

**Subject:** RE: CPARB check in  
**Date:** Friday, October 2, 2020 at 10:02:27 AM Pacific Daylight Time  
**From:** Frank Lemos  
**To:** Keith, Rebecca  
**Attachments:** image001.png

Hello Rebecca,

Thank you very much for reaching out. Given the national hyper political civil rights movement I am confident more than ever that testimony next session in support of accountability for certified OMWBE inclusion will be larger than ever from our Democrat law makers. Concern for blown budgets of tax payer dollars and missed project deadlines will definitely be a concern with the Republican law makers.

My hope is come December, CPARB will be proposing changes that benefit certified firms and the tax payers so that I can testify in full support of reauthorization.

I do not have time until reviewing the final proposal from CPARB in December/January but I will outline MBACs top priorities:

All public agencies applying for Alternative Works and primes awarded contracts report past performance of inclusion of state certified firms. MBAC accepts the idea of reporting inclusion of other programs but it needs to be clear with distinction. State Certified and Non State Certified. MBAC is only looking for them to report. No expectation of grading anyone on past performance. There could even be the option to say zero past performance but they must report and not leave blank.

All prime contractors to set a volunteer non mandatory goal of inclusion of State Certified firms. This could be very detailed or a simple overall percentage of total gross billings. Again. It is expected to be mandatory to fill out but the prime can chose to say zero. But not skip the form.

Finally, requirement to report post project performance of State Certified firms. This data should be detailed enough that OMWBE can audit. Listing dollars with each State Certified firm. This reporting would be mandatory but like above, the prime can report zero. The form should have what the volunteer goal was and the final project performance.

These are the three general inclusion priorities. How we get there I am wide open. None of this is to be a grading measure to be awarded the work or the approval of using Alternative Works. But the reporting is to be mandatory. No non submittal of the forms.

On general policy MBACs priority is that a sunset be required. I'm in favor of eight years. I'm against a no sunset approach or a sunset beyond 10 years.

On Tax payer interest MBACs priority is pre cost estimates and final project cost reporting and if the prime met the project deadline.

All reporting mentioned above to be available, easy to find, on CPARBs website.

Due to the pandemic I am slammed trying to keep my employees employed. As for the MBAC organization I am the policy person to work on things like CPARB but I really can't engage in the back and forth that policy work requires with so many voices at hand.

My hope is the final proposal addresses the concerns above. My plan is to be available this coming session for

committee votes and to be available for law makers who would like to know how we might improve opportunities for people of color on tax funded public projects so that CPARB can move forward with re authorization.

Thank you very much Rebecca. Wishing you health and safety for you and yours.

Frank Lemos  
206 713 9532

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: "Keith, Rebecca" <Rebecca.Keith@seattle.gov>  
Date: 9/30/20 10:47 PM (GMT-08:00)  
To: Frank Lemos <flemos@ldccorp.com>  
Subject: CPARB check in

Hello Frank,

I hope that this email finds you as well as can be during these really challenging times. It has been awhile since we have heard from you at CPARB, so I thought I would reach out.

I believe you know about CPARB's Business Equity and Diverse Business Inclusion committee chaired by Walter Schacht and Lisa van der Lugt. But CPARB's work to increase inclusion of MWBE contractors is not limited to one committee. As Chair of CPARB, I believe this is work for the entire board not just a committee, and I know many others on CPARB agree with that perspective. Of course we still have learning and improvement to do along the way, myself included. But wanted to at least update you on some of our efforts.

First, the Reauthorization Committee and GC/CM Committee recommended adding to the GC/CM statute the language from SB 1295 that you, Walter, Bill and I worked on for the DB provisions. The reauthorization committee has held numerous meetings open to all with information available on the CPARB website.

Additionally, the JOC and GC/CM Committees are both working on best practices guidelines and both are working on sections that address practices to promote inclusion of diverse businesses. Those committees would welcome input from MWBE contractors. As requested by the legislature, CPARB's local government contracting study will include a report on barriers to participation. And CPARB members have also been in dialogue about ways to learn from the information in the state's diversity study.

CPARB welcomes your participation on any committees of interest. We are hearing that remote meetings are making it easier to participate. But in any case, feel free to contact me if you have any input about CPARB.

Again, hope you are doing well -

***Rebecca Keith, sent in capacity as WA Cities Rep on CPARB, CPARB Chair***



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