

ORDINANCE NO. 184294

An ordinance amending Sections 10.8.2.1(b)(5) and 10.8.2.1(g)(2) of the Los Angeles Administrative Code relating to the Equal Benefits Ordinance.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Section 10.8.2.1(b)(5) of the Los Angeles Administrative Code is amended to read as follows:

(5) **Contract means** an agreement the value of which exceeds \$25,000. It includes agreements for work or services to or for the City; for public works or improvements to be performed; agreements for the purchase of goods, equipment, materials, or supplies; or grants to be provided, at the expense of the City or to be paid out of monies under the control of the City. The term also includes a Lease or License, as defined in the Equal Benefits Ordinance.

Sec. 2. Section 10.8.2.1(g)(2) of the Los Angeles Administrative Code is amended to read as follows:

(2) In enforcing the requirements of the Equal Benefits Ordinance, the DAA may monitor, inspect, and investigate to ensure that the Contractor is acting in compliance with the Equal Benefits Ordinance. Contractor's failure to cooperate with the DAA may result in a determination by the DAA that the Contractor is not in compliance with the Equal Benefits Ordinance, which may subject the Contractor to enforcement measures set forth in Section 10.8.2.1(h).


Sec. 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a daily newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

I hereby certify that this ordinance was passed by the Council of the City of Los Angeles, at its meeting of MAY 11 2016.

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT, City Clerk

By  _____ Deputy

Approved MAY 17 2016 _____

 _____ Mayor

Approved as to Form and Legality

MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney

By  _____
BASIA JANKOWSKI
Deputy City Attorney

Date 12-11-15 _____

File No. 15-0817 _____

DECLARATION OF POSTING ORDINANCE

I, JUAN VERANO, state as follows: I am, and was at all times hereinafter mentioned, a resident of the State of California, over the age of eighteen years, and a Deputy City Clerk of the City of Los Angeles, California.

Ordinance No. 184294 – Amending Sections 10.8.2.1(b)(5) and 10.8.2.1(g)(2) of the Los Angeles Administrative Code relating to the Equal Benefits Ordinance – a copy of which is hereto attached, was finally adopted by the Los Angeles City Council on **May 11, 2016**, and under the direction of said City Council and the City Clerk, pursuant to Section 251 of the Charter of the City of Los Angeles and Ordinance No. 172959, on **May 18, 2016** I posted a true copy of said ordinance at each of the three public places located in the City of Los Angeles, California, as follows: 1) one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; 2) one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; 3) one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

Copies of said ordinance were posted conspicuously beginning on **May 18, 2016** and will be continuously posted for ten or more days.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed this **18th** day of **May 2016** at Los Angeles, California.



Juan Verano, Deputy City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 175115

An ordinance amending Section 10.8.2.1 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code in its entirety to clarify the requirement that City contractors shall not discriminate in the provision of employee benefits between employees with spouses and employees with domestic partners.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Section 10.8.2.1 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code is amended to read:

Sec. 10.8.2.1. Equal Benefits Ordinance.

(a) Legislative Findings. The City awards many contracts to private firms to provide services to the public and to City government. Many City contractors and subcontractors perform services that affect the proprietary interests of City government in that their performance impacts the success of City operations. The City holds a proprietary interest in the work performed by many employees employed by City contractors and subcontractors. In a very real sense, the success or failure of City operations may turn on the success or failure of these enterprises, for the City has a genuine stake in how the public perceives the services rendered for them by these businesses.

Discrimination in the provision of employee benefits between employees with domestic partners and employees with spouses results in unequal pay for equal work. Los Angeles law prohibits entities doing business with the City from discriminating in employment practices based on marital status and/or sexual orientation. The City's departments and contracting agents are required to place in all City contracts a provision that the company choosing to do business with the City agrees to comply with the City's nondiscrimination laws.

It is the City's intent, through the contracting practices outlined in this Ordinance, to assure that those companies wanting to do business with the City will equalize the total compensation between similarly situated employees with spouses and with domestic partners. The provisions of this Ordinance are designed to ensure that the City's contractors will maintain a competitive advantage in recruiting and retaining capable employees, thereby improving the quality of the goods and services the City and its people receive, and ensuring protection of the City's property.

(b) Definitions. For purposes of the Equal Benefits Ordinance only, the following shall apply.

(1) Awarding Authority means any Board or Commission of the City, or any employee or officer of the City, that is authorized to award or enter into any Contract, as defined in this ordinance, on behalf of the City, and shall include departments having control of their own funds and which adopt policies consonant with the provisions of the Equal Benefits Ordinance.

(2) Benefits means any plan, program or policy provided or offered by a Contractor to its employees as part of the employer's total compensation package. This includes but is not limited to the following types of benefits: bereavement leave, family medical leave, health benefits, membership or membership discounts, moving expenses, pension and retirement benefits, and travel benefits.

(3) Cash Equivalent means the amount of money paid to an employee with a Domestic Partner (or spouse, if applicable) in lieu of providing Benefits to the employee's Domestic Partner (or spouse, if applicable). The Cash Equivalent is equal to the direct expense to the employer of providing Benefits to an employee for his or her Domestic Partner (or spouse, if applicable) or the direct expense to the employer of providing Benefits for the dependents and family members of an employee with a Domestic Partner (or spouse, if applicable).

(4) City means the City of Los Angeles.

(5) Contract means an agreement the value of which exceeds \$5,000. It includes agreements for work or services to or for the City, for public works or improvements to be performed, agreements for the purchase of goods, equipment, materials, or supplies, or grants to be provided, at the expense of the City or to be paid out of monies under the control of the City. The term also includes a Lease or License, as defined in the Equal Benefits Ordinance.

(6) Contractor means any person or persons, firm, partnership, corporation, joint venture, or any combination of these, or any governmental entity acting in its proprietary capacity, that enters into a Contract with any Awarding Authority of the City. The term does not include Subcontractors.

(7) Designated Administrative Agency (DAA) means the Office of the City Administrative Officer.

(8) Domestic Partner means any two adults, of the same or different sex, who have registered as domestic partners with a governmental entity pursuant to state or local law authorizing this registration or with an internal registry maintained by the employer of at least one of the domestic partners.

(9) Equal Benefits Ordinance means Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 10.8.2.1, *et seq.*, as amended from time to time.

(10) Equal Benefits means the equality of benefits between employees with spouses and employees with Domestic Partners, between spouses of employees and Domestic Partners of employees, and between dependents and family members of spouses and dependents and family members of Domestic Partners.

(11) Lease or License means any agreement allowing others to use property owned or controlled by the City, any agreement allowing others the use of City property in order to provide services to or for the City, such as for concession agreements, and any agreement allowing the City to use property owned or controlled by others.

(12) Subcontractor means any person or persons, firm, partnership, corporation, joint venture, or any combination of these, and any governmental entity, that assists the Contractor in performing or fulfilling the terms of the Contract. Subcontractors are not subject to the requirements of the Equal Benefits Ordinance unless they otherwise have a Contract directly with the City.

(c) Equal Benefits Requirements.

(1) No Awarding Authority of the City shall execute or amend any Contract with any Contractor that discriminates in the provision of Benefits between employees with spouses and employees with Domestic Partners, between spouses of employees and Domestic Partners of employees, and between dependents and family members of spouses and dependents and family members of Domestic Partners.

(2) A Contractor must permit access to, and upon request, must provide certified copies of all of its records pertaining to its Benefits policies and its employment policies and practices to the DAA, for the purpose of investigation or to ascertain compliance with the Equal Benefits Ordinance.

(3) A Contractor must post a copy of the following statement in conspicuous places at its place of business available to employees and applicants for employment: "During the performance of a Contract with the City of Los Angeles, the Contractor will provide equal benefits to its employees with spouses and its employees with domestic partners." The posted statement must also include a City contact telephone number which will be provided each Contractor when the Contract is executed.

(4) A Contractor must not set up or use its contracting entity for the purpose of evading the requirements imposed by the Equal Benefits Ordinance.

(d) Other Options for Compliance. Provided that the Contractor does not discriminate in the provision of Benefits, a Contractor may also comply with the Equal Benefits Ordinance in the following ways:

(1) A Contractor may provide an employee with the Cash Equivalent only if the DAA determines that either:

a. The Contractor has made a reasonable, yet unsuccessful effort to provide Equal Benefits; or

b. Under the circumstances, it would be unreasonable to require the Contractor to provide Benefits to the Domestic Partner (or spouse, if applicable).

(2) Allow each employee to designate a legally domiciled member of the employee's household as being eligible for spousal equivalent Benefits.

(3) Provide Benefits neither to employees' spouses nor to employees' Domestic Partners.

(e) Applicability.

(1) Unless otherwise exempt, a Contractor is subject to and shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Equal Benefits Ordinance.

(2) The requirements of the Equal Benefits Ordinance shall apply to a Contractor's operations as follows:

a. A Contractor's operations located within the City limits, regardless of whether there are employees at those locations performing work on the Contract.

b. A Contractor's operations on real property located outside of the City limits if the property is owned by the City or the City has a right to occupy the property, and if the Contractor's presence at or on that property is connected to a Contract with the City.

c. The Contractor's employees located elsewhere in the United States but outside of the City limits if those employees are performing work on the City Contract.

(3) The requirements of the Equal Benefits Ordinance do not apply to collective bargaining agreements ("CBA") in effect prior to January 1, 2000. The Contractor must agree to propose to its union that the requirements of the Equal Benefits Ordinance be incorporated into its CBA upon amendment, extension, or other modification of a CBA occurring after January 1, 2000.

(f) Mandatory Contract Provisions Pertaining to Equal Benefits. Unless otherwise exempted, every Contract shall contain language that obligates the Contractor to

comply with the applicable provisions of the Equal Benefits Ordinance. The language shall include provisions for the following:

(1) During the performance of the Contract, the Contractor certifies and represents that the Contractor will comply with the Equal Benefits Ordinance.

(2) The failure of the Contractor to comply with the Equal Benefits Ordinance will be deemed to be a material breach of the Contract by the Awarding Authority.

(3) If the Contractor fails to comply with the Equal Benefits Ordinance the Awarding Authority may cancel, terminate or suspend the Contract, in whole or in part, and all monies due or to become due under the Contract may be retained by the City. The City may also pursue any and all other remedies at law or in equity for any breach.

(4) Failure to comply with the Equal Benefits Ordinance may be used as evidence against the Contractor in actions taken pursuant to the provisions of Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 10.40, *et seq.*, Contractor Responsibility Ordinance.

(5) If the DAA determines that a Contractor has set up or used its Contracting entity for the purpose of evading the intent of the Equal Benefits Ordinance, the Awarding Authority may terminate the Contract on behalf of the City. Violation of this provision may be used as evidence against the Contractor in actions taken pursuant to the provisions of Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 10.40, *et seq.*, Contractor Responsibility Ordinance.

(g) Administration.

(1) The DAA is responsible for the enforcement of the Equal Benefits Ordinance for all City Contracts. Each Awarding Authority shall cooperate to the fullest extent with the DAA in its enforcement activities.

(2) In enforcing the requirements of the Equal Benefits Ordinance, the DAA may monitor, inspect, and investigate to insure that the Contractor is acting in compliance with the Equal Benefits Ordinance.

(3) The DAA shall promulgate rules and regulations and forms for the implementation of the Equal Benefits Ordinance. No other rules, regulations or forms may be used by an Awarding Authority of the City to accomplish this contract compliance program.

(h) Enforcement.

(1) If the Contractor fails to comply with the Equal Benefits Ordinance:

a. The failure to comply may be deemed to be a material breach of the Contract by the Awarding Authority; or

b. The Awarding Authority may cancel, terminate or suspend, in whole or in part, the contract; or

c. Monies due or to become due under the Contract may be retained by the City until compliance is achieved;

d. The City may also pursue any and all other remedies at law or in equity for any breach.

e. The City may use failure to comply with the Equal Benefits Ordinance as evidence against the Contractor in actions taken pursuant to the provisions of Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 10.40, *et seq.*, Contractor Responsibility Ordinance.

(i) Non-applicability, Exceptions and Waivers.

(1) Upon request of the Awarding Authority, the DAA may waive compliance with the Equal Benefits Ordinance under the following circumstances:

a. The Contract is for the use of City property, and there is only one prospective Contractor willing to enter into the Contract; or

b. The Contract is for needed goods, services, construction of a public work or improvement, or interest in or right to use real property that is available only from a single prospective Contractor, and that prospective Contractor is otherwise qualified and acceptable to the City; or

c. The Contract is necessary to respond to an emergency that endangers the public health or safety, and no entity which complies with the requirements of the Equal Benefits Ordinance capable of responding to the emergency is immediately available; or

d. The City Attorney certifies in writing that the Contract involves specialized litigation requirements such that it would be in the best interests of the City to waive the requirements of the Equal Benefits Ordinance; or

e. The Contract is (i) with a public entity; (ii) for goods, services, construction of a public work or improvement, or interest in or right to use real property; and (iii) that is either not available from another source, or is necessary to serve a substantial public interest. A Contract for interest in or the right to use real property shall not be considered as not being available from another source

unless there is no other site of comparable quality or accessibility available from another source; or

f. The requirements of the Equal Benefits Ordinance will violate or are inconsistent with the terms or conditions of a grant, subvention or agreement with a public agency or the instructions of an authorized representative of the agency with respect to the grant, subvention or agreement, provided that the Awarding Authority has made a good faith attempt to change the terms or conditions of the grant, subvention or agreement to authorize application of the Equal Benefits Ordinance; or

g. The Contract is for goods, a service or a project that is essential to the City or City residents and there are no qualified responsive bidders or prospective Contractors who could be certified as being in compliance with the requirements of the Equal Benefits Ordinance; or

h. The Contract involves bulk purchasing arrangements through City, federal, state or regional entities that actually reduce the City's purchasing costs and would be in the best interests of the City.

(2) The Equal Benefits Ordinance does not apply to contracts which involve:

a. The investment of trust monies, bond proceeds or agreements relating to the management of these funds, indentures, security enhancement agreements (including, but not limited to, liquidity agreements, letters of credit, bond insurance) for City tax-exempt and taxable financings, deposits of City's surplus funds in financial institutions, the investment of City monies in competitively bid investment agreements, the investment of City monies in securities permitted under the California State Government Code and/or the City's investment policy, investment agreements, repurchase agreements, City monies invested in U.S. government securities or pre-existing investment agreements;

b. Contracts involving City monies in which the Treasurer or the City Administrative Officer finds that either:

(i) No person, entity or financial institution doing business in the City, which is in compliance with the Equal Benefits Ordinance, is capable of performing the desired transaction(s); or

(ii) The City will incur a financial loss or forego a financial benefit which in the opinion of the Treasurer or City Administrative Officer would violate his or her fiduciary duties.

(3) The Equal Benefits Ordinance does not apply to contracts for gifts to the City.

(4) Nothing in this Subsection shall limit the right of the City to waive the provisions of the Equal Benefits Ordinance.

(5) The provisions of this Subsection shall apply to the Equal Benefits Ordinance only. The Equal Benefits Ordinance is not subject to the exemptions provided in Section 10.9 of this Code.

(j) Consistency with Federal or State Law. The provisions of the Equal Benefits Ordinance do not apply where the application of these provisions would violate or be inconsistent with the laws, rules or regulations federal or state law, or where the application would violate or be inconsistent with the terms or conditions of a grant or contract with the United States of America, the State of California, or the instruction of an authorized representative of any of these agencies with respect to any grant or contract.

(k) Severability. If any provision of the Equal Benefits Ordinance is declared legally invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

(l) Timing of Application.

(1) The requirements of the Equal Benefits Ordinance shall not apply to Contracts executed or amended prior to January 1, 2000, or to bid packages advertised and made available to the public, or any bids received by the City, prior to January 1, 2000, unless and until those Contracts are amended after January 1, 2000 and would otherwise be subject to the Equal Benefits Ordinance.

(2) The requirements of the Equal Benefits Ordinance shall apply to competitively bid Contracts that are amended after April 1, 2003, and to competitively bid Contracts that result from bid packages advertised and made available to the public after May 1, 2003.

(3) Unless otherwise exempt, the Equal Benefits Ordinance applies to any agreement executed or amended after January 1, 2000, that meets the definition of a Contract as defined within Subsection 10.8.2.1(b).

Sec. 2. The definition of "Domestic Partners" contained in Section 10.8.1 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code is amended by to read:

"Domestic partners" means, for purposes of this Article, any two adults, of the same or different sex, who have registered with a governmental entity pursuant to state or

local law authorizing this registration or with a internal registry maintained by an employer of at least one of the domestic partners.

Sec. 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a daily newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located in the Main Street lobby to the City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the ground level at the Los Angeles Street entrance to the Los Angeles Police Department; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

I hereby certify that this ordinance was passed by the Council of the City of Los Angeles, at its meeting of FEB 12 2003.

J. MICHAEL CAREY, City Clerk

By *Marisa Katenis*
Deputy

Approved FEB 28 2003

James Hahn
Mayor

Approved as to Form and Legality

ROCKARD J. DELGADILLO, City Attorney

By *Laurel L. Lightner*
LAUREL L. LIGHTNER
Deputy City Attorney

File No. 99-0908-S3
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