TOOLS TO ASSIST S/M/WBE PRIME CONTRACTORS:

**The Prime Contractor Program**
- Allows up to 20 out of 100 evaluation points be awarded to Small, Minority, Women-owned Business Enterprise (S/M/WBE) prime respondents. This tool helps S/M/WBEs be more competitive on City solicitations.
- **2016 amendments** expanded the application of this tool for M/WBEs that are also SBEs.

**The Emerging Prime Contractor Program**
- Allows up to 20 out of 100 evaluation points be awarded to Emerging S/M/WBE prime respondents (those firms that are ¼ the size of an SBE per the Small Business Administration size standard). This tool helps Emerging S/M/WBEs be more competitive on City solicitations.

**The Joint Venture Program**
- Provides up to 20 out of 100 evaluation points to a joint venture respondent per their S/M/WBE percent makeup on a contract. This tool helps S/M/WBEs build their capacity by gaining prime level experience on large or complex City contracts.
- **2016 amendments** expanded this tool to the Construction industry for S/M/WBEs.

**The HUBZone Program**
- Allows up to 20 out of 100 evaluation points be awarded to HUBZone prime respondents. This tool helps HUBZone firms be more competitive on City solicitations.
- HUBZone certification is granted by the U.S. Small Business Administration, not the South Central Texas Regional Certification Agency.

**The Mentor Protégé Program**
- Provides up to 5 out of 100 evaluation points be awarded to qualified mentors. This tool helps qualified mentors be more competitive on City solicitations while giving back to the community by serving as a mentor to an S/M/WBE.
TOOLS TO ASSIST S/M/WBE SUBCONTRACTORS:

The Subcontracting Program
- Can require up to 40% of a contract be subcontracted to S/M/WBEs.

The HUBZone Program
- Can require up to 40% of a contract be subcontracted to HUBzone firms. HUBZone certification is granted by the U.S. Small Business Administration, not the South Central Texas Regional Certification Agency.

The Mentor Protégé Program
- Allows S/M/WBEs to participate in the Mentor Protégé Program in coordination with Alamo Colleges. The Mentor Protégé Program provides classes covering topics like How to Write a Business Plan, Managing Your Finances and How to Market Your Business. S/M/WBEs in the Program will also be paired with Mentors for a 2 year period to learn best business practices.

The Bonding Assistance Program
- Allows S/M/WBEs to participate in the Bonding Assistance Program in coordination with Alamo Colleges. The Bonding Assistance Program provides classes covering topics like Credit Repair and Access to Capital. Upon completion of the Bonding Assistance Program S/M/WBEs receive a letter of credit to enhance their bonding capacity.

TOOLS TO BUILD THE CAPACITY OF AN S/M/WBE:

Prime Contractor Self-Performance
- S/M/WBEs awarded a City contract under $10 million at the prime contractor level will be able to self-perform any S/M/WBE subcontracting goals that may apply to the contract, which will allow the S/M/WBE prime contractor to perform a greater percent of the contract and further build their capacity. The certifications of the Prime contractor must match the certification of the subcontracting goal to be eligible for self performance.

The Segmented Subcontracting Program
- Sets subcontracting goals for certain ethnicities such as African American Business Enterprises (AABE), Asian American Business Enterprises (ABE), Hispanic American Business Enterprises (HABE), Native American Business Enterprises (NABE) and Women-owned Business Enterprises (WBE).
- 2016 amendments revised the tool so it will be applied to those ethnicities that are experiencing the greatest disparity in a given year and industry based on the most recent S/M/WBE utilization data.