

HAMPTON VA

Disparity Study ANNOUNCEMENT

MGT of America, Inc., a nationally recognized research consulting firm, is conducting a second generation Disparity Study for the City of Hampton and Schools (City). The information the City is seeking includes, but not limited to:

- Whether there are disparities between the availability and utilization of minority and women-owned business enterprises (M/WBE).
- Whether or not firms face difficulties or barriers when bidding as prime contractors, vendors, subcontractors, or suppliers.
- Whether there are disparities in the utilization of M/WBEs by prime contractors on projects where there are no M/WBE goals.

The study will examine 1) the procurement of services and products by the City, 2) the subcontracting practices of prime contractors/vendors who do business with the City, and 3) the anecdotal evidence collected from a broad cross section of M/WBE and non-M/WBE firms on their experience doing business or attempting to do business with the City. The study will analyze the procurement of construction, architecture and engineering, professional services, other services and goods and supplies.

The study is necessitated in part by the 1989 U.S. Supreme Court's decision in the case of *City of Richmond v. J.A. Croson* that imposed legal requirements on jurisdictions to establish a "compelling interest" to support the establishment of a minority and women business program. The results of this study will determine if a compelling interest exists.

This is a great opportunity for you to provide feedback regarding your experience doing business with or attempting to do businesses with the City or its prime contractors/vendors. Businesses may be asked to participate in one or more of the following activities that are to be scheduled over the next several months:

- Surveys of Vendors
- Personal Interviews
- Focus Groups
- Public Hearing

NOTICE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: Persons with disabilities who plan to participate in one of these activities and who may need auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters for persons who are deaf, readers, large print or Braille, also non-English speaking persons who may need assistance are requested to contact Vernetta Mitchell at 704-531-4099.

Individuals or business owners with questions or comments about this study can contact:

Vernetta Mitchell
MGT of America, Inc.
(704) 531-4099
Vmitchel@mgtamer.com

The City of Hampton and Schools and MGT of America would like to thank you in advance for your participation in and support of this important study.

To verify the information in this announcement contact Jessica Spencer, Minority Business Coordinator at (757) 728-5179, or jrspencer@hampton.gov