

**Minority Business Progress Report
July 1, 2024-December 31, 2024**

Our Procurement Code requires the District to provide the Board of Trustees with certain reports semi-annually. The following report is the mid-year report for Minority Business Activity.

MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE UTILIZATION PLAN

This plan is designed to ensure that minority businesses are offered equal opportunity to fully participate in the overall procurement process of the District.

The term “minority business” is defined as a business holding a Certificate of Eligibility issued by the South Carolina Office of Small and Minority Business Assistance (OSMBA). This certification can be issued to a business that is at least 51% owned by one or more citizens who are determined to be socially and economically disadvantaged.

- Only 981 businesses are currently certified across the State. The certification process is time intensive and many businesses that would qualify simply choose not to go through the application process. For those businesses that are successful in certification, most are only able to provide goods/services to their local area. Due to the difficulty of achieving certification, the District also tracks all businesses who are minority businesses, not just certified through the SC OSMBA.

GOAL - Our Minority Business Enterprise Plan states that we will strive to spend at least 10% of our controllable* procurements with minority-owned firms.

*Controllable procurements are purchases that the District has discretion in the selection of the vendor. Examples of non-controllable procurements are: Utilities, Debt Services, Payments to government/school districts, employee benefits/insurance, vendors under contract for the year, sole source acquisitions, etc.

MID-YEAR MINORITY BUSINESS REPORT - July 1, 2024-December 31, 2024

District Five Voucher Expense Data

Total District Five Expenses:	\$50,578,273.54
Contracts*, Sole Source, Reimbursements, Payments to Other Agencies.:	<u>\$37,250,374.00</u>
<i>Total Controllable Dollars</i>	<i>\$13,327,899.54</i>
Procurements involving all known Minority Owned Companies:	\$ 10,138,016.21
Procurements involving OSMBA Certified Companies:	\$ 32,214.83
76% of total eligible procurements involved minority-owned businesses	

Bid Data

Solicitations Issued: 4
Solicitations Cancelled: 0
Total Solicitations: 4

Total Bid Responses Received: 18
Bid Responses from Minority Companies: 1