



City of Cleveland

Frank G. Jackson, Mayor

Office of the Mayor
Cleveland City Hall
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Dear Business Enterprise:


For the last eighteen months I have championed "self help" as the best strategy to not only sustain the City of Cleveland during this economic climate, but also to help move Cleveland forward and create business and job opportunities in the City. "Self help" means to invest in the local economy by procuring goods and services from local companies and by hiring local employees. I have advocated this approach because it allows the City's businesses and our local workforce to benefit from the hundreds of millions of dollars spent each year by City government and local businesses.

Contracting is one strategy that the City of Cleveland is using to promote local economic investment and inclusion. In June 2008, the City of Cleveland Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) expanded its program to include a third business enterprise certification, Cleveland Small Business (CSB). After one year of operating this program, OEO is now conducting an evaluation to gauge the impact and outcomes of the CSB designation.

The criteria for the program, including number of employees and gross revenue, are central to the evaluation. Once the analysis is complete and any appropriate revisions are incorporated, business owners will be notified and may be asked to reapply for certification.

If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Natoya J. Walker, Acting Director, Office of Equal Opportunity, at 216-664-4150.

Sincerely,


Frank G. Jackson, Mayor
City of Cleveland