

MWBE GOAL PLAN FY 2022-2023
Livingston County Water & Sewer Authority

1. **AGENCY OVERVIEW:**

Mission: Our mission is to provide high quality, environmentally sound, efficient, reliable, and affordable water and sewer services to the people who live, work, and visit Livingston County.

Goals:

- High quality water supply.
- Environmental sound sewage treatment.
- Efficient provision of services.
- Reliable & environmentally sustainable sewer and water service.
- Affordable provision of water and sewer service.
- High quality customer service.
- Reliable reporting for measuring the level of success & stability of the above goals.
- Meeting reporting rules, requirements, and recommendations of the following:
 - NYS Authorities Budget Office (ABO)
 - GASB/FASB accounting rules
 - NYSDEC
 - NYSDOH/Livingston County Department of Health
 - USEPA
 - NYS Empire State Development (ESD), Division of Minority and Women’s Business Enterprise Development (DMWBD)
- Assessment of operating & financial measurement reports on a regular basis by the Board & senior staff to ascertain whether goals are being met.

2. **MAJOR AREAS OF PROCUREMENT:**

Commodities: The majority of the Authority’s expenditures are related to purchasing water/wastewater equipment and supplies. Most of these expenditures fall under the State Contract Amount Threshold of \$25,000.

Services/Consultants: The Authority utilizes consultants and service providers on several annual service contracts (e.g. equipment calibration, laboratory testing, generator maintenance, etc.). Certain contracts are multi-year contracts, including auditing and engineering services.

Construction/Construction Consultants: The Authority has established a multi-year capital plan, which identifies approximately 3-4 capital projects to be completed each year. The value of these projects ranges, and some fall under the State Contract Amount Threshold of \$100,000. Where outside funding is secured, the Authority may complete larger capital projects. For example, in 2021 the Authority proceeded with Lakeville Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades – Phase 2 (Constr Cost \$5.5M), and in 2022 County Wide Water System Improvements Project – Phase 2 (Constr Cost \$6M). These projects are being funded by New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation. Construction consultants are utilized as needed to complete capital projects.

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OUTREACH

Current Process:

LCWSA continues its commitment to maximizing MWBE contracting opportunities, by incorporating MWBE language into its bid advertisements.

One of the ongoing challenges is the lack of interest by MWBEs in annual service contracts that are bid out each year. These small size contracts are almost exclusively filled by local contractors and service providers who provide the most competitive pricing due to their proximity to LCWSA facilities.

Strategies to Improve:

Strategy	Tactic
Utilize LCWSA webpage to increase outreach efforts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LCWSA will be conducting a website refresh in 2022; included will be improved functionality for advertising capital and operational contracts for bidding. • MWBE outreach language will be added to the “Bid Opportunities” page, which may help to reach additional MWBEs.
Attend MWBE outreach event (Syracuse/Rochester/Buffalo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If outreach events are scheduled within the Central or Western NY region, LCWSA staff will make every attempt to attend.
More outreach prior to bidding process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to bidding, LCWSA leadership can better communicate to known MWBE businesses and service providers of upcoming bidding opportunities and encourage participation to bid.

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PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

For those contracts that meet the State Contract Amount Thresholds under Article 15-A (i.e. purchases of commodities/services greater than \$25,000, and construction contracts greater than \$100,000), the Livingston County Water & Sewer Authority (LCWSA) applies the same MWBE goals as those that apply to LCWSA (i.e. 30%).

LCWSA continues to face the same challenges that were identified in prior goal plans:

- Small agency with very few contracts that meet the “State Contract” amount thresholds.
- Limited interest by MWBEs in annual service contracts that are bid out each year. These small size contracts are almost exclusively filled by local contractors and service providers who provide the most competitive pricing due to their proximity to LCWSA facilities.
- Efforts to lower the goal plan to a more realistic, reasonable, and readily achievable level have been unsuccessful.
- Fiscal year runs from January 1 through December 31 (as LCWSA is considered a “local authority”), which further complicates State required MWBE reporting.

Strategies to Improve:

Strategy	Tactic
Review and update Procurement Policy and incorporate MWBE goals and requirements for specific services and contracts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate alternatives for procurement methods to providing additional MWBE goals and requirements for purchasing of goods and services. • Work with ESD liaison to research model procurement policy language.
Incorporate model MWBE language into future RFP’s and contracts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate future RFPs and contracts and incorporate model MWBE language. This can include contracts for goods and services that are under Article 15-A thresholds as well.