



# City of Chicago



R2021-1306

Office of the City Clerk

## Document Tracking Sheet

**Meeting Date:** 11/17/2021

**Sponsor(s):** Hairston (5)  
Lopez (15)  
Taylor (20)  
Rodriguez (22)  
Ramirez-Rosa (35)  
Maldonado (26)  
Mitchell (7)  
Rodriguez Sanchez (33)  
King (4)  
Hadden (49)  
Vasquez, Jr. (40)  
Waguespack (32)  
Sawyer (6)

**Type:** Resolution

**Title:** Call for hearing(s) on plans to eliminate delays in Minority- and Women-owned business enterprises certification process

**Committee(s) Assignment:** Committee on Contracting Oversight and Equity

Contract Oversight

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the recently issued Disparity Study for Construction Contracts ("study") showed the importance of certifying M/WBE firms; and

WHEREAS, the study stated a number of M/WBE firms reported experiencing lengthy delays in processing initial certification applications; and

WHEREAS, the study also stated a number of M/WBE firms reported experiencing lengthy delays in reviewing applications for recertification; and

WHEREAS, M/WBE firms, particularly in construction, incur substantial costs to get their business started; and

WHEREAS, any delay in certification causes these M/WBE firms to unnecessarily incur even more and costs; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Procurement Services is charged with the responsibility of certifying M/WBE firms; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recently approved the creation of the new Office of Contracting Equity as part of the 2022 budget; and

WHEREAS, the City Council appropriated monies for additional personnel in the Office of Contracting & Equity; and

WHEREAS, the City Council also recently approved the appointment of a new Chief Procurement Officer; and

WHEREAS, raising the number of M/WBE certified firms in Chicago is of paramount interest to the Chicago City Council;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we the members of the City Council do hereby invite the Chief Procurement Officer and the head of the Office of Contracting Equity to appear before the Committee on Contract Oversight & Equity to discuss their plans to eliminate the delays in M/WBE certification; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we the members of the City Council also invite representatives of the Assist Agencies and M/WBE firms to appear before the Committee on Contract Oversight & Equity at this same hearing to share their experiences with the City's M/WBE certification process.

*[Handwritten signatures and scribbles on the left side of the page]*

*[Handwritten signature: Leslie A. Hairston]*  
Leslie A. Hairston  
Alderman 5<sup>th</sup> Ward

*[Handwritten signature]* 20<sup>th</sup>  
*[Handwritten signature]* 22  
*[Handwritten signature]* 33<sup>rd</sup>

*[Handwritten signature]* 35  
*[Handwritten signature]* 4  
*[Handwritten signature]* 49

*[Handwritten signature]* 26  
*[Handwritten signature]* 31

*[Handwritten signature]* 40<sup>th</sup>  
*[Handwritten signature]* 32  
*[Handwritten signature]* (6)

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the recently issued Disparity Study for Construction Contracts (“study”) showed the importance of certifying M/WBE firms; and

**WHEREAS**, the study stated a number of M/WBE firms reported experiencing lengthy delays in processing initial certification applications; and

**WHEREAS**, the study also stated a number of M/WBE firms reported experiencing lengthy delays in reviewing applications for recertification; and

**WHEREAS**, M/WBE firms, particularly in construction, incur substantial costs to get their business started; and

**WHEREAS**, any delay in certification causes these M/WBE firms to unnecessarily incur even more and costs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Procurement Services is charged with the responsibility of certifying M/WBE firms; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council recently approved the creation of the new Office of Contracting Equity as part of the 2022 budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council appropriated monies for additional personnel in the Office of Contracting & Equity; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council also recently approved the appointment of a new Chief Procurement Officer; and

**WHEREAS**, raising the number of M/WBE certified firms in Chicago is of paramount interest to the Chicago City Council;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we the members of the City Council do hereby invite the Chief Procurement Officer and the head of the Office of Contracting Equity to appear before the Committee on Contract Oversight & Equity to discuss their plans to eliminate the delays in M/WBE certification; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we the members of the City Council also invite representatives of the Assist Agencies and M/WBE firms to appear before the Committee on Contract Oversight & Equity at this same hearing to share their experiences with the City’s M/WBE certification process.

*Handwritten signatures and scribbles on the left side of the page.*

*Leslie A. Hairston*  
Leslie A. Hairston  
Alderman 5<sup>th</sup> Ward

*237 20th*  
*Mary 22*  
*33*  
*A. King 40th*  
*22*

*Carl 35*  
*Lisa 14*  
*Susan Sadowski 10*  
*Scott 32*  
*Robert 6*

*M. Hadden 49*