

CITY OF JERSEY CITY OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY HALL | 280 GROVE STREET | JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302 P: 201 547 5500 | F: 201 547 5442

> Report of Directors 8.c Meeting 10.24.18



STEVEN M. FULOP MAYOR OF JERSEY CITY

Oct <u>24</u>, 2018

OF THE CITY OF JERSEY CITY

INCLUSION OF LGBT, VETERAN, AND DISABLED PERSON OWNED BUSINESSES

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Mayor of the City of Jersey City by law, I hereby issue the following Executive Order:

WHEREAS, Jersey City is one of the most diverse cities in the country with large LGBT, veteran, and disabled person communities; and

WHEREAS, ensuring the success of our small business community in Jersey City is vital to our growth and improving quality of life for our residents; and

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

WHEREAS, Jersey City already provides inclusionary measures for underrepresented business entities that are minority or woman owned (MWBE); and

WHEREAS, Jersey City already adheres to non-discrimination, affirmative action, and equal employment opportunity (EEO) policies that includes LGBT individuals, veterans, and disabled persons with regards to individual hiring practices; and

WHEREAS, Jersey City does not provide specific inclusionary efforts for LGBT, veteran, or disabled person owned business entities but recognizes such inclusion as a best practice conducted by large corporations based in the region as well as governments in California, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, along with multiple municipalities nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the City is seeking to better understand the LGBT, veteran, and disabled person owned business community by creating a database and registry of these types of businesses.

THEREFORE, under the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Jersey City, I hereby issue this Executive Order to revise our procurement policies and practices to specifically recognize and identify LGBT, Veteran, and Disabled Person Owned business entities in addition to Minority and Woman Owned business entities. Jersey City shall also partner with third party organizations as listed below to provide additional support to these business entities:

I. RECOGNITION OF LGBT OWNED BUSINESS ENTITY CERTIFICATION

Jersey City shall hereby recognize LGBT Owned business entities as those that are owned by 51% or more by LGBT individuals.

Jersey City shall recognize the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC) as the certifying organization for any LGBT business enterprises (LGBTBEs) as follows:

A. <u>Certification</u>

All processes related to the application for and certification of and LGBT business entity shall be handled directly by NGLCC. Documentation of certification of any LGBT business entities headquartered and/or operating in Jersey City shall be provided directly to Jersey City from NGLCC.

B. Professional Development for LGBT Owned Business Entities

NGLCC and/or an NGLCC affiliate or partner shall also provide independent scholarship programs, mentorship and leadership training, networking opportunities, and other business development tools to further support LGBT business entities in Jersey City with the support of the NJ LGBT Chamber of Commerce.

C. <u>Jersey City Responsibilities</u>

All services and support provided to Jersey City LGBT business entities shall not require any city funding or manpower outside of the regular operations of the existing procurement practices.

II. RECOGNITION OF DISABILITY OWNED BUSINESS ENTITY CERTIFICATION

Jersey City shall hereby recognize Disability Owned business entities as those that are owned by 51% or more by disabled persons.

Jersey City shall recognize Disability: IN (formerly USBLN) as the certifying organization for any Disability Owned business entities (DOBEs) as follows:

A. <u>Certification</u>

All processes related to the application for and certification of and disability owned business entity shall be handled directly by USBLN. Documentation of certification of any disability owned business entities headquartered and/or operating in Jersey City shall be provided directly to Jersey City from USBLN.

B. <u>Professional Development for Disability Owned Business Entities</u>

USBLN and/or an USBLN affiliate or partner shall also provide independent scholarship programs, mentorship and leadership training, networking opportunities, and other business development tools to further support disability owned business entities in Jersey City.

C. Jersey City Responsibilities

All services and support provided to Jersey City disability owned business entities shall not require any city funding or manpower outside of the regular operations of the existing procurement practices.

III. INCLUSION OF DIVERSE BUSINESS ENTITY AS AN ADDITIONAL BUSINESS CATEGORY

As of the issuance of this executive order, Jersey City shall, in addition to the MWBE checklist, request proof of LGBT, Veteran, or Disabled Person Owned certification documentation from any business entity participating in any solicitation of proposals (RFP's), qualifications (RFQ's), or for other information about suppliers and contractors (RFI's).

Within any vendor or proposal evaluations (if applicable), the City shall have the option to include LGBT, Veteran, or Disability Owned certification as a separate criterion used to evaluate the strength of a proposal or vendor. The weight of this additional certification on any rubrics or evaluations shall not be more than any weights given to MWBE businesses. Businesses who may qualify as a combination of MWBE and LGBT, Veteran, and/or Disabled person owned may only select one for the purposes of applying for a contract. This order shall not alter existing MWBE goals or state-issued set-asides for vendors.

This Executive Order shall be kept on file in the Offices of the City Clerk and Business Administrator and will be made available upon request. It shall also be posted on the City's website.

This Order shall take effect as set forth herein and supersedes all inconsistent Executive Orders.

Very truly yours,

STEVEN M. FULOP

MAYOR

cc: Robert Byrne, City Clerk
Brian Platt, Business Administrator
Peter Baker, Corporation Counsel
All Department Directors