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**MAYOR EMANUEL AND DEPARTMENT OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES INTRODUCE  
VENDOR COMPLIANCE RESOURCE GUIDE AT 2014 VENDOR FAIR**

*City of Chicago Vendor Fair Promotes Continued Transparency, Increased Competition and  
Encourages Small and Large Business Participation on City and other Government Agency Contracts*

Mayor Rahm Emanuel and the Department of Procurement Services (DPS) today unveiled the City of Chicago Vendor Compliance Resource Guide at the 2014 Vendor Fair, an outreach event attended by more than 1,000 small and large business owners, hosted by DPS in partnership with Cook County. This guide was developed to simply explain contract compliance issues for vendors while reinforcing the City's priorities of transparency and diversity in contracting.

"As we continually strive for the best solutions to meet Chicago's wide-ranging needs, one of our key objectives is to increase the diversity of the businesses that bid on and earn city contracts," said Mayor Emanuel, "A thriving community bolstered by small, minority- and women-owned business is essential to helping our world-class city thrive."

Designed for vendors interested in doing business with the City, this guide provides information and resources for each stage of the contracting process. Specifically, the manual addresses the roles and responsibilities for both prime and subcontractors across numerous issues, including M/W/DBE Special Conditions and commercial useful function. It also provides an overview of the C2 and LCP Tracker software that the City has developed to assist the vendor community with certification and contract compliance. The guide can be viewed at [www.cityofchicago.org/dps](http://www.cityofchicago.org/dps).

The guide was unveiled at this year's Vendor Fair at the UIC Forum in Chicago, which featured 75 exhibitors discussing contracting opportunities in all areas, including professional services, technology, work services and commodities from federal, state and local government agencies. The event also included free customized workshops and targeted networking sessions for vendors.

"Outreach to the communities is a top priority for the Department of Procurement Services," said Chief Procurement Officer Jamie Rhee. "Today's Vendor Fair is one example of the more than 100

outreach events that DPS hosts or attends annually.”

Over 1,000 individuals representing hundreds of companies, suppliers and manufacturers attended the event, seeking to gathering information on hundreds of projects of all sizes and dollar amounts.

In addition to the government agencies, all City of Chicago sister agencies and numerous trade associations, chambers of commerce and business groups participated in the Vendor Fair to encourage greater networking with participants. Outreach events like the Vendor Fair ensure continued fairness and transparency of the procurement process by having staff available to answer questions regarding upcoming opportunities.

This announcement is the latest in a series of efforts made by Mayor Emanuel to maintain transparency and increase opportunity for small businesses and MBEs/WBEs. These initiatives include the MBE/WBE Mentorship Program, Diversity Credit Program, the Small Business Initiative, and the Graduation Phase-out Program for MBEs/WBEs.

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