

HAMPTON VA

NEWS RELEASE

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Minority- and women-owned businesses earn greater share of city dollars, study shows

Dec. 10, 2014 - Since its first procurement disparity study in 2006, Hampton has dramatically increased the share of business that goes to minority- and women-owned companies, according to the latest study.

A 2006 study showed that 3.42 percent of Hampton city and schools spending in the categories of construction, architecture and engineering, professional services, other services and goods went to minority- and women-owned businesses – for a total of \$11.4 million in a five-year period.

In the latest study (read the [executive summary](#)), the dollar value of work that went to women- and minority-owned companies increased by 250% – to \$28.4 million - during a period in which total spending by the city declined.

That means the percentage of work done by minority- and women-owned firms increased from 3.42% to 11.4% of total spending.

The 2006 study looked at fiscal years 1999-2003; the 2014 study examined fiscal years 2008-2012.

Hampton made a number of changes in 2009 in response to the 2006 disparity report, including:

- Increasing opportunities for participation of M/WBE businesses
- Increasing awareness of M/WBE program and identifying M/WBE vendors.
- Revising the bidding procedures and guidelines to increase potential for M/WBE participation.
- Providing training and financial assistance.
- Implementing an effective monitoring process for vendors and city staff.

According to the report by MGT of America, “The City should be commended for the significant progress in implementing the recommendations of the last disparity study and in the 2009 M/WBE Plan (Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprise Program).”

That said, the consultants provided specific goals for the city and schools to continue making progress toward increasing opportunities for women- and minority-owned

businesses. The consultant also recommended continuing a tailored program to connect with those businesses.

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