ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & DIVERSITY COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SCHOOL BOARD REPORT
MAY 17, 2022
Regular School Board Meeting

Good morning, Superintendent Cartwright, Chair Levinson, Board Members, and staff. My name is Carlton Crawl, and this report is on behalf of the Small Business Advisory Committee, also known as SBAC, managed by the Economic Development & Diversity Compliance Department.

At the April 28th meeting, SBAC member Carolyn Jones spoke about the *Alyssa's Alert Mobile Duress Alert App* on behalf of Board Member Alhadeff. As we understand it, Ms. Alhadeff's goal is for the app to be accessible everywhere to protect all children. And Ms. Alhadeff, we applaud you for this safety tool for our children. One question we have is, if the app will be shared with Miami-Dade and Palm Beach County Schools to extend its reach for children in the tri-county. We believe this template would help with implementation for other school districts.

Switching gears, as it relates to reporting requirements for prime contractors in all industry categories, we are reviewing a draft update of *Document 00467_SDOP Guidelines*. This document governs small and local business participation in District contracts. And it is currently being updated to incorporate compliance reporting requirements in the SDOP Management System powered by B2G.

At our meeting, Mr. Ballou shared District small and local spend data by procurement category. In Q3, spend yielded $66.5 million, bringing the year-to-date total to $142 million. For context, the certified spend last fiscal year, was $100 million. The cumulative FY 22 YTD total of $142 million represents a 40% increase over last fiscal year. And the year is not yet completed. This is a testament to the good work of Mr. Ballou and the Economic Development & Diversity Compliance Department.

As a committee, we expressed concern about the categories showing low diversity spend. They include Academics, Technology, Transportation, and Human Resources. We are pleased to know that Mr. Ballou is working directly with the departments to move the needle in these areas. In fact, he shared there is progress, as a result of EDDC in-reach efforts. In Technology, the entire small/local spend last fiscal year was $1.5 million and currently, as of Q3, the spend amount is $4M. Also, last year, in Academics, the spend was $700k and as of Q3, it is $1.8M.

Mr. Ballou also reported on the *Educational Services for Charter Schools* bid, where the main awardee, out of three, is an African American-owned firm.

Also, EDDC is assessing supplier engagement, category by category. They also are assisting suppliers, individually, with DemandStar setup to ensure they are receiving notifications of bid opportunities.

Lastly, we spoke about existing vacancies on SBAC that have occurred due to absenteeism, and as defined in Policy 1.7. We are urging Board Members with vacancies to name a replacement as quickly as possible, and we would like to welcome our newest member, Mr. Wellington De Faria, appointed by Board Member Foganholi.

Thank you for your time.

DRAFT