

2020 Equity in Contracting Annual Report

From March through December 2020, the City of Tacoma's Equity in Contracting (EIC) program placed Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), Women Business Enterprise (WBE) and Small Business Enterprise (SBE)* requirements on City of Tacoma Public Works construction projects. In 2021, the City of Tacoma aims to have processes in place for Architecture & Engineering, Services and Goods contracts as well.

*Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) firms may also fulfill SBE requirements.



2020 EIC UTILIZATION RATES

Below are the MBE, WBE and SBE/DBE utilization rates for 2020. We've also included utilization rates from our previous contracts in 2012 - 2016 and the estimated availability of firms who are ready, willing, and able to perform work on a given contract based on North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes in the scope of work to be performed as indicated in our Disparity Study.

EIC Certification	2020 Utilization	2012 - 2016 Utilization Rates	Estimated Availability of Contractors as Indicated in Disparity Study
MBE	7%	5%	13%
WBE	7%	2%	3%
SBE/DBE	26%	N/A	N/A

WAIVERS

Over the course of the year, we accepted 3 waivers from contractors for being unable to meet EIC requirements due to lack of available firms. We also did not place EIC requirements on 6 contracts due to a lack of available firms in specific NAICS codes. In total, there were 9 projects that had some form of EIC requirements waived.

COVID-19 IMPACTS

As we shifted our focus in the short term to support the City of Tacoma's emergency response to the current public health and economic crisis, we were not able to implement administration of requirements for Architecture & Engineering, Services, and Goods contracts. Additionally, since 2020 was the baseline year for the EIC program, we are still in the process of evaluating the broader impact of the pandemic on utilization of EIC-eligible firms.



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