



CITY OF PITTSBURGH
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
MAYOR ED GAINEY

November 1, 2024

President and Members of Council City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Dear President and Members of Council:

Enclosed is proposed legislation authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Cooperation Agreement or amendments thereto, with the County of Allegheny, the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh, the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, the Stadium Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority, and the Public Parking Authority of Pittsburgh to contribute to the cost of the Pittsburgh Regional Disparity Study. The City's contribution shall not exceed Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000), payable over one year.

The last disparity study completed by the City of Pittsburgh was conducted over two decades ago, with data being used from 1996-1998. The new study will be a critical tool to help create more equitable opportunities for small diverse businesses in our city by:

- Determines the relative availability of minority-owned and women-owned businesses that are ready, willing and able to do business with the Study Consortium members within the relevant market area(s);
- Identifies the nature of, and determines the extent to which, any barriers may have resulted in disparities in the utilization of available M/WBEs in public and private sector contracts;
- Analyzes the contracting and procurement data of each Study Consortium member to determine its respective M/WBE utilization, as well as the Study Consortium's collective utilization as a whole, of minority-owned and women-owned business enterprises;
- Determines the extent to which any identified disparities in the utilization of available minority and women owned businesses by any member of the Study Consortium, and by the Study Consortium as a whole, might be impacted by discrimination;
- Identifies and summarizes related findings from previous disparity studies and research encompassing the relevant marketplace from which Study Consortium members routinely purchase goods and services;
- Analyzes the effectiveness of various race- and gender-neutral remedies and practices previously undertaken in the relevant marketplace; and
- Recommends programs, policies, and practices that are narrowly tailored to remedy the effects of any identified discrimination and to reduce or eliminate any other marketplace barriers that adversely affect the utilization of such minority and women owned businesses by Study Consortium members.

Thank you in advance for your favorable consideration of this important legislation.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ed Gainey".

Ed Gainey, Mayor
City of Pittsburgh
Pronouns: He/Him/His