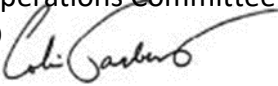




MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 22, 2021
TO: Public Safety and Government Operations Committee
FROM: Colin Tarbert, President and CEO 
POSITION: Support
SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 21-0024
Minority and Women's Business Utilization – Emergencies

INTRODUCTION

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) is reporting on City Council Bill No. 21-0024, introduced by Councilmember Burnett, et al.

PURPOSE

This Bill clarifies the City's minority business and women's business contract utilization requirements for certain emergency procurements; and generally relating to greater transparency and utilization of minority and women's business in City emergency contracting.

BRIEF HISTORY

Baltimore City Code Article 5 Subtitle 28 Part V, "Utilization Requirements" does not currently outline or identify the "good faith efforts" to contract or subcontract with minority and women businesses for emergency contracts.

This amendment specifies the actions that must be taken by a contracting agency to contact the Minority and Women Business Opportunity Office for assistance with identifying, and obtaining bids from, Minority- and Women-owned businesses, where possible. It further requires the creation of a post-execution report to describe the circumstances of the emergency procurement and the efforts that were made to engage Minority- and Women-owned businesses for the emergency contract.

The amendment seeks to increase transparent emergency contracting conditions and increase the opportunity for minority and women-owned businesses to engage in procurement with City agencies, without imposing an undue time-burden that would risk public health, safety or property in an emergency.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

AGENCY POSITION

The Baltimore Development Corporation **supports** City Council Bill No. 21-0024. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kim Clark at kclark@baltimoredevelopment.com or (410) 779-3868.

[SJH]