

New York City Council

Memorandum in Support of Legislation

This memorandum is authored by the sponsor and explains the need for the legislation referenced below, in accordance with Rule 6.00(d) of the Rules of the Council.

Introduction Number:

LSR 8560

Prime Sponsors:

Council Members Farías, Brooks-Powers, and Thomas-Henry

Bill Title:

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to agency outreach to businesses in minority- and women-owned business enterprise categories for which agencies fail to achieve utilization goals, and technical amendments in relation thereto

Submitted by:

Council Member Amanda Farías

Justification:

New York City has long recognized the importance of uplifting minority- and women-owned business enterprises (M/WBEs) for economic, historical, and moral reasons. This commitment is reflected in the utilization goals established for City agencies, which are designed to support the growth of businesses that have been historically excluded from government contracts. Agencies are expected to meet these goals, but often fall short. In some cases, this is due to internal shortcomings; in others, it is because businesses are unaware of the opportunities and preferences available to them. To help close this gap and ensure that utilization goals are met, this bill requires agencies to conduct outreach and education specifically tailored to businesses in M/WBE categories for which agencies fail to achieve M/WBE utilization goals. Agencies would be required to partner with the Office of Ethnic and Community Media and community-based organizations (CBOs) to deliver this outreach, which would inform businesses about issues related to agency procurement. The bill also includes technical amendments to the numbering and headings of certain sections of the contracts and purchases chapter of the Administrative Code to improve clarity and consistency.