

**HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA**

REPORT TO THE COMMISSIONERS

DATE: JULY 13, 2016

**REGARDING: AUTHORIZING A JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT FOR A JOINT DISPARITY
STUDY WITH THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.**

Requested Board Action

The specific action being requested of the HRA Board is as follows:
Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a Joint Powers Agreement and all documents necessary for participation in the joint disparity study with the State of Minnesota, acting through its Commissioner of Administration.

Background

The City of Saint Paul (“City”) has been advised by the City Attorney’s Office that we need an updated disparity study, as there is concern that our practices and data related to local minority- and woman-owned small business participation are outdated and the City could be vulnerable to litigation. The last disparity study for the City of Saint Paul and its Housing and Redevelopment Authority (“the City & its HRA”) was completed in 2008. The City’s ability to use race or gender criteria in consideration of bids could also be in jeopardy.

The staff of the City and its HRA has engaged with partner jurisdictions in the Minneapolis-Saint Paul metro area to pursue a multijurisdictional disparity study, led by the State of Minnesota, to ensure that our study is current and could withstand any challenge. A disparity study is designed to analyze small minority-owned, and small woman-owned business enterprise utilization, availability, and disparities to determine the extent to which underutilization, if any, may be the result of discrimination by the organizations studied. It will also consider any discrimination and other factors existing within our larger marketplace.

There are two major components:

1. Marketplace analysis: This is an examination of the larger shared marketplace for all jurisdictions participating in the study. As it pertains to the City and its HRA, this will include the Minneapolis-Saint Paul metropolitan area.
2. Individual analysis of each jurisdiction: Each participating jurisdiction will receive an analysis of its own respective practices and data. For the City and its HRA, this will include our procurement practices.

Participating Jurisdictions

1. Lead Agency: State of Minnesota (“State”)
2. Other Participating Entities:
 - a. The State of Minnesota;

- b. The Metropolitan Council;
 - c. The Metropolitan Airports Commission;
 - d. The Mosquito Control District;
 - e. Minnesota State Colleges and Universities;
 - f. The City of Saint Paul & its Housing and Redevelopment Authority;
 - g. The City of Minneapolis; and
 - h. Hennepin County.
3. Study Duration: 18 months

Joint Powers Agreement

With the State as the lead on this disparity study, the State will have a contract with the selected consultant, while all of the participating jurisdictions will have separate Joint Powers Agreements (“JPA”) with the State. The various parties involved have discussed the terms of the JPA to ensure that all parties involved will receive a study specific to their needs. The JPA for the City & its HRA is attached.

Budget Action

NA Funds were budgeted in 2016 for the disparities study.

Future Action

NA

Financing Structure

NA

PED Credit Committee Review

NA

Compliance

NA

Green/Sustainable Development

NA

Environmental Impact Disclosure

NA

Historic Preservation

NA

Public Purpose/Comprehensive Plan Conformance

A disparities study provides the foundation for public policy related to providing opportunities to do business with the City and HRA for minority- and woman-owned small businesses. As a regional economy, a multijurisdictional disparities study completed in partnership with other municipal jurisdictions with shared public policy goals will both ensure consistent information

on our regional economy and reduced costs to each jurisdiction by eliminating duplication in data collection and analysis.

Recommendation:

The Executive Director recommends the HRA approve the attached resolution.

Sponsored by: Chair Brendmoen

Staff: Kristin Guild, Deputy Director, 651-266-6671

Attachments

- Attachment – Joint Powers Agreement