

Statement of Objectives/Policy

Section 26.1, 26.23 Objectives/Policy Statement

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. As a recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, Metro has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26.

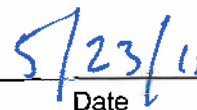
It is the policy of Metro to ensure that DBEs defined in 49 CFR Part 26 have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. The objectives of the DBE Program include:

1. To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT – assisted contracts;
2. To create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts;
3. To ensure that the DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
4. To ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
5. To help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT assisted contracts;
6. To assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE Program.

The Deputy Executive Officer (DEO) of the Diversity and Economic Opportunity Department (DEOD) has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, the DEO is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE program. Implementation of the DBE program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by Metro in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

Metro will disseminate this policy statement to Metro Board of Directors and circulate to all components of Metro. In addition, Metro will distribute this statement to DBE and non-DBE communities and business organizations. Distribution will be accomplished through posting on Metro website and publication in vendor and small business newsletters, and through electronic notification to DBE firms.


for **Arthur T. Leahy**
Chief Executive Officer


Date