

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission over drainage systems is not applicable in Montgomery County, with the exception of that portion of the City of Takoma Park now situated in Montgomery County.

3-2. Competitive bidding and construction generally.

(a) Whenever the plans and specifications for water supply, sewerage or drainage systems for any district have been completed and the commission has decided, after opportunity for a hearing has been given, to proceed with the construction, the commission shall advertise, by notice in newspapers and technical press as it considers proper, for bids for the construction of the system or systems, in parts or as a whole, as in its judgment appear advisable. The contract shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder, or the commission may reject any or all bids. If in its discretion the prices quoted are unreasonable, the commission may readvertise the work or any part of it, or may do any part or all of the work by day labor. At any time the commission may, in its discretion, expend by day labor for construction work an amount not exceeding \$15,000 without advertising or receiving bids. The commission, by resolution and implementing regulations, may establish a mandatory minority business utilization policy to facilitate the participation of responsible minority business firms in contracts awarded by the commission in accordance with competitive bidding procedures. After the 2-year period of any program established, the commission shall issue a report concerning the implementation and administration of the program together with any appropriate recommendations. For the purpose of this subsection, "minority business firm" means a business firm at least 50 percent of which is owned by minority group members, or, in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of the stock of which is owned by minority group members. "Minority group members" includes females, blacks (not of Hispanic origin), Hispanics, American Indians, Alaskan natives, Asians, and Pacific Islanders.

(b) All contracts may be protected by bonds, penalties, and conditions required by the commission, all of which are enforceable in any court having jurisdiction.

3-3. Construction, etc., of private or municipal system.

After June 1, 1953, whenever a municipality or the property owners or residents of any locality in the sanitary district shall desire a water supply, sewerage or drainage system, or part thereof, to be constructed in that municipality or locality, and the commission shall decide that it is inexpedient or impracticable at the time, owing to remoteness from its general system or other cause, to build such system, such municipality or persons may build and operate [said] THE system at its or their own expense, but it shall be constructed under plans and specifications submitted to and approved by [said] THE commission and its