City of Chicago

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

R2017-730

Meeting Date: 9/6/2017

Sponsor(s): Sawyer (6)
Hairston (5)
Lopez (15)
Munoz (22)
Cardenas (12)
Harris (8)
Mitchell (7)
Beale (9)
Scott, Jr. (24)
Solis (25)
Austin (34)
Moore (17)
Foulkes (16)
Cochran (20)
Dowell (3)
King (4)
Villegas (36)
Ervin (28)
Maldonado (26)
Reboyras (30)
Taliaferro (29)
Santiago (31)
Waguespack (32)
Curtis (18)
Brookins (21)

Type: Resolution

Title: Call for hearing(s) on use of best practices and legal or legislative measures needed to support Minority-Owned Business Enterprises

Committee(s) Assignment: Committee on Workforce Development and Audit

Committee on Workforce Development
September 6, 2017
City Council Meeting

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago has a vested interest in the continued development and growth of Minority and Women owned Business Enterprises, that interest being codified in 2-92-650 of the Municipal Code of Chicago as amended to be in compliance with the decision in *Builders Ass'n of Greater Chicago v. City of Chicago*, (298 F. Supp. 2d 725 (N.D. Ill. 2003) and adopted by Chicago City Council in May 2004;

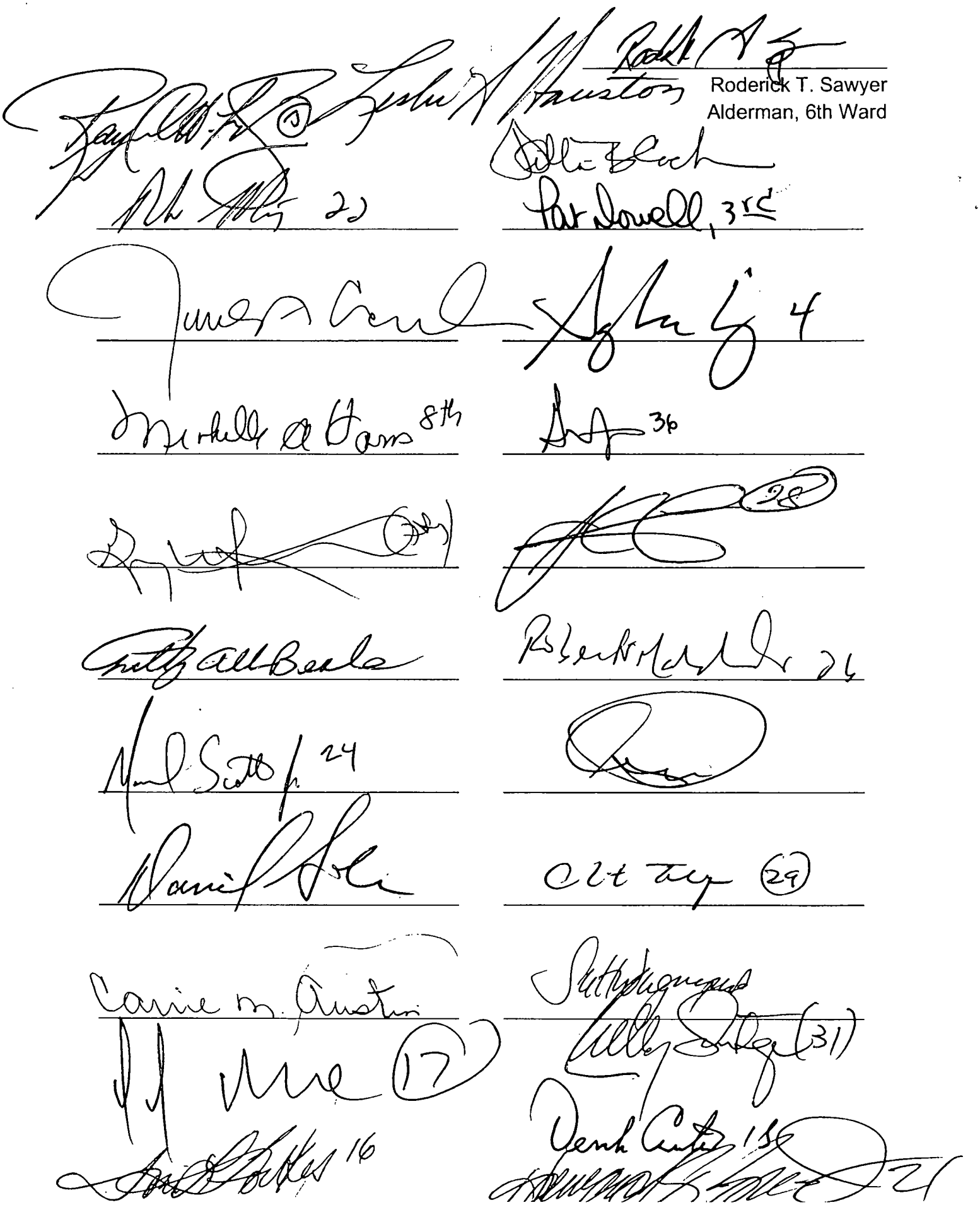
WHEREAS, the stated intent of the ordinance of the City of Chicago is to provide a level playing field and equal access for all contractors and subcontractors to participate in city contracting opportunities;

WHEREAS, recent studies conducted at the City and County levels conclude that discrimination based on gender and race, notably in the Construction industry, is still problematic and M/WBEs continue to struggle for business with less success than their white counterparts due to discriminatory practices;

WHEREAS, the number of MBEs in the city is still drastically lower than that of non-MBE companies;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and the members of City Council call for hearings before the Committee on Workforce Development to consider:

- Best practices for removing obstacles to the economy and marketplace for MBEs;
- What legal and legislative steps can be taken to strengthen and further the success of current MBEs; and
- How net worth caps on MBEs prevents meaningful growth and access to MBEs, causing significant economic and social harm to not only black communities, but Chicago at large.


Roderick T. Sawyer
Alderman, 6th Ward