS, the City Council also recently approved the appointment of a new Chief Procurement Officer; and

WHEREAS, raising the number of M/WBE certified firms in Chicago is of paramount interest to the Chicago City Council;

FURTHER RESOLVED that we the members of the City Council also invite representatives of sister Agencies and M/WBE firms to appear before the Committee on Contract Oversight & Equity same hearing to share their experiences with the City's M/WBE certification process^

eslie A. Hairston Alderman 5<sup>th</sup> Ward

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we the members of the City Council do hereby invite the Chief Procurement Officer and the head of the Office of Contracting Equity to appear before the Committee on Contract Oversight & Equity to discuss their plans to eliminate the delays in M/WBE certification; and