



NAACP of San Diego

Equality is the Right of Every Citizen

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22 October 2018

Council President Cole
City Administration Building
10th Floor 202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Councilmember Cate
City Administration Building
10th Floor 202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Councilmember Sherman
City Administration Building
10th Floor 202 C Street
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Council President Pro-Tem Bry
City Administration Building
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Councilmember Gómez
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Councilmember Ward
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Councilmember Alvarez
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Councilmember Kersey
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Councilmember Zapf
City Administration Building
10th Floor 202 C Street
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Dear Council President Cole and Council Members,

The K-17-1518-MAC-3 contract, Item 332 on Tuesday's docket, was recently brought to our attention by Councilmember Alvarez, for which we are very grateful. Councilmember Alvarez asked us if we had any information regarding the inclusionary practices of the contractors involved in the item.

We have consulted with some of our contacts, to see if they had any feedback to offer. The feedback we received was unsettling in the least. Multiple contacts independently identified two of the choices as having very poor records in terms of participation for the African-American community. At least one of our contacts raised concerns about two more of the five contractors identified for this design build contract. There was no recommendation one way or the other on the final contractor.

Our discussions raised some more fundamental questions, however. As you know, the City has not had a great deal of success in giving its business to people of color, whether they be prime contractors, subcontractors or even simply employees of City contractors. We believe this is a problem best solved collaboratively, without going through some kind of adversarial process.