



Accomplishments/Progress on 2019 Adopted Priorities

2019 Adopted Priorities	Accomplishments
<p>Government Contracting</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Task Force Members received presentation from the Department of Public Works (DPW) on upcoming City Contracts in the pipeline and provided feedback. 2. The Task Force received several updates on DPW’s newly launched Minor Public Works Contract Prequalification Program and the Public Works Academy, a series of opportunity awareness seminars and workshops educating small and disadvantaged firms on the City’s contracting process, which help reduce barriers of entry for small businesses who wish to conduct business with the city. 3. The Task Force received an update and demonstration on the City’s new procurement portal Biddingo from Finance Deputy Director Jennifer Chiang and CIP Procurement Manager David French. Task Force provided feedback to improve accessibility and help if needed by user. 4. The Task force submitted recommendations considered in PWD’s update on the City’s DBE Contracting Program to the Community & Economic Development Committee. SBATF’s seven recommendations included strengthen education outreach and support, continue cultivation of local chamber relationships, offer compliance education and resources for small businesses, increase access to data across departments, and create a matchmaking /mentorship program for small and underrepresented businesses. 5. As Chair of the Taskforce, Vice Mayor Jones submitted a supplemental memo to council requesting staff to adjust the City’s privacy policy to allow the contact information of registered businesses available within the City, thereby creating an email database network for all businesses operating within the City that is accessible to Council Districts and Departments to further enhance communication and outreach to small businesses. This memo was unanimously accepted by Council; staff was requested to return to Council in April 2020 with an update or potential proposal.



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<p>Increase awareness of Small Business Resources</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. The Taskforce received a presentation on recent studies of Jose’s Small Business and Opportunity Project as an effort to explore how Public Works can promote small businesses in San Jose. The project’s report outlined 10 options to assist local disadvantaged groups and how to appropriately communicate with them. The Task Force Members provided feedback and suggestions on how the project can further acknowledge barriers to Small Business Resources. 7. Economic Development Officer Dhez Woodworth provided information from a recent San Jose Small Business Studies. Task Force Members responded with feedback on what defines a small business and the continued need for language and translation resources. 8. Economic Development Analyst Victor Farlie provided statistical updates on small business displacement in San Jose. He updated the Task Force on the City’s Anti-Displacement Strategy and answered questions regarding the effects of displacement. Task Force Members suggested continuing to work on communication with small businesses to bring about policy recommendations that could mitigate the effect of displacement. 9. Vice Mayor Jones submitted a policy memo proposing that the City’s Legislative Program include evaluation and potential advocacy to update the State’s Relocation Assistance Program. This would establish that persons and businesses are eligible for compensation to displacement. 10. The Taskforce received a presentation on the City’s Business Coaching Center and the services available to help small businesses navigate through the permit, registration, and inspection process. Taskforce members commended the services available and recommended more resources be dedicated to this program and its expansion.
<p>Make strides in informing small businesses of Compliance Issues due to cultural barriers</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. The Language and Cultural Competency Barriers Subcommittee was established and met at least three times to address and compile a report on strategies to consider for addressing cultural competency barriers of small businesses in San Jose. The report summarized key information about barriers between government and local business relations. The report



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Small Business Advisory Task Force
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	<p>also highlighted themes of trust, community support, the value of building relationships, and providing education and resources. Task Force Members accepted the report and followed up with suggestions on how these findings could be implemented into the SBATF's priorities for the following year.</p> <p>12. The Taskforce was presented with an overview of the City's Business Tax Amnesty Program as an effort to encourage small businesses to pay overdue business taxes in exchange for forgiveness of penalties. The Taskforce recognized that the program allows delinquent and minority businesses faced with language, cultural, and government unfamiliarity with an opportunity to better understand the tax program. The Task force provided suggestions regarding marketing material, outreach, language translations, and the value of sharing other city services with the targeted businesses.</p>
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