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2018 DISPARITY STUDY PUBLIC HEARING ANNOUNCEMENT

Griffin & Strong, P.C. ("GSPC") is under contract with the City of Tacoma, WA ("City") to conduct the 2018 Disparity Study and analysis of the Tacoma LEAP and SBE Programs. The Disparity Study will review the City's procurement process and policies and analyze participation in awards by small, disadvantaged, minority, and women owned business enterprises.

GSPC will be soliciting testimony from business owners and community members regarding their experiences, both positive and negative, with the City of Tacoma SBE and LEAP programs, and doing business in, and with, the City of Tacoma. at two (2) public hearings. These anecdotes will be utilized to assist GSPC in determining whether equal access has been provided to all businesses attempting to do business with the City of Tacoma.

The public hearings will take place at the following locations:

Public Hearing Session I
Wednesday, December 13th
12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
Tacoma Public Library – Swasey Branch
7001 Sixth Avenue
Tacoma, WA 98406

Public Hearing Session II
Thursday, December 14th
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Tacoma Housing Authority – Bay Terrace Meeting Room
2550 South G Street
Tacoma, WA. 98405

We invite you to come participate and speak candidly about your experiences doing business or attempting to do business with the City of Tacoma at one of our hearings. Please note that this meeting is being presided over by Griffin & Strong, P.C. and not the City of Tacoma. GSPC will not be soliciting questions, only comments, and GSPC will not be responding to commentary except to gain more clarity.

Also, please be aware that everything said during this hearing will be a part of the public record and all comments will be recorded and potentially utilized as evidence for the 2018 Disparity Study. We encourage you to register using the link below. Registration is free and open to the public but is not mandatory. To register please visit:

<https://tacomadisparitystudy.eventbrite.com>

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact GSPC at TacomaStudy@gspclaw.com or Deputy Project Manager, Sterling Johnson, at sterling@gspclaw.com or (678) 364-2962 ext. 104.

Griffin & Strong, P.C. is a law and public policy consulting firm based in Atlanta, GA. Since 1992, the firm has represented individual clients, small businesses, corporations, and government entities in public policy consulting, legislation, contract compliance, supplier diversity consulting, and disparity studies.