Required Information

Name of Agency/Authority
Schenectady Metroplex Development Authority (SMDA)

If “Other” Agency/Authority:
Enter Name of Agency/Authority

Commissioner (or equivalent):
Ray Gillen, Chairman; Jayme B. Lahut, Executive Director

Chief Counsel:
N/A

Chief Financial Officer (or equivalent):
Maureen Behrens, Director of Finance

Primary SDVOB Compliance Point of Contact:
David Hogenkamp

Email Address of Primary SDVOB Compliance Point of Contact:
dhogenkamp@schenectadymetroplex.org

Narrative (maximum of 120 words) description of the agency/authority efforts throughout the calendar year to promote the utilization of SDVOBs with respect to state contracts and subcontracts to such businesses.

In the procurement of goods and services, the Authority promotes economic development opportunities for local businesses as well as the New York State Executive law Article 17-B goal of 6% for SDVOBs.

We continue to work with Schenectady County’s Affirmative Action Department and City of Schenectady’s Affirmative Action Officer to provide procurement opportunities. The Authority helps expedite certification for businesses that meet SDVOB criteria.

The Authority’s outreach efforts include utilizing OGS’s SDVOB database to identify SDVOBs and participating in local events whenever possible to educate businesses regarding potential opportunities. The Authority includes SDVOB contract language in competitive procurement contracts and purchases. We work with private developers to identify local SDVOBs.

This past year has been challenging for the Authority due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With County sales tax receipts lower than expected, the Authority has been operating with a reduced budget and lower capacity, which has impacted our ability to provide financial assistance to projects and/or influence and encourage developers’ use of SDVOB vendors.

Our utilization rate is currently 0%, having made no payments to SDVOBs over the past four quarters. We hope to get closer to the goal of 6% in the future as additional SDVOBs are registered, specifically those that are local to Schenectady County, and we will work more closely with the Division of Service-Disabled Veterans’ Business Development to identify SDVOBs for our projects.

Should you have a specific question or need more detail, please contact the NYS Office of General Services Division of Service-Disabled Veterans’ Business Development:

Website: https://ogs.ny.gov/veterans
Email: VeteransDevelopment@ogs.ny.gov
Phone: (518) 474-2015