

To: Administration & Finance Committee

Date: April 25, 2022

From: Kristina Martinez, Director of Recruitment & EE Development

Reviewed by: *RM*

SUBJECT: Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Goal for Federal Fiscal Years (FFYs) 2023-2025

Background:

The Board of Directors adopted the revised County Connection Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program on February 15, 2018 pursuant to U.S. Department of Transportation directives and guidelines in the regulations, 49 CFR Part 26. The program was submitted to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) on March 14, 2018 and it received concurrence on May 23, 2019.

As part of the DBE Program, the regulations require grantees to establish a three-year overall goal for DBE participation in FTA-assisted contracts. The Board adopted a 4.65% overall DBE goal for FFY2020 through FFY2022 on July 18, 2019 and received concurrence by the FTA on September 19, 2019.

County Connection's next goal submission is due to FTA on August 1, 2022 covering FFY2023 through FFY2025. Staff is proposing a 5.9% overall goal based on federal contracting opportunities and DBE availability for those projects. Calculation of this goal was based on a percentage of all FTA-assisted contracting funds anticipated to be expended during FFYs 2023-2025. County Connection anticipates receiving FTA Section 5307 grants as well as federal COVID-19 relief funds.

Prior to submission to the FTA, the regulations require that County Connection post a notice on its official web site announcing the proposed goal. In addition, the notice will inform the public the proposed goal is available for inspection and comment for a 30-day period. Following public review, staff will apprise the A&F Committee of any comments received and will recommend the final overall DBE goal for adoption by the Board at their July meeting.

Financial Implications:

An approved DBE Program, which includes a three-year DBE overall goal, will enable County Connection to continue to be eligible for federal financial assistance.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the A&F Committee authorize staff to post the proposed DBE overall goal of 5.9% on the County Connection website and begin the 30-day public review and comment period.

Action Requested:

Staff requests that the A&F Committee authorize posting of the proposed DBE overall goal on the County Connection website and begin the 30-day public review and comment period.