

# **Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport**

## **Port of Gulfport Restoration Program**

### **Minority Participation Plan**

The following is the minority participation plan, as practiced by the Port of Gulfport Restoration Program. This plan will continue to be implemented as appropriate by the Program for the purpose of encouraging minority, small, women, veteran, and other disadvantaged businesses to participate in the Program as either a prime or a sub consultant or contractor.

1. MSPA will hold Pre-Submittal Meetings for all solicitations for the Port of Gulfport Restoration Program.
2. MSPA will publicize and promote meetings and solicitations in:
  - a. *The Mississippi Link*,
  - b. *Sun Herald* (online and print versions),
  - c. The online "Events" listing at [www.sunherald.com](http://www.sunherald.com),
  - d. The Mississippi Economic Council – [www.msmec.com](http://www.msmec.com),
  - e. The Port of Gulfport Restoration Program web site - [www.portofthefuture.com](http://www.portofthefuture.com),
  - f. *Gulf Coast Good News* – [www.goodnewsgc.com](http://www.goodnewsgc.com).
3. MSPA will announce solicitation opportunities at the Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce and Gulf Coast Business Council meetings.
4. MSPA will utilize industry channels such as the American General Contractors Plan Room, Reed Construction Data's Document Processing Center, and the Dodge Plan Room to communicate procurement opportunities.
5. MSPA will utilize the services of the MDA Minority Business Division which will assist the Port with distribution of the information through a database that includes a number of minority associations that receive information from MDA as a part of the mission of the division as well as the Mississippi Procurement Technical Assistance Program, including:
  - a. PUL Alliance (Tupelo),
  - b. MS Minority Contractors Association,
  - c. Mississippi Minority Business Alliance,
  - d. National Supplier Development Council (Local Office MBEC in Biloxi, Mike Andersen, Director, 2318 Pass Rd St. #4 Biloxi, MS 39531, 228-385-9324).

6. MSPA will utilize the services of the Mississippi Minority Business Enterprise Center.
7. MSPA will utilize the websites [www.portofthefuture.com](http://www.portofthefuture.com) and [www.shipmspa.com](http://www.shipmspa.com) to provide procurement notices and updates, solicitations, and meeting notices.
8. Positive efforts as required by the CDBG program shall be made by respondents to Requests for Qualifications in the consultant procurement process to utilize minority, small, women, veteran, and other disadvantaged businesses as sources of materials, supplies and services. Such efforts should be designed to allow these sources the maximum feasible opportunity to compete for subcontracts. Documentation of efforts made to utilize minority, small, women, veteran, and other disadvantaged businesses will be required to be maintained by all respondents.
9. Respondents to Requests for Qualifications in the consultant procurement process will be strongly encouraged to mentor minority, small, women, veteran, and other disadvantaged businesses. If applicable, respondents will be asked to submit a mentoring plan detailing how respondent will assist disadvantaged business by imparting desired and beneficial knowledge and capability to disadvantaged firm.
10. The system for evaluating firms responding to procurement actions by MSPA will allow an advantage to respondents which encourage and execute partnerships with minority-owned, small, woman-owned, veteran-owned or otherwise designated disadvantaged businesses including meaningful mentoring programs. The evaluation system would encourage the following:
  - a. Evidence of an agreed upon partnership with a firm recognized as a minority-owned, small, woman-owned, veteran-owned or disadvantaged business.
  - b. Documentation of attempts to provide opportunity for minority, small, women, veteran, and other disadvantaged businesses.
  - c. A mentoring plan detailing how respondent will assist disadvantaged businesses by imparting desired and beneficial knowledge and capability to disadvantaged firms.