Date: October 31, 2022

SUBJECT: Supplier Diversity Policy Statement

The Smithsonian is known world-wide for its high-quality work in research, education, exhibitions, public programming, and many other areas. To do so, we purchase a variety of services and products, and diverse businesses add value to our projects and programs and help us meet our strategic goals. Our commitment to the small business community remains strong, and Smithsonian staff will continue to set goals and identify projects that utilize small and historically underutilized small businesses.

The Smithsonian spends \$450,000 to \$650,000 million annually to procure a variety of goods and services. We value small businesses, and, in having diverse suppliers in our sourcing process, we realize a valuable opportunity to develop innovative and cost-effective business solutions.

The policy of the Smithsonian is to promote, increase, and improve the participation of small and historically underutilized small businesses (minority, 8(a), women-owned, HUB-Zoned, and service-disabled veteran owned businesses) in our procurements and business relationships. As the Smithsonian moves forward with our strategic priorities – including the building of our two new museums – we will engage, encourage, and employ small and historically underutilized small businesses throughout the process.

Everyone involved in procuring goods or services has a responsibility to achieve supplier diversity spending targets and ensure that Smithsonian-wide small business participation goals are met or exceeded. The Supplier Diversity Program (SDP) helps small and historically underutilized businesses understand how to do business with the Smithsonian, advocates for small business use, and helps Smithsonian staff identify diverse suppliers.

We are proud of the Smithsonian's achievement in developing a more diverse and sustainable supplier base and recognize that more can be done. As such, we embrace the opportunity to engage historically underserved communities and businesses whenever possible. Supplier diversity will continue to be a priority consideration for all those involved in procuring goods and services, and our mutual commitment to advance supplier diversity is something in which we can take great pride.

Additional information on the Smithsonian's Supplier Diversity program is found on the website for the Office of Equal Employment and Supplier Diversity (OEESD). Related questions or requests for information concerning the Supplier Diversity Program should be referred to OEESD:

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Working together, we can continue the Smithsonian's strong supplier diversity practices.

Lonnie G. Bunch

Secretary