

CITY OF NEW YORK MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (M/WBE) PROGRAM

First, Second and Third Quarter Report of Fiscal Year 2026

Compliance Report covering July 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026

**Kim L. Yu
City Chief Procurement Officer
Mayor's Office of Contract Services
255 Greenwich St., 9th Floor
New York, New York 10007**

**Kenny Minaya
Commissioner
NYC Department of Small Business Services
1 Liberty Plaza, 11th Floor
New York, New York 10006**

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Introduction

Building on its commitment to economic equity and inclusive growth, New York City continued to expand opportunities for M/WBEs and small businesses in public contracting throughout FY26 Q3. The city continues to pursue increased M/WBE utilization in public contracting, helping firms build capacity to compete for larger contracts while directly addressing persistent disparities in city contracting. These efforts reinforce the city's responsibility to ensuring that every small business has a meaningful opportunity to succeed.

This report summarizes program activity, prime contract, and subcontract utilization data for city-certified Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBEs), Emerging Business Enterprises (EBEs), and Locally-based Enterprises (LBEs), as well as additional data¹ specified in Section 6-129(l) of the New York City Administrative Code². The reporting period covers activity during the first three quarters of Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 (July 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026) and is jointly submitted by the Director of the Mayor's Office of Contract Services (MOCS), as City Chief Procurement Officer, and by the Commissioner of the Department of Small Business Services (SBS). The city's M/WBE program is administered in partnership with the Chief Business Diversity Officer, the Mayor's Office of M/WBEs (OM/WBE), SBS, and MOCS.

As will be further expanded upon in this report, during the first three quarters of FY 2026, M/WBEs were awarded over \$1.4 billion in prime contracts subject to the M/WBE program and just over \$532 million in eligible subcontracts. This brings the total amount awarded to M/WBEs in the first three quarters of FY26 to nearly \$2 billion, with the city achieving a combined prime and subcontract utilization of 27.6%.

Expanding the Base of Certified Firms

SBS continues to increase the participation of M/WBE firms in city contracting by expanding the base of certified businesses. During the certification process, a company's ownership and management structure is thoroughly reviewed to ensure the applicant performs the key functions of the business. The NYC Online Certification Portal (<https://sbsconnect.nyc.gov/>) allows M/WBE firms to certify and recertify online, check the status of applications, and update their business profile to better promote themselves to buyers. During the reporting period, SBS conducted 37 certification workshops attended

¹ Related appendices can be found on the [MOCS website](#)

² Link to the administrative code is [here](#).

by 438 businesses. Between July 2025 and March 2026, SBS certified 923 new M/WBEs and recertified 863 M/WBEs, bringing the total number of active city-certified companies in the reporting period, as of March 31, 2026, to 11,489.

Partners help extend the reach of SBS certification outreach efforts. In addition to SBS's own Certification Team, businesses can receive assistance in applying for certification from the community-based groups that comprise the New York City Council-funded M/WBE Leadership Associations and the SBS network of Business Solutions Centers located throughout the five boroughs. This helps to ensure higher quality applications, making the submission and the certification review process easier and more streamlined.

Partners also help support the business growth of M/WBEs with marketing workshops, networking events, and business development services. During the reporting period, SBS collaborated with local development corporations, trade associations, industry membership organizations, and local chambers of commerce on 73 events with 4,175 attendees to provide information about the benefits of certification and the range of capacity-building services to help businesses grow and that are available citywide.

Emerging Business Enterprise Program

Local Law 12 of 2006 created the Emerging Business Enterprise (EBE) program, directed at expanding procurement opportunities to disadvantaged businesses. Although similar outreach approaches and capacity-building initiatives were, and continue to be, undertaken by SBS to successfully implement the M/WBE and EBE programs (SBS often targets potential M/WBE and EBE groups simultaneously), the outcomes of such measures are quite different. Like the federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program, eligibility for EBE certification under the city's program requires that applicants satisfy a two-prong test to establish both individual and specific economic and social disadvantages.

As of March 31, 2026, there were 13 certified EBE companies. Unlike the M/WBE program, limited participation in the EBE program has made it difficult for city agencies to set goals on contracts. During the reporting period, no EBEs were awarded a prime contract or a subcontract. SBS continues to strive towards increasing participation in the EBE program through a wide range of outreach efforts regularly conducted with businesses and community partners. Once increased participation in the EBE program is achieved, city agencies will have sufficient availability of certified EBE firms needed to set feasible contract goals.

Locally-based Enterprise Program

Although the Locally-based Enterprises (LBE) program is not referenced in Administrative Code §6-129, LBE is a certification category administered by SBS, and the applicability of the LBE program in city procurement is impacted by the M/WBE program. As set forth in Administrative Code §6-108.1, the LBE program is designed to promote the growth of small construction firms through greater access to contracting opportunities with the city. Generally, the program requires agencies to utilize LBEs as a prime or subcontractor on specific construction contracts. However, the number of contracts subject to the LBE program has substantially decreased in recent years due to other goal-setting programs established by the city, state, and federal governments. Under the LBE program rules, contracts are excluded from the program if they are federally or state-funded and subject to their requisite goal programs. Federally funded construction projects are generally subject to the DBE program, and state-funded contracts are subject to other goals and requirements as well, including Article 15-A of the New York State Executive Law. As many city construction contracts are federally and state-funded and subject to subcontracting goals under those programs, they are not covered by the LBE program. With the creation of the city's M/WBE program, M/WBE subcontracting goals are applied to city-funded construction contracts in lieu of LBE goals. Accordingly, this further limits the applicability of the LBE requirements.

As of March 31, 2026, there were a total of 4 LBE certified firms. Three out of these 4 LBEs are also certified as M/WBEs and can be considered for subcontracting opportunities on city construction projects with M/WBE goals. During the reporting period, there were no LBEs awarded a prime contract or a subcontract.

Selling to Government

SBS offers selling to government services that help M/WBEs navigate the city's procurement system. Services are provided through a combination of workshops and one-on-one assistance. To be an effective bidder on city contracts, M/WBEs must understand the city's procurement rules and how to respond to solicitations. M/WBEs must also maintain the most up-to-date information on their profile in the SBS Online Directory of Certified Businesses (www.nyc.gov/buycertified) and other city procurement systems.

During the first three quarters of FY26, SBS held 96 workshops with a total of 4,031 registrants to help

M/WBEs build knowledge and understanding of the city's procurement rules, procurement portals, how to effectively respond to solicitations, and inform best practices in contract management. Also, during the reporting period, 869 firms were supported through 1,385 instances of one-on-one technical assistance for submitting the most competitive bids and proposals, navigating government procurement, and successfully performing on contracts with the city.

During the reporting period, the NYC Department of Small Business Services (SBS) hosted the NYC Contracting Summit: A New Era for Small Business at Barclays Center in Brooklyn, NY. The event convened nearly 1,800 M/WBEs and small business owners, along with more than 340 exhibitor organizations representing city, state, and federal agencies, corporate partners, and business support organizations. Attendees also received over 300 direct service consultations across various service areas including M/WBE vendor services, M/WBE certification support, legal services and financial services. Along with consultations and networking opportunities to speak with partner agencies, attendees were able to participate in eight workshops covering topics such as identifying and pursuing city contracting opportunities, the use of artificial intelligence in business operations, and access to financing resources for small businesses.

During the first three quarters of FY26, BE NYC hosted six events aimed at supporting entrepreneurs through the M/WBE Program with a total of 223 participants. These included the Certified for Success: Unlocking NYC Contracting Opportunities workshop held August 28, 2025, with 57 M/WBE attendees, as well as the Breaking Barriers Breakfast Series on Staten Island held on September 26, 2025, with 17 attendees. Additional events included the BE NYC Breaking Barriers Breakfast in Canarsie on October 29, 2025, with 20 attendees; and the BE NYC Breaking Barriers Breakfast in Harlem on November 25, 2025, with 60 attendees; BE NYC Breaking Barriers Breakfast: Brownsville on February 17, 2026, with 26 attendees; and BE NYC Breaking Barriers Breakfast: Harlem on March 19, 2026, with 43 attendees. These events aimed to increase awareness of city contracting opportunities among some of NYC's most vulnerable M/WBEs and small businesses.

SBS also continues to work with the New York City Council through the M/WBE Leadership Associations to provide certified firms with more capacity-building services, such as help applying for loans and surety bonds, preparing bids and proposals, and marketing to both the public and private sectors. In the reporting period, member organizations sponsored 46 events, provided 1,287 one-on-one assistance sessions, assisted with 81 loan applications, and awarded 28 loans to M/WBEs.

Capacity Building

In addition to the requirement that the city finds vendors responsible, state law also requires that most contracts be awarded to the lowest responsive bidder or the best proposer. SBS has worked aggressively to expand opportunities for minority and women-owned firms by connecting them to a comprehensive range of programs that provide procurement technical assistance and capacity building support, as well as other resources to help them navigate and compete in the public procurement marketplace.

SBS administers a set of capacity-building programs and services for M/WBEs and small businesses that are designed to help firms better bid on, win, and perform on city contracts. Below is a description for each.

[Bond Readiness](#) provides certified construction and trade companies with financial and project management skills to help them secure or increase surety bonds necessary to compete on city contracts. The program offers a 12-session cohort conducted over 24 weeks that provides classroom instruction, agency participation, training, and one-on-one assistance, as well as introductions to a network of surety agents. Firms are encouraged to bid on city contract opportunities where appropriate, while applying for pre-approval for bonding during the program. During the reporting period, 51 participants representing 43 firms were accepted into Cohort 16.

[Bonding Services](#) provides certified construction and trade companies with access to six-hour QuickBooks for Construction clinics, webinars, and one-hour one-on-one bonding assistance sessions to assist firms with organizing their bookkeeping and accounting practices, preparing applications for bonding, and understanding surety bond application preparation concepts, respectively, to compete for larger city contract opportunities. During the reporting period, there were 6 QuickBooks for Construction clinics with 109 participants, and 40 firms who participated in 81 bonding 1:1 counseling sessions.

[M/WBE Contract Legal Services](#), launched in March 2022, is designed to provide certified firms with education and legal consultation clinics so that they become informed consumers of legal services; enter into commercial contracts with an understanding of terms, conditions, obligations, and rights; equip them with the tools and strategies to negotiate, or re-negotiate, commercial contracts that reflect their best interests and minimize their risk; and understand their obligations, rights, and recourse

under existing commercial contracts. During the reporting period, 237 participants attended 7 webinars, and 106 attendees participated in 6 legal consultation clinics.

[M/WBE Mentors Program](#), launched in January 2021, is designed to create spaces for peer mentorship and networking amongst NYC-certified M/WBEs. Through curated, industry-focused events, owners representing a variety of industries and backgrounds serve as mentors to less experienced M/WBEs. By mining their own experiences for advice, these mentors provide the insight their peers need to chart their own path of growth through government contracting. During the reporting period, the Program hosted 9 events with 351 participants.

[NYC Construction Ramp-Up Program](#) launched its first cohort in June 2023 and since then has continued to provide intensive educational, training, and mentorship programming to help certified M/WBE construction firms understand the requirements of the city's pedestrian ramp rehabilitation projects and other concrete related projects in order to successfully compete and qualify for the work and any related M/WBE Pre-Qualified List (PQL). During the reporting period, 27 participants representing 23 unique firms received education and training through this program and graduated in October 2025 from Cohort 5.

[Contract Financing Loan Fund](#) was launched in FY 2017 by the New York City Economic Development Corporation and SBS. The Loan Fund enhances the ability of business owners to access the capital they need to win, take on and perform successfully on NYC contracts, and reduce the cost of capital to a 3% annual interest rate. During the reporting period, 27 loans totaling \$10,150,500 were awarded to certified M/WBEs through the Loan Fund.

Program Compliance

To ensure that all agency staff responsible for purchasing activities are knowledgeable about the M/WBE program and their agency's goals, SBS, MOCS, and OM/WBE conduct agency training sessions. During the reporting period, 408 procurement professionals from 51 agencies attended 13 training sessions. Among the topics covered were implementation of M/WBE policy of the New York City Administrative Code, strategies and best practices used to identify M/WBEs for contract opportunities, M/WBE goal setting, and enhancing M/WBE procedures in all contract areas.

Compliance meetings with agency commissioners and M/WBE officers are regularly held to discuss utilization and agency initiatives to increase M/WBE performance. Since April 2023 and through the reporting period, the city's Chief Business Diversity Officer continues to hold monthly all-agency accountability meetings accompanied by weekly agency focus groups. In addition to these virtual meetings, during the reporting period, the First Deputy Mayor and Citywide M/WBE Director, in partnership with the Chief Business Diversity Officer, held 2 in-person Quarterly Compliance Meetings on July 18, 2025, and October 27, 2025, each with 89 attendees representing 43 agencies. The next in-person Quarterly Compliance meeting is scheduled for Q4.

Qualified Joint Venture Agreements

There were no contracts subject to the M/WBE program awarded to a qualified joint venture during the reporting period.

Prime Contract M/WBE Utilization

Table 1 below summarizes prime contracts awarded by City agencies during FY 2026 Q3. M/WBES were awarded over \$1.4 billion in prime contracts, amounting to 21% of all such awards during this reporting period. The Prime contracts in this table include industries and awards made using methods subject to the M/WBE program.

Table 1 FY 2026 Q3, Prime Utilization by Industry					
Industry and Size Group	Total M/WBE			Total	
	#	\$	%	#	\$
Construction Services	10,460	\$368,934,372	22%	12,571	1,642,114,359
Micro Purchase	10,372	\$11,738,232	81%	12,388	14,519,266
Small Purchase	17	\$1,115,501	89%	19	1,257,073
>\$100K, <=\$1M	20	\$12,925,624	93%	22	13,887,398
>\$1M, <=\$5M	34	\$91,257,392	48%	65	188,391,066
>\$5M, <=\$25M	15	\$193,128,223	26%	61	751,026,679
>\$25M	2	\$58,769,400	9%	16	673,032,878

Goods	3,731	\$73,639,547	72%	6,738	101,848,929
Micro Purchase	3,398	\$28,349,903	58%	6,329	49,182,250
Small Purchase	240	\$14,314,183	77%	312	18,673,096
>\$100K, <=\$1M	93	\$30,975,461	91%	97	33,993,583
>\$1M, <=\$5M	-	\$0	0%	-	0
>\$5M, <=\$25M	-	\$0	0%	-	0
>\$25M	-	\$0	0%	-	0
Professional Services	895	\$466,630,608	19%	1,816	2,491,384,957
Micro Purchase	610	\$4,002,027	40%	1,381	9,944,619
Small Purchase	64	\$4,259,254	67%	92	6,313,025
>\$100K, <=\$1M	181	\$61,012,328	80%	216	76,118,248
>\$1M, <=\$5M	19	\$36,243,101	29%	50	123,360,664
>\$5M, <=\$25M	17	\$161,113,898	26%	62	622,850,667
>\$25M	4	\$200,000,000	12%	15	1,652,797,735
Standardized Services	493	\$550,127,618	21%	1,720	2,613,226,569
Micro Purchase	303	\$2,841,619	31%	1,404	9,313,357
Small Purchase	64	\$4,468,630	62%	100	7,244,390
>\$100K, <=\$1M	79	\$35,046,521	77%	102	45,495,122
>\$1M, <=\$5M	44	\$89,814,696	49%	85	181,976,777
>\$5M, <=\$25M	2	\$18,284,812	8%	20	215,574,527
>\$25M	1	\$399,671,340	19%	9	2,153,622,397
Total	15,579	\$1,459,332,144	21%	22,845	6,848,574,814
Micro Purchase	14,683	\$46,931,780	57%	21,502	82,959,491
Small Purchase	385	\$24,157,567	72%	523	33,487,584
>\$100K, <=\$1M	373	\$139,959,934	83%	437	169,494,351
>\$1M, <=\$5M	97	\$217,315,189	44%	200	493,728,507
>\$5M, <=\$25M	34	\$372,526,934	23%	143	1,589,451,872

>\$25M	7	\$658,440,740	15%	40	4,479,453,009
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Agencies are not required to apply participation requirements to certain types of contracts. (See, NYC Administrative Code § 6-129(q) (1)-(7).) Table 1 above and the subsequent discussion of M/WBE performance include those contracts that have been counted towards the city's M/WBE program. As required by §6-129 of the Administrative Code, M/WBE performance data (see Appendices – Tables A-B)5 is summarized separately for each of the following categories: MBE, WBE, minority women (certified as both MBE and WBE), and total M/WBE. MBEs include all minority-owned businesses, regardless of gender. WBEs include all women-owned businesses regardless of ethnicity.

In those areas of procurement where agencies have greater discretion to target procurements to M/WBEs (i.e., micro purchases and small purchases), M/WBE utilization remains strong. In FY 2026 Q3, M/WBEs were awarded over \$46.9 million worth of micro purchases, or 57% of the dollar value of all such awards. Additionally, for small purchases the M/WBE utilization rate was 72% of the dollar value of all such awards (over \$24 million awarded).

A total of 22,845 prime contracts were awarded during FY 2026 Q3. M/WBE utilization on prime contracts during the reporting period is detailed below. Highlights include M/WBEs being awarded:

- 83% of the value of contract awards valued between \$100,000 and at or below \$1 million (over \$139 million)
- 44% of the value of contract awards valued between \$1 million and at or below \$5 million (approximately \$217 million)
- 23% of the value of contract awards valued between \$5 million and at or below \$25 million (over \$372 million)
- 15% of the value of contract awards valued over \$25 million (\$658 million)

Agency-by-agency and certification category details corresponding to Table 1 above are included in the Appendices to this report (Tables A - B).

Most prime contracts reflected in the data (except the professional services contracts, for example) are required by New York State law to be procured via competitive sealed bid. Under General Municipal Law (GML) § 103, agencies must, for the majority of the contracts covered by the program, accept the lowest responsible bid and may not give a bidder preference because of its M/WBE status. City agencies' efforts to achieve their M/WBE participation goals through prime contract awards are thus limited to such means as increased outreach and training aimed at encouraging M/WBEs to bid successfully on various procurements. Even for procurements not covered by GML § 103, such as professional services contracts, GML § 104-b precludes agencies from pursuing social policy goals unrelated to the procurement of goods and services, including M/WBE status.

Subcontract M/WBE Utilization

M/WBE Utilization with respect to approved subcontracts during the reporting period is demonstrated in table 2 below. As shown, of the 1,219 approved subcontracts, 763 were awarded to M/WBE firms. The approved subcontracts awarded to M/WBEs amounted to over \$532 million and represents 75% of the value of all qualifying subcontracts. For more details, see Appendices – Tables E-F.

Table 2 FY 2026 Q3, Subcontracts Utilization by Industry					
Industry and Size Group	Total M/WBE			Total	
	#	\$	%	#	\$
Construction Services	366	\$165,382,597	58%	635	\$284,391,113
Micro Purchase	63	\$970,924	41%	146	\$2,341,954
Small Purchase	81	\$5,291,809	54%	146	\$9,738,131
>\$100K, <=\$1M	180	\$70,841,910	67%	282	\$106,122,590
>\$1M, <=\$5M	41	\$82,277,953	72%	58	\$114,026,117
>\$5M, <=\$25M	1	\$6,000,000	30%	2	\$20,162,320
>\$25M	0	\$0	0%	1	\$32,000,000
Goods	6	\$2,857,314	50%	13	\$5,771,841
Micro Purchase	0	\$0	0%	4	\$14,396
Small Purchase	3	\$224,565	70%	4	\$322,465
>\$100K, <=\$1M	2	\$284,049	62%	3	\$459,949
>\$1M, <=\$5M	1	\$2,348,700	47%	2	\$4,975,030
>\$5M, <=\$25M	0	\$0	0%	-	\$0

>\$25M	0	\$0	0%	-	\$0
Professional Services	287	\$152,918,167	79%	423	\$192,574,539
Micro Purchase	55	\$531,733	60%	101	\$891,974
Small Purchase	116	\$6,549,791	72%	163	\$9,053,955
>\$100K, <=\$1M	94	\$34,293,571	79%	127	\$43,193,444
>\$1M, <=\$5M	19	\$38,160,072	77%	27	\$49,470,404
>\$5M, <=\$25M	2	\$20,376,000	55%	4	\$36,957,762
>\$25M	1	\$53,007,000	100%	1	\$53,007,000
Standardized Services	104	\$211,245,401	94%	148	\$225,627,637
Micro Purchase	20	\$182,537	76%	27	\$238,952
Small Purchase	28	\$1,408,379	51%	51	\$2,753,953
>\$100K, <=\$1M	41	\$13,952,630	81%	50	\$17,222,605
>\$1M, <=\$5M	8	\$18,327,226	65%	13	\$28,037,499
>\$5M, <=\$25M	4	\$40,798,937	100%	4	\$40,798,937
>\$25M	3	\$136,575,692	100%	3	\$136,575,692
Total	763	\$532,403,479	75%	1,219	\$708,365,129
Micro Purchase	138	\$1,685,195	48%	278	\$3,487,276
Small Purchase	228	\$13,474,544	62%	364	\$21,868,504
>\$100K, <=\$1M	317	\$119,372,160	71%	462	\$166,998,589
>\$1M, <=\$5M	69	\$141,113,951	72%	100	\$196,509,050
>\$5M, <=\$25M	7	\$67,174,937	69%	10	\$97,919,019
>\$25M	4	\$189,582,692	86%	5	\$221,582,692

Waivers

A vendor that plans to submit a bid or proposal in response to a solicitation for a contract that is subject to M/WBE participation goals may seek to request a reduction in the goals by filing a waiver request with the contracting agency during the pre-bid or pre-proposal stage. The agency and MOCS then evaluate the extent to which the vendor's business model and subcontracting history is consistent with this request. In order to qualify for a waiver, a vendor must show both the capacity to execute the contract with less subcontracting than projected and legitimate business reasons to do so. A vendor that receives a full waiver has demonstrated that they would be able to fully self-perform the contract without using subcontractors if awarded the contract. A vendor that obtains a partial waiver has demonstrated that they will subcontract at a lower amount than the participation goal established by the agency. During the reporting period, vendors sought a total of 40 requests for waivers of the M/WBE participation requirements at the pre-bid or pre-proposal stage. Of those requests, 18 were denied, while

ten (10) were approved as full waivers, 12 were approved as partial waivers, see Appendices – Table G. Since waivers may be granted only to vendors that demonstrate both the capacity to perform the prime contract without subcontracting and a prior contracting history of doing similar work without subcontracting, some of the waivers that were granted involved repeated requests from the same firms, as they sought multiple bidding opportunities. During the reporting period, nine (9) contracts were registered where a winning vendor obtained either a full or partial waiver of the total participation goal. For more details, see Appendices – Table G and H.

Large-Scale Procurement Approvals

Prior to soliciting procurements with an anticipated value of over \$10 million, City agencies are required to seek MOCS approval to determine whether it is practicable to divide the proposed contract into smaller contracts and whether doing so would enhance competition among M/WBEs. During the reporting period, there were 21 registered contracts for which MOCS conducted large-scale procurement reviews. A full list is shown in Appendices Table I. The value of the 21 approved contracts shown in Appendices Table I is over \$483 million. Approximately 36% of the large-scale approvals during FY 2026 Q3 were for requirements contracts through the Department of Citywide Administrative Services. These approvals were made in cases in which separate and smaller contracts would not enhance M/WBE opportunities. For more details, see Appendices – Table I.

Complaints, Modifications and Noncompliance

There were no modifications, complaints or findings of noncompliance during the reporting period.