



Agenda Item No. (3)

To: Rules, Policy and Industrial Relations Committee/Committee of the Whole
Meeting of December 19, 2024

From: Artemisé Davenport, Manager, DBE and Workforce Inclusion
Susan Spencer, Director, EEO and Workforce Inclusion
Kellee J. Hopper, Deputy General Manager, Administration and Development
Denis J. Mulligan, General Manager

Subject: **AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL MANAGER TO SIGN THE EQUITY IN
INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT PLEDGE**

Recommendation

The Rules, Policy and Industrial Relations Committee recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to sign the Equity in Infrastructure Project Pledge as a commitment to improving public infrastructure contracting practices and supporting Historically Underutilized Businesses.

This matter will be presented to the Board of Directors at its December 20, 2024 meeting for appropriate action.

Summary

The Equity in Infrastructure Project (EIP) was founded by Phillip A. Washington, Denver International Airport CEO, former U.S. Deputy Secretary of Transportation, John D. Porcari, and others in anticipation of the \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The EIP aims to build generational wealth and reduce the racial wealth gap by enhancing public infrastructure contracting practices. The EIP Pledge (Pledge) seeks to encourage public agencies to create more prime, joint venture, and equity partner contracting opportunities for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs), fostering competition for public contracts and ensuring taxpayer savings and maximum value for infrastructure investments. A coalition of over 50 agencies nationwide that have signed the EIP Pledge.

HUBs, as defined by the EIP, include firms designated as Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs), Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBEs), Small Business Enterprises (SBEs), and other locally recognized classifications intended to boost the participation of underutilized firms, varying by state, region, and municipality.

By signing the Pledge, linked here <https://equityininfrastructure.org/pledge>, the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District (District) commits to working to increase the

number, size and percentage of HUBs growing to prime contractors, participating in joint ventures or as equity participants by December 2025 by:

- Increasing the number, size and proportion of contracting opportunities going to HUBs;
- Increasing the number, size and proportion of contracting opportunities going to HUBs as prime contractors;
- Streamlining the administration of contracting with HUBs to centralize certification, improve payment time, and standardize transparent data collection;
- Increasing the amount and type of financing available to HUBs aiming to meet infrastructure contracts by working with private and public partners; and
- Expanding the number of signatories to the Pledge.

Signing the Pledge is consistent with current District policies and practices and will further goals already promoted by the District. By authorizing the General Manager to sign the Pledge, the District reaffirms its dedication to equitable contracting practices and support for HUBs. This commitment will not only benefit HUBs but also enhance the overall quality and value of our infrastructure investments.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with associated with signing the Pledge.