



AIA Los Angeles

May 2, 2019

Councilmember Paul Krekorian
Chair, Ad Hoc On Comprehensive Job Creation Plan Committee
200 N. Spring Street, Room 435
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: [Council File 19-0078](#), SUPPORT for “Compete4LA”

Dear Councilmember Paul Krekorian,

As the Director of Government & Public Affairs for the Los Angeles chapter of The American Institute of Architects (AIA|LA), I am writing to share our strong support for the [“Compete4LA”](#) procurement platform initiative and feasibility study, as authored by BiP Solutions and the Los Angeles Business Council Institute (LABCi).

As an organization representing 4500+ architects, designers and emerging professionals, AIA|LA is committed to advancing greater equity, diversity and inclusion in the workplace and in our neighborhoods as we all work together to design, build and sustain complete and healthy communities. Small business inclusion is a fundamental tenet to ensure equitable access to the marketplace, as well as, a key mechanism to obtain best-value results afforded by ensuring greater diversity on the contracting teams delivering the professional services.

The “Compete4LA” procurement platform initiative, once fully executed, will create a regional procurement portal jointly operated by the public and private sectors. Establishing this regional marketplace, and streamlining the procurement process by centralizing all of the various credentials and compliance factors, will help small businesses obtain greater access to the wealth of contracting opportunities that will emerge over the course of the next several years.

Contracting opportunities provided by the funding sources of County of LA measures R, M, H, W, A, statewide bond issuances for LACCD, LAUSD and City of LA’s measure HHH, the billion-dollar sidewalk repair program, investments in the Los Angeles River as well as, other key capital improvements can all be serviced by this regional procurement platform.

Additionally, with major significant events set to transform the region (such as the 2020 MLB All Star Game, 2022 Super Bowl, 2023 College Football Playoffs, 2026 World Cup, 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games), a regional procurement platform will also allow the private sector greater access to small, local, minority, disadvantaged, and woman-owned business enterprises.

As evidenced by the success of London’s “CompeteFor” regional procurement platform, establishing such a portal in Los Angeles will achieve cost-savings, advance equity and inclusion, and deliver higher quality results for the client, the contractor, and the community.

AIA|LA strongly encourages the Los Angeles City Council to fully support the “Compete4LA” initiative. We are here to help provide the leadership and insight to ensure its inevitable success.

Very truly yours,

Will Wright
Director of Government & Public Affairs
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