

LBE Lens Questions for Selection of New Banks

Background:

Dealing with diversity in regards to new demographics is a business reality most banks are aware of and dealing with. In some cases, banks are also dealing with State and Federal policy that mandates greater attention to respond to diversity in their service regions. As result, their Executives and Senior Management should be able to give us good information on their activities (and be more than happy to do so).

The questions we pose are intended to surface new information that will help inform one aspect of our selection process; and also to give us an opportunity to share our foundation's priorities as well.

Suggested Questions:

1. Tell us about your experiences serving the diverse population of the East Bay.
2. Tell us about your community lending program.
3. Do you have a foundation or a mechanism for giving grants in the community? If so what are your grant making priorities?
4. What are the demographics of your board and senior staff?
5. Do you have an equity and inclusion statement or diversity statement?
6. We would like a copy of your last CRA Audit (these are now part of public record and we should be able to get one at any branch...they should have a rating based on their activities)