

SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT

The company or entity executing this Small Business Enterprise Agreement, by and through its duly authorized representative, hereby agrees to use good faith efforts to comply with all of the following:

I. PURPOSE. The purpose of entering into this Small Business Enterprise Program agreement (“**SBE Program**”) is to establish a set of Small Business Enterprise (“SBE”) participation goals and good faith efforts designed to ensure that monies are spent in a manner which provides SBEs with an opportunity to compete for and participate in contracts by or at the behest of the Office of Community Investment & Infrastructure (“**Successor Agency**”) and/or the Agency-Assisted Contractor. A genuine effort will be made to give First Consideration to Project Area SBEs and San Francisco-based SBEs before looking outside of San Francisco.

II. APPLICATION. The SBE Program applies to all Contractors and their subcontractors seeking work on Agency-Assisted Projects on or after November 17, 2004 and any Amendment to a Pre-existing Contract.

III. GOALS. The Agency’s SBE Participation Goals are:

CONSTRUCTION	50%
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	50%
SUPPLIERS	50%

A. Trainee Hiring Goal. In addition to the goals set forth above in Section III, there is a trainee hiring goal for architects, designers and other professional services consultants as follows:

<u>Trainees</u>	<u>Design Professional Fees</u>
0	\$ 0 – \$99,000
1	\$ 100,000 – \$249,999
2	\$ 250,000 – \$499,999
3	\$ 500,000 – \$999,999
4	\$1,000,000 – \$1,499,999
5	\$1,500,000 – \$1,999,999
6	\$2,000,000 - \$4,999,999
7	\$5,000,000 - \$7,999,999
8	\$8,000,000 – or more

IV. TERM. The obligations of the Agency-Assisted Contractor and/or Contractor(s) with respect to SBE Program shall remain in effect until completion of all work to be performed by the Agency-Assisted Contractor in connection with the original construction of the site and any tenant improvements on the site performed by or at the behest of the Agency-Assisted Contractor unless another term is specified in the Agency-Assisted Contract or Contract.

V. FIRST CONSIDERATION. First consideration will be given by the Agency or Agency-Assisted Contractor in awarding contracts in the following order: (1) Project Area SBEs, (2) San Francisco-based SBEs (outside an Agency Project or Survey Area, but within San Francisco), and (3) Non-San Francisco-based SBEs. Non-San Francisco-based SBEs should be used to satisfy participation goals only if Project Area SBEs or San Francisco-based SBEs are not available, qualified, or if their bids or fees are significantly higher than those of non-San Francisco-based SBEs.

VI. CERTIFICATION. Only businesses certified by the Agency as SBEs will be counted toward meeting the participation goals. The SBE Certification Criteria are set forth in the Policy (as defined in Section VII below).

VII. INCORPORATION. Each contract between the Agency, Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor on the one hand, and any subcontractor on the other hand, shall physically incorporate as an attachment or exhibit and make binding on the parties to that contract, a true and correct copy of this SBE Agreement.

VIII. DEFINITIONS. Capitalized terms not otherwise specifically defined in this SBE Agreement have the meaning set forth in the Agency's SBE Policy adopted on November 16, 2004 and amended on July 21, 2009 ("**Policy**") or as defined in the Agency-Assisted Contract or Contract. In the event of a conflict in the meaning of a defined term, the SBE Policy shall govern over the Agency-Assisted Contract or Contract which in turn shall govern over this SBE Agreement.

Affiliates means an affiliation with another business concern is based on the power to control, whether exercised or not. Such factors as common ownership, common management and identity of interest (often found in members of the same family), among others, are indicators of affiliation. Power to control exists when a party or parties have 50 percent or more ownership. It may also exist with considerably less than 50 percent ownership by contractual arrangement or when one or more parties own a large share compared to other parties. Affiliated business concerns need not be in the same line of business. The calculation of a concern's size includes the employees or receipts of all affiliates.

Agency-Assisted Contract means, as applicable, the Development and Disposition Agreement ("**DDA**"), Land Disposition Agreement ("**LDA**"), Lease, Loan and Grant Agreements, personal services contracts and other similar contracts, and Operations Agreement that the Agency executed with for-profit or non-profit entities.

Agency-Assisted Contractor means any person(s), firm, partnership, corporation, or combination thereof, who is negotiating or has executed an Agency-Assisted Contract.

Amendment to a Pre-existing Contract means a material change to the terms of any contract, the term of which has not expired on or before the date that this Small Business Enterprise Policy ("**SBE Policy**") takes effect, but shall not include amendments to decrease the scope of work or decrease the amount to be paid under a contract.

Annual Receipts means "total income" (or in the case of a sole proprietorship, "gross income") plus "cost of goods sold" as these terms are defined and reported on Internal Revenue

Service tax return forms. The term does not include net capital gains or losses; taxes collected for and remitted to a taxing authority if included in gross or total income, such as sales or other taxes collected from customers and excluding taxes levied on the concern or its employees; proceeds from transactions between a concern and its domestic or foreign affiliates; and amounts collected for another by a travel agent, real estate agent, advertising agent, conference management service provider, freight forwarder or customs broker. For size determination purposes, the only exclusions from receipts are those specifically provided for in this paragraph. All other items, such as subcontractor costs, reimbursements for purchases a contractor makes at a customer's request, and employee-based costs such as payroll taxes, may not be excluded from receipts. Receipts are averaged over a concern's latest three (3) completed fiscal years to determine its average annual receipts. If a concern has not been in business for three (3) years, the average weekly revenue for the number of weeks the concern has been in business is multiplied by 52 to determine its average annual receipts.

Arbitration Party means all persons and entities who attend the arbitration hearing pursuant to Section XII, as well as those persons and entities who are subject to a default award provided that all of the requirements in Section XII.L. have been met.

Commercially Useful Function means that the business is directly responsible for providing the materials, equipment, supplies or services in the City and County of San Francisco (“City”) as required by the solicitation or request for quotes, bids or proposals. Businesses that engage in the business of providing brokerage, referral or temporary employment services shall not be deemed to perform a “commercially useful function” unless the brokerage, referral or temporary employment services are required and sought by the Agency.

Contract means any agreement between the Agency and a person(s), firm, partnership, corporation, or combination thereof, to provide or procure labor, supplies or services to, for, or on behalf of the Agency.

Contractor means any person(s), firm, partnership, corporation, or combination thereof, who is negotiating or has executed a Contract.

Non-San Francisco-based Small Business Enterprise means a SBE that has fixed offices located outside the geographical boundaries of the City.

Office” or “Offices means a fixed and established place(s) where work is performed of a clerical, administrative, professional or production nature directly pertinent to the business being certified. A temporary location or movable property or one that was established to oversee a project such as a construction project office does not qualify as an “office” under this SBE Policy. Work space provided in exchange for services (in lieu of monetary rent) does not constitute an “office.” The office is not required to be the headquarters for the business but it must be capable of providing all the services to operate the business for which SBE certification is sought. An arrangement for the right to use office space on an “as needed” basis where there is no office exclusively reserved for the business does not qualify as an office. The prospective SBE must submit a rental agreement for the office space, rent receipt or cancelled checks for rent payments. If the office space is owned by the prospective SBE, the business must submit property tax or a deed documenting ownership of the office.

Project Area Small Business Enterprise means a business that meets the above-definition of Small Business Enterprise and that: (a) has fixed offices located within the geographical boundaries of a Redevelopment Project or Survey Area where a commercially useful function is performed; (b) is listed in the Permits and License Tax Paid File with a Project Area or Survey Area business street address; (c) possesses a current Business Tax Registration Certificate at the time of the application for certification as a SBE; (d) has been located and doing business in a Project Area or Survey Area for at least six months preceding its application for certification as a SBE; and (e) has a Project Area or Survey Area office in which business is transacted that is appropriately equipped for the type of business for which the enterprise seeks certification as a SBE. Post office box numbers of residential addresses alone shall not suffice to establish a firms' location in a Project Area or Survey Area.

Project Area means an area of San Francisco that meets the requirements under Community Redevelopment Law, Health and Safety Code Section 33320.1. These areas currently include the Bayview Industrial Triangle, Bayview Hunters Point (Area B), Federal Office Building, Hunters Point Shipyard, Mission Bay (North), Mission Bay (South), Rincon Point/South Beach, South of Market, Transbay Terminal, Yerba Buena Center and Visitacion Valley.

San Francisco-based Small Business Enterprise means a SBE that: (a) has fixed offices located within the geographical boundaries of the City where a commercially useful function is performed; (b) is listed in the Permits and License Tax Paid File with a San Francisco business street address; (c) possesses a current Business Tax Registration Certificate at the time of the application for certification as a SBE; (d) has been located and doing business in the City for at least six months preceding its application for certification as a SBE; and (e) has a San Francisco office in which business is transacted that is appropriately equipped for the type of business for which the enterprise seeks certification as a SBE. Post office box numbers or residential addresses alone shall not suffice to establish a firm's status as local.

Small Business Enterprise (SBE) means an economically disadvantaged business that: is an independent and continuing business for profit; performs a commercially useful function; is owned and controlled by persons residing in the United States or its territories; has average gross annual receipts in the three years immediately preceding its application for certification as a SBE that do not exceed the following limits: (a) construction--\$14,000,000; (b) professional or personal services--\$2,000,000 and (c) suppliers--\$7,000,000; and is (or is in the process of being) certified by the Agency as a SBE and meets the other certification criteria described in the SBE application.

In order to determine whether or not a firm meets the above economic size definitions, the Agency will use the firm's three most recent business tax returns (i.e., 1040 with Schedule C for Sole Proprietorships, 1065s with K-1s for Partnerships, and 1120s for Corporations). Once a business reaches the 3-year average size threshold for the applicable industry the business ceases to be economically disadvantaged, it is not an eligible SBE and it will not be counted towards meeting SBE contracting requirements (or goals).

Survey Area means an area of San Francisco that meets the requirements of the Community Redevelopment Law, Health and Safety Code Section 33310. These areas currently include the Bayview Hunters Point Redevelopment Survey Area C.

IX. GOOD FAITH EFFORTS TO MEET SBE GOALS Compliance with the following steps will be the basis for determining if the Agency-Assisted Contractor and/or Consultant has made good faith efforts to meet the goals for SBEs:

A. Outreach. Not less than 30 days prior to the opening of bids or the selection of contractors, the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor shall:

1. **Advertise.** Advertise for SBEs interested in competing for the contract, in general circulation media, trade association publications, including timely use of the ***Bid and Contract Opportunities*** newsletter published by the City and County of San Francisco Purchasing Department and media focused specifically on SBE businesses such as the ***Small Business Exchange***, of the opportunity to submit bids or proposals and to attend a pre-bid meeting to learn about contracting opportunities.

2. **Request List of SBEs.** Request from the Agency's Contract Compliance Department a list of all known SBEs in the pertinent field(s), particularly those in the Project and Survey Areas and provide written notice to them of the opportunity to bid for contracts and to attend a pre-bid or pre-solicitation meeting to learn about contracting opportunities.

B. Pre-Solicitation Meeting. For construction contracts estimated to cost \$5,000 or more, hold a pre-bid meeting for all interested contractors not less than 15 days prior to the opening of bids or the selection of contractors for the purpose answering questions about the selection process and the specifications and requirements. Representatives of the Contract Compliance Department will also participate.

C. Follow-up. Follow up initial solicitations of interest by contacting the SBEs to determine with certainty whether the enterprises are interested in performing specific items involved in work.

D. Subdivide Work. Divide, to the greatest extent feasible, the contract work into small units to facilitate SBE participation, including, where feasible, offering items of the contract work which the Contractor would normally perform itself.

E. Provide Timely and Complete Information. The Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor shall provide SBEs with complete, adequate and ongoing information about the plans, specifications and requirements of construction work, service work and material supply work. This paragraph does not require the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor to give SBEs any information not provided to other contractors. This paragraph does require the Agency Assisted Contractor and Contractor to answer carefully and completely all reasonable questions asked by SBEs and to undertake every good faith effort to ensure that SBEs understand the nature and the scope of the work.

F. Good Faith Negotiations. Negotiate with SBEs in good faith and demonstrate that SBEs were not rejected as unqualified without sound reasons based on a thorough investigation of their capacities.

G. Bid Shopping Prohibited. Prohibit the shopping of the bids. Where the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor learns that bid shopping has occurred, it shall treat such bid shopping as a material breach of contract.

H. Other Assistance. Assist SBEs in their efforts to obtain bonds, lines of credit and insurance. The Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor(s) shall require no more stringent bond or insurance standards of SBEs than required of other business enterprises.

I. Delivery Scheduling. Establish delivery schedules which encourage participation of SBEs.

J. Encouragement to Subcontractors. The Agency-Assisted Contractor and its Contractor(s) shall encourage and assist higher tier subcontractors in undertaking good faith efforts to utilize SBEs as lower tier subcontractors.

K. Use of Other Resources. Use the services of SBE associations, federal, state and local SBE assistance offices and other organizations that provide assistance in the recruitment and placement of SBEs, including the Small Business Administration and the Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce. However, only SBEs certified by the Agency shall count towards meeting the participation goal.

L. Replacement of SBE. If during the term of this SBE Agreement, it becomes necessary to replace an SBE due to the failure or inability of the SBE to perform the required services or timely delivery the required supplies, then First Consideration should be given to another certified SBE, if available, as a replacement.

X. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

A. No Retaliation. No employee shall be discharged or in any other manner discriminated against by the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor because such employee has filed any complaint or instituted or caused to be instituted any proceeding under or relating to enforcement of this Agreement.

B. No Discrimination. There shall be no discrimination against or segregation of any person, or group of persons, on account of race, color, religion, creed, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender identity, age, marital or domestic partner status, sexual orientation or disability (including HIV or AIDS status) in the performance of an Agency-Assisted Contract or Contract. The Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor will ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, creed, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender identity, age, marital or domestic partner status, sexual orientation or disability (including HIV or AIDS status) or other protected class status. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay

or other forms of compensation; selection for training, including apprenticeship; and provision of any services or accommodations.

XI. PROCEDURES

A. Notice to Agency. The Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor(s) shall provide the Agency with the following information within 10 days of awarding a contract or selecting subconsultant:

1. the nature of the contract, e.g. type and scope of work to be performed;
2. the dollar amount of the contract;
3. the name, address, license number, gender and ethnicity of the person to whom the contract was awarded; And
4. SBE status of each subcontractor or subconsultant.

B. Affidavit. If the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor(s) contend that the contract has been awarded to a SBE, the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor(s) shall, at the same time also submit to the Agency a SBE Application for Certification and its accompanying Affidavit completed by the SBE owner. However, a SBE that was previously certified by the Agency shall submit only the short SBE Eligibility Statement.

C. Good Faith Documentation. If the 50% SBE Participation Goals are not met in each category (Construction, Professional Services and Suppliers), the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor(s) shall meet and confer with the Agency at a date and time set by the Agency. If the issue of the Agency-Assisted Contractor's or Contractor's good faith efforts is not resolved at this meeting, the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor shall submit to the Agency within five (5) days, a declaration under penalty of perjury containing the following documentation with respect to the good faith efforts ("**Submission**"):

1. A report showing the responses, rejections, proposals and bids (including the amount of the bid) received from SBEs, including the date each response, proposal or bid was received. This report shall indicate the action taken by the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor(s) in response to each proposal or bid received from SBEs, including the reasons(s) for any rejections.

2. A report showing the date that the bid was received, the amount bid by and the amount to be paid (if different) to the non-SBE contractor that was selected. If the non-SBE contractor who was selected submitted more than one bid, the amount of each bid and the date that each bid was received shall be shown in the report. If the bidder asserts that there were reasons other than the respective amounts bid for not awarding the contract to an SBE, the report shall also contain an explanation of these reasons.

3. Documentation of advertising for and contacts with SBEs, contractor associations or development centers, or any other agency which disseminates bid and contract information to small business enterprises.

4. Copies of initial and follow-up correspondence with SBEs, contractor associations and other agencies, which assist SBEs.
5. A description of the assistance provided SBE firms relative to obtaining and explaining plans, specifications and contract requirements.
6. A description of the assistance provided to SBEs with respect to bonding, lines of credit, etc.
7. A description of efforts to negotiate or a statement of the reasons for not negotiating with SBEs.
8. A description of any divisions of work undertaken to facilitate SBE participation.
9. Documentation of efforts undertaken to encourage subcontractors to obtain small business enterprise participation at a lower tier.
10. A report which shows for each private project and each public project (without a SBE program) undertaken by the bidder in the preceding 12 months, the total dollar amount of the contract and the percentage of the contract dollars awarded to SBEs and the percentage of contract dollars awarded to non-SBEs.
11. Documentation of any other efforts undertaken to encourage participation by small business enterprises.

D. Presumption of Good Faith Efforts. If the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor(s) achieves the Participation Goals, it will not be required to submit Good Faith Effort documentation.

E. Waiver. Any of the SBE requirements may be waived if the Agency determines that a specific requirement is not relevant to the particular situation at issue, that SBEs were not available, or that SBEs were charging an unreasonable price.

F. SBE Determination. The Agency shall exercise its reasonable judgment in determining whether a business, whose name is submitted by the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor(s) as a SBE, is owned and controlled by a SBE. A firm's appearance in any of the Agency's current directories will be considered by the Agency as prima facie evidence that the firm is a SBE. Where the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor(s) makes a submission the Agency shall make a determination, as to whether or not a business which the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor(s) claims is a SBE is in fact owned and controlled by San Francisco-based SBEs. If the Agency determines that the business is not a SBE, the Agency shall give the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor a Notice of Non-Qualification and provide the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor with a reasonable period (not to exceed 20 days) in which to meet with the Agency and if necessary make a Submission, concerning its good faith efforts. If the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor disagrees with the Agency's Notice of Non-Qualification, the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor may request arbitration pursuant to Section XII.

G. Agency Investigation. Where the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor makes a Submission and, as a result, the Agency has cause to believe that the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor has failed to undertake good faith efforts, the Agency shall conduct an investigation, and after affording the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor notice and an opportunity to be heard, shall recommend such remedies and sanctions as it deems necessary to correct any alleged violation(s). The Agency shall give the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor a written Notice of Non-Compliance setting forth its findings and recommendations. If the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor disagree with the findings and recommendations of the Agency as set forth in the Notice of Non-Compliance, the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor may request arbitration pursuant to this SBE Agreement.

XII. ARBITRATION OF DISPUTES.

A. Arbitration by AAA. Any dispute regarding this SBE Agreement shall be determined by arbitration through the American Arbitration Association, San Francisco, California office ("AAA") in accordance with the Commercial Rules of the AAA then applicable, but subject to the further revisions thereof. The arbitration shall take place in the City and County of San Francisco.

B. Demand for Arbitration. Where the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor disagrees with the Agency's Notice of Non-Qualification or Notice of Non-Compliance, **the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor shall have seven (7) business days, in which to file a Demand for Arbitration**, unless otherwise stipulated by the parties. The Demand for Arbitration shall contain at a minimum: (1) a cover letter demanding arbitration under this provision and identifying any entities believed to be involved in the dispute; (2) a copy of the Notice of Non-Qualification or Notice of Non-Compliance; and (3) any written response to the Notice of Non-Qualification or Notice of Non-Compliance. If the Agency-Assisted Contractor and Contractor fails to file a timely Demand for Arbitration, the Agency-Assisted Contractor and Contractor shall be deemed to have accepted and to be bound by the finding of Non-Qualification or the findings and recommendations contained in the Notice of Non-Compliance.

C. Parties' Participation. The Agency and all persons or entities who have a contractual relationship affected by the dispute shall be made an Arbitration Party. Any such person or entity not made an Arbitration Party in the Demand for Arbitration may intervene as an Arbitration Party and in turn may name any other such person or entity as an Arbitration Party, provided however, that the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor made an initial timely Demand for Arbitration pursuant to Section XII.B. above.

D. Agency Request to AAA. Within seven (7) business days after service of a Demand for Arbitration, the Agency shall transmit to AAA a copy of the Demand for Arbitration, the Notice of Non-Qualification or Notice of Non-Compliance, and any written response thereto from the affected party. Such material shall be made part of the arbitration record.

E. Selection of Arbitrator. One arbitrator shall arbitrate the dispute. The arbitrator shall be selected from the panel of arbitrators from AAA by the parties to the arbitration in accordance with the AAA rules. The parties shall act diligently in this regard. If the Arbitration Parties fail to agree on an arbitrator within seven (7) days from the receipt of the panel, AAA

shall appoint the arbitrator. A condition to the selection of any arbitrator shall be that person's agreement to render a decision within ninety (90) days from the arbitrator's fulfillment of the disclosure requirements set forth in California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1281.9.

F. Setting of Arbitration Hearing. A hearing shall be held within ninety (90) days of the date of the filing of the Request, unless otherwise agreed by the parties. The arbitrator shall set the date, time and place for the arbitration hearing(s) within the prescribed time periods by giving notice by hand delivery or first class mail to each Arbitration Party.

G. Discovery. In arbitration proceedings hereunder, discovery shall be permitted in accordance with Code of Civil Procedure §1283.05.

H. Burden of Proof. The burden of proof with respect to SBE status and/or Good Faith Efforts shall be on the Agency-Assisted Contractor and/or Contractor. The burden of proof as to all other alleged breaches by the Agency-Assisted Contractor and/or Contractor shall be on the Agency.

I. California Law Applies. Except where expressly stated to the contrary in this SBE Agreement, California law, including the California Arbitration Act, Code of Civil Procedure §§ 1280 through 1294.2, shall govern all arbitration proceedings.

J. Arbitration Remedies and Sanctions. The arbitrator may impose only the remedies and sanctions set forth below:

1. Order specific, reasonable actions and procedures, in the form of a temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction or permanent injunction, to mitigate the effects of the non-compliance and/or to bring any non-compliant Arbitration Party into compliance.

2. Require any Arbitration Party to refrain from entering into new contracts related to work covered by the Agency-Assisted Contract or this SBE Agreement, or from granting extensions or other modifications to existing contracts related to services covered by the Agency-Assisted Contract or this SBE Agreement, other than those minor modifications or extensions necessary to enable compliance with this SBE Agreement.

3. Direct any Arbitration Party to cancel, terminate, suspend or cause to be cancelled, terminated or suspended, any contract or portion(s) thereof for failure of any party to the arbitration to comply with any of the SBE Program requirements in the Agency-Assisted Contract or this SBE Agreement. Contracts may be continued upon the condition that a program for future compliance is approved by the Agency.

4. If any Arbitration Party is found to be in willful breach of its obligations hereunder, the arbitrator may impose a monetary sanction not to exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or ten percent (10%) of the base amount of the breaching party's contract, whichever is less, for each such willful breach; provided that, in determining the amount of any monetary sanction to be assessed, the arbitrator shall consider the financial capacity of the breaching party. No monetary sanction shall be imposed pursuant to this paragraph for the first willful breach of this SBE Agreement unless the breaching party has failed to cure after being provided notice and a reasonable opportunity to cure. Monetary sanctions may be imposed for

subsequent willful breaches by any Arbitration Party whether or not the breach is subsequently cured. For purposes of this paragraph, "willful breach" means a knowing and intentional breach.

5. Direct any Arbitration Party to produce and provide to the Agency any records, data or reports which are necessary to determine if a violation has occurred and/or to monitor the performance of any Arbitration Party.

K. Arbitrator's Decision. The arbitrator shall make his or her award within twenty (20) days after the date that the hearing is completed; provided that where a temporary restraining order is sought, the arbitrator shall make his or her award not later than twenty-four (24) hours after the hearing on the motion. The arbitrator shall send the decision by certified or registered mail to each Arbitration Party.

L. Default Award; No Requirement to Seek an Order Compelling Arbitration. The arbitrator may enter a default award against any person or entity who fails to appear at the hearing, provided that: (1) said person or entity received actual notice of the hearing; and (2) the complaining party has a proof of service for the absent person or entity. In order to obtain a default award, the complaining party need not first seek or obtain an order to arbitrate the controversy pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure §1281.2.

M. Arbitrator Lacks Power to Modify. Except as otherwise provided, the arbitrator shall have no power to add to, subtract from, disregard, modify or otherwise alter the terms of the Agency-Assisted Contract, this SBE Agreement or any other agreement between the Agency, the Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor or to negotiate new agreements or provisions between the parties.

N. Jurisdiction/Entry of Judgment. The inquiry of the arbitrator shall be restricted to the particular controversy which gave rise to the Demand for Arbitration. A decision of the arbitrator issued hereunder shall be final and binding upon all Arbitration Parties. The non-prevailing Arbitration Party(ies) shall pay the arbitrator's fees and related costs of arbitration (or reimburse the Arbitration Parties that advanced such arbitration fees and costs). Each Arbitration Party shall pay its own attorneys' fees, provided, however, that attorneys' fees may be awarded to the prevailing party if the arbitrator finds that the arbitration action was instituted, litigated, or defended in bad faith. Judgment upon the arbitrator's decision may be entered in any court of competent jurisdiction.

O. Exculpatory Clause. Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor (regardless of tier) expressly waive any and all claims against the Agency for damages, direct or indirect, including, without limitation, claims relative to the commencement, continuance and completion of construction and/or providing professional and consulting services ("the Work"). Agency-Assisted Contractor or Contractor (regardless of tier) acknowledge and agree that the procedures set forth herein for dealing with alleged breaches or failure to comply with the obligations and requirements of this SBE Agreement are reasonable and have been anticipated by the parties in securing financing, in inviting, submitting and receiving bids and proposals for the planning, design and construction of the improvements and in determining the times for commencement and completion of the planning, design and construction and/or for providing consulting, professional or personal services.

P. Severability. The provisions of this SBE Agreement are declared to be separate and severable. The invalidity of any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or portion of this SBE Agreement or the invalidity of the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this SBE Agreement or the validity of their application to other persons or circumstances.

Q. Arbitration Notice: BY INITIALING IN THE SPACE BELOW YOU ARE AGREEING TO HAVE ANY DISPUTE ARISING OUT OF THE MATTERS INCLUDED IN THE "ARBITRATION OF DISPUTES" PROVISION DECIDED BY NEUTRAL ARBITRATION AS PROVIDED BY CALIFORNIA LAW AND YOU ARE GIVING UP ANY RIGHTS YOU MIGHT POSSESS TO HAVE THE DISPUTE LITIGATED IN COURT OR JURY TRIAL. BY INITIALING IN THE SPACE BELOW YOU ARE GIVING UP YOUR JUDICIAL RIGHTS TO DISCOVERY AND APPEAL, UNLESS SUCH RIGHTS ARE SPECIFICALLY INCLUDED IN THE "ARBITRATION OF DISPUTES" PROVISION. IF YOU REFUSE TO SUBMIT TO ARBITRATION AFTER AGREEING TO THIS PROVISION, YOU MAY BE COMPELLED TO ARBITRATE UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE. YOUR AGREEMENT TO THIS ARBITRATION PROVISION IS VOLUNTARY.

WE HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING AND AGREE TO SUBMIT DISPUTES ARISING OUT OF THE MATTERS INCLUDED IN THE "ARBITRATION OF DISPUTES" PROVISION TO NEUTRAL ARBITRATION.

Agency

Agency-Assisted Contractor

XIII. AGREEMENT EXECUTION

Note: If you are seeking Agency certification as a SBE, you should fill out the "Application for SBE Certification". If you are already an Agency certified SBE, you should execute the "SBE Eligibility Statement".

I, hereby certify that I have authority to execute this SBE Agreement on behalf of the business, organization or entity listed below and that it will use good faith efforts to comply with the Agency's 50% SBE Participation Goals. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above statement is true and correct.

Signature

Date

Print Your Name

Title

Company Name and Phone Number