

**City of Milwaukee  
Department of Public Works**

**Residents Preference Program Provisions**

I. General

- A. In accordance with Chapter 309 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances, residents preference hiring is required for all construction contracting activities of the Department of Public Works. The ordinance requires that 40% of WORKER HOURS worked on a DPW contract be performed by UNEMPLOYED or UNDEREMPLOYED RESIDENTS of the City and that 25% of these hours be performed by unemployed or underemployed residents who maintain their permanent residence in zip codes established as high-poverty, as determined by the city clerk, except in special cases where the Commissioner of Public Works determines there is sufficient reason to impose lesser levels of participation. For every high-poverty resident worker hour exceeding the requirements listed above, one-and-one-half hours will be credited toward the total RPP hours of the contract. Further, the Commissioner of Public Works may increase the percentage of RESIDENT worker participation to more than 40% on specific contracts. For this contract, bidders are required to show that the minimum percent of WORKER HOURS, as listed in the acknowledgements section/page and/or the Official Notice document will be performed by UNEMPLOYED or UNDEREMPLOYED RESIDENTS of the City. Up to one-third of required worker hours may be achieved by documenting the use of UNEMPLOYED or UNDEREMPLOYED RESIDENTS on concurrent projects in any Wisconsin county, undertaken by the contractor where such compliance is not required, or by hiring UNEMPLOYED or UNDEREMPLOYED RESIDENTS on a full-time permanent basis for non-construction job categories connected to the project. Such adjustments must be proposed in an affidavit on a form provided by the department setting forth the facts upon which the request for adjustment is based.
- B. The contractor, prior to commencing work, shall submit an affidavit (Form I) for proof of residency for all employees utilized by the contractor and subcontractors to meet the Residents Preference Program requirements, stating that each employee is either UNEMPLOYED or UNDEREMPLOYED and is a RESIDENT of the City. The contractor shall prepare and submit accurate and timely resident utilization forms and reports to the Department of Public Works. Time Reports shall be submitted within ten (10) days following completion of work, or every three months, whichever comes first. The reports shall identify the name, address, race, gender, work classification, wage rates and hours worked of all employees utilized on the contract by the contractor and all subcontractors. Failure to submit the required forms and reports to the Department of Public Works may result in disqualification of future bids, delay of payments, or other appropriate sanctions. Final contract payments will not be made until the summary of hours worked on the back of the Prime Contractor's Affidavit of Compliance is completed and on file with the Department of Public Works. Forms shall be submitted to DPW, Room 506, Municipal Building, 841 North Broadway, Milwaukee, WI 53202.
- C. During the performance of this contract the Department of Public Works reserves the right to conduct compliance reviews. If the contractor is not in compliance with the specifications, the Commissioner of Public Works will notify the contractor in writing of the corrective action that will bring the contractor into compliance. If the contractor fails or refuses to take corrective action as directed, or if the contractor, prime or sub, submits any documents which contain any false, misleading, or fraudulent information, or if the contractor or subcontractor fail to comply with this ordinance, the Department of Public Works may take one or more of the actions listed below.
1. Withhold payments on the contract.
  2. Terminate or cancel the contract, in whole or in part.
  3. Consider possible debarment of the contractor from bidding for a period of up to two years.
  4. Any other remedy available to the City at law or in equity.
- D. The penalty for any person, firm, or corporation knowingly engaging in fraud, misrepresentation, or in any attempt directly or indirectly, to evade the provisions of this ordinance by providing false, misleading, or fraudulent information shall, upon conviction, forfeit not less than \$2,000 or more than \$5,000 together with the costs of prosecution and, upon default of payment, shall be imprisoned in the county jail or house of correction not to exceed 90 days, or until the forfeiture costs are paid.

## II. Definitions

- A. RESIDENT – A person who maintains his or her place of permanent abode in the City of Milwaukee. Domiciliary intent is required to establish that a person is maintaining his or her place of permanent abode in the City. Mere ownership of real property is not sufficient to establish domiciliary intent. Evidence of domiciliary intent includes, without limitations, the location where a person votes, pays personal income taxes, or obtains a driver's license.
- B. UNEMPLOYED or UNDEREMPLOYED – a RESIDENT that has worked less than 1,200 hours in the preceding 12 months or has not worked in the preceding 15 days or, regardless of employment status, has household income at or below the federal poverty guidelines as adjusted by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction to define eligibility for reduced lunch in public schools.
- C. WORKER HOURS – means the total hours worked on a construction contract by skilled and unskilled construction trade workers, whether those workers are employed by the contractor or any subcontractor. In determining the total worker hours to be furnished at a construction site, the number of hours devoted to all tasks customarily performed on a construction site shall be included, whether or not such tasks are performed on the construction site. "Worker hours" includes work performed by persons filling apprenticeships and participating in on-the-job training programs and excludes the number of hours of work performed by all non-Wisconsin residents.

## III. Residency Utilization Requirements

- A. The contractor shall utilize UNEMPLOYED or UNDEREMPLOYED RESIDENTS of the City in a minimum amount equal to the percentage of the WORKER HOURS as stated in paragraph IA above.
- B. The contractor, by signing and submitting a bid, certifies that it understands the provisions of Chapter 309 and knows of and intends to comply with them, and shall ensure that all subcontractors are also informed.
- C. The contractor shall maintain, and shall ensure that all subcontractors maintain, personnel records listing the name, address, race and gender of all employees utilized for this contract and any records demonstrating that the employees utilized by the contractor in meeting the residency requirements are actual residents of the City. These records shall be maintained for seven (7) years after the contractor has received final payment under the contract and shall be made available to the Commissioner of Public Works upon reasonable notice.
- D. Compliance with these residency requirements is an element of bid responsiveness. Failure to meet the specified residency requirements will render the bid unresponsive, and the Commissioner of Public Works may then recommend the award to the next apparent low bidder.
- E. The City recognizes the organizations listed on this website (<https://city.milwaukee.gov/dpw/Residents-Preference-Program>) as first source organizations for RPP-certified employee recruitment. Other organizations or sources of qualified RPP-certified employees can be used at the bidder's discretion.
- F. If the prime contractor has problems in meeting the residency requirements or if any other problems relative to residency participation arise during the completion of this project, the prime contractor shall immediately contact the Commissioner of Public Works.
- G. Right to Appeal – All contracts awarded under ss. 7-14-2 and 7-22 of the City Charter shall be awarded by the Commissioner of Public Works to the lowest responsible bidder determined in accordance with any applicable City ordinances relating to the participation of Small Business Enterprise Programs or requiring participation of City RESIDENTS. Following the opening of any bid where the Commissioner has considered compliance with such City ordinances, the Commissioner shall publish in an official City newspaper his or her determination as to the lowest responsible bidder. Any bidder who objects to the determination based on the consideration of such City Ordinances, may appeal the recommendation by filing a written appeal with the Commissioner within five (5) working days of the date of publication. The appeal shall state the specific objection to the determination, including supporting documentation, and specify an alternative determination. Any appeals that do not conform to this section shall not be considered. The Commissioner shall schedule a hearing before the Public Works Contract Appeals Committee which shall be comprised of the chair of the Economic Development Committee or his or her designee and a member of the Economic Development Committee selected by the chair and the

Director of Administration or his or her designee to be held within five days of receipt of the appeal. The Public Works Contract Appeals Committee shall have the authority by majority vote to affirm or set aside the determination of the Commissioner and their decision in this regard shall be final. In the event that a timely appeal meeting the requirements of this paragraph is not filed, or the Committee affirms the Commissioner's determination following a timely appeal, the Commissioner shall make an award in accordance with his or her determination.