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48 Contracting and procurement policies and practices can have a significant community impact
49 and can serve multiple purposes. In addition to ensuring that Dane County departments and
50 agencies provide the necessary goods and services to meet residents' needs, contracting and
51 procurement can also be a powerful mechanism for promoting economic empowerment and
52 equity among minority- and women-owned businesses.

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54 Dane County recognizes that increasing participation of minority- and women-owned
55 businesses is an organization-wide shared responsibility and is not solely the responsibility of
56 the Purchasing Division or the Office for Equity and Inclusion. As such, it is important for Dane
57 County government to increase awareness and transparency for all departments and policy
58 makers regarding the county's performance with respect to contracting with minority- and
59 women-owned businesses.

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61 While there are numerous ways to increase transparency around contracting equity in Dane
62 County government, including increased outreach, tracking, reporting, and recruiting focused on
63 minority- and women-owned businesses, one place to start is by augmenting the transparency
64 of the list of *Bills Over \$10,000 Referred to the County Board*, which is prepared and emailed by
65 the Dane County Controller's Office to the County Board before each scheduled County Board
66 meeting.

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68 Currently, the list of *Bills Over \$10,000 Referred to the County Board* includes the business
69 name and the amount paid for bills incurred in the operation of Dane County departments and
70 that the Controller's Office has recommended be allowed by the County Board.

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72 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board acknowledges that
73 contracting equity is critical to achieving Dane County's goal of eliminating racial disparities and
74 advancing economic empowerment and equity among minority- and women-owned businesses.

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76 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Dane County Board recognizes
77 that Dane County government's efforts to advance racial and social equity will be informed and
78 accelerated by greater transparency regarding our performance in this area.

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80 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Dane County Board requests that
81 the list of *Bills Over \$10,000 Referred to the County Board*, which is prepared and emailed by
82 the Dane County Controller's Office to the County Board before each scheduled County Board
83 meeting, include additional information indicating whether each business listed is a minority-
84 and/or women-owned business, as self-reported by the business.