

**To:** Administration and Finance Committee

**Date:** 08/27/2024

**From:** Kristina Martinez, Director of Human Resources

**Reviewed by:** *Ref*

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**SUBJECT: Update to the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program**

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### **Background:**

Central Contra Costa Transit Authority (CCCTA), as a recipient of federal financial assistance from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT), is required to implement a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26 (Regulations). CCCTA's commitment to the DBE Program allows for the participation of DBEs in contracts and subcontracts related to construction, procurement, and professional services activities.

The Board of Directors most recently adopted the CCCTA DBE Program on February 15, 2018, pursuant to the USDOT guidelines. The DBE Program was submitted to FTA on March 14, 2018, and approved on May 23, 2019.

### **Summary of Issues:**

On April 9, 2024, the USDOT issued a Final Rule with modifications to the DBE program regulations with an effective date of May 9, 2024. These modifications included:

- Expanding reporting requirements to the USDOT, including bidding and solicitation utilization and practices.
- Strengthening monitoring and prompt payment requirements.
- Clarification in counting participation by DBE material suppliers.
- Adjustment to the personal net worth (PNW) cap for inflation in small business owners.
- Streamlining the certification and eligibility process.
- Formalizing guidance around COVID-19 flexibilities for certification activities.
- Expediting interstate reciprocity.

As part of the USDOT Final Rule, a new tiered system (Tier I & Tier II) was developed for FTA recipients. CCCTA is considered a Tier I recipient, which is defined by the FTA as awarding more than \$670,000 in federal transit funds annually in third-party contracts. As such, Tier I recipients are required to submit an updated DBE Program per the Final Rule to the FTA by October 9, 2024, and implement procedures immediately upon submission.

The DBE Liaison Officer (DBELO) is responsible for administering the DBE Program. The revised CCCTA DBE Program will continue to meet the requirements for administration as directed by the USDOT in the Final Rule.

**Financial Implications:**

A revised DBE Program, as approved by the FTA will enable CCCTA to continue to be eligible for federal financial assistance.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends approval of the updated CCCTA DBE Program.

**Action Requested:**

Staff requests that the A&F Committee forward a recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the revised DBE Program and authorize staff to forward it to the FTA.

**Attachments:**

Attachment 1: Draft CCCTA DBE Program (Revised August 2024)

**Plan for Utilization  
of Small Businesses Owned and Controlled  
by Disadvantaged Individuals  
(DBE Program)**

**I. POLICY**

The Central Contra Costa Transit Authority (CCCTA) is committed to a *Plan for Utilization of Small Businesses Owned and Controlled by Disadvantaged Individuals (DBE Program)* for the participation of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) in CCCTA's contracting opportunities, in accordance with federal Regulations 49 CFR Part 26, effective March 4, 1999, as may be amended.

It is the policy of CCCTA to ensure nondiscrimination based on race, color, sex or national origin in the award and administration of contracts assisted by the U.S. Department of Transportation. It is the intention of CCCTA to create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly and participate in the performance of contracts and subcontracts relating to CCCTA's construction, procurement and professional services activities.

The General Manager has primary responsibility for adherence to provisions of the *DBE Program*. Responsibility for developing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating CCCTA's *DBE Program* is assigned to the DBE Liaison Officer. Other CCCTA management staff responsible for making decisions relative to construction, procurement and professional service contracts share in this responsibility. It is the expectation of the CCCTA Board of Directors and the General Manager that the stipulations and provisions contained in the *DBE Program* are adhered to, in the spirit and the letter, by all CCCTA personnel.

Notices setting forth this policy are posted at CCCTA's offices and website and they are available to the public and to the DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform, or are interested in performing, work on CCCTA's contracts. Questions regarding CCCTA's *DBE Program* should be addressed to the DBE Liaison Officer, 2477 Arnold Industrial Way, Concord, California 94520, telephone (925) 680-2031.

To formalize its commitment, the CCCTA Board of Directors hereby adopts the *DBE Program* applicable to CCCTA's contracting operations effective September 19, 2024.

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Bill Churchill  
CCCTA General Manager

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Kevin Wilk, Chair  
CCCTA Board of Directors

## **A. Applicability**

Pursuant to 49 CFR §§ 26.3 and 26.21, CCCTA, a recipient of federal financial assistance from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) of the United States Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT), is required to implement a *DBE Program* in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26 (Regulations). The requirements of the Regulations are incorporated by reference. In the event of any conflicts or inconsistencies between the Regulations and the *DBE Program* with respect to U.S. DOT-assisted contracts, the Regulations shall prevail. The *DBE Program* outlined herein applies to all CCCTA contracts that are funded, in whole or in part, by U.S. DOT federal financial assistance.

## **B. Program Objectives**

The objectives of the *DBE Program* are to:

- Ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of U.S. DOT-assisted contracts;
- Create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for U.S. DOT-assisted contracts;
- Ensure the *DBE Program* is narrowly tailored in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26 and applicable law;
- Ensure that only firms that fully meet the eligibility standards in 49 CFR Part 26 are permitted to participate as DBEs;
- Help remove barriers to DBE participation in the bidding, award and administration of U.S. DOT-assisted contracts;
- Identify business enterprises that are eligible as DBE to provide CCCTA with required materials, equipment, supplies and services;
- Develop communications programs and procedures that will acquaint prospective DBEs with CCCTA's contracting procedures, activities and requirements, and allow DBEs to provide CCCTA with feedback on existing barriers to participation and effective procedures to eliminate those barriers; and
- Assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the marketplace outside the *DBE Program*.

## **C. Prohibited Discrimination**

CCCTA will not exclude persons from participation in, deny benefits to, or otherwise discriminate against any persons in connection with the award and performance of any contract governed by 49 CFR Part 26 on the basis of race, color, sex or national origin. CCCTA will not directly, or through contractual or other arrangements, use criteria or methods of administration that have the effect of defeating or substantially impairing accomplishment of the objectives of this *DBE Program* with respect to individuals of a particular race, color, sex or national origin.

## II. DEFINITIONS

Any terms used in this *DBE Program* that are defined in 49 CFR § 26.5 or elsewhere in the Regulations shall have the meaning set forth in the Regulations. Some of the most common terms are defined below.

**Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)** means a for-profit, small business concern -

- (1) That is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned by one or more individuals who are both socially and economically disadvantaged; and
- (2) Whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of the socially and economically disadvantaged individuals who own it.

**Business Size Standard** is defined by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) found in 23 CFR Part 121 appropriate to the types of work the firm seeks to perform. In addition, for purposes of this *DBE Program*, even if the firm meets the SBA requirements, a firm is not an eligible DBE or SBE if the firm (including its affiliates) has had average annual gross receipts as defined in SBA regulations over the firm's previous three fiscal years in excess of \$30.72 million, or as adjusted for inflation from time to time by U. S. DOT.

**Good Faith Efforts** means efforts to achieve a DBE or SBE goal or other requirements of this part that, by their scope, intensity and appropriateness to the objective can reasonably be expected to fulfill the program requirements.

**Personal Net Worth** means the net value an individual's net assets and liabilities as calculated by 49 CFR § 26.68.

**Race-Conscious** measure or program is one that is focused specifically on assisting only DBEs, including women-owned DBEs.

**Race-Neutral** measure or program is one that is, or can be, used to assist all small businesses. For the purposes of this *DBE Program*, race-neutral includes gender neutrality.

**Small Business Concern** means a small business seeking to participate as a DBE or SBE in U.S. DOT-assisted contracts, as defined by section 3 of the Small Business Act and the Small Business Administration regulations implementing it (13 CFR Part 121) that also does not exceed the cap on average of annual gross receipts specified in 49 CFR § 26.65(b).

**Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Individuals** means any individual who is a citizen (or lawfully admitted permanent resident) of the United States and who is

- (1) Any individual in the following groups, members of which are rebuttably presumed to be socially and economically disadvantaged:
  - Black Americans (including persons having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa);
  - Hispanic Americans (including persons of Central or South American, Cuban, Dominican, Mexican, Puerto Rican, or other Spanish or Portuguese culture or origin, regardless of race);

- Native Americans (including persons who are enrolled members of a federally or State recognized Indian tribe, Alaska Natives, or Native Hawaiians);
- Asian-Pacific Americans (including persons whose origins are from Brunei, Burma (Myanmar), Cambodia (Kampuchea), China, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Guam, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Juvalu, Kiribati, Korea, Laos, Macao, Malaysia, Nauru, the Philippines, Samoa, Taiwan, Thailand, Tonga, the U.S. Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands (Republic of Palau), or Vietnam);
- Subcontinent Asian Americans (including persons whose origins are from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives Islands, Nepal, Pakistan, or Sri Lanka);
- Women.

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### III. RESPONSIBILITY FOR DBE PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION

#### A. CCCTA Board of Directors

The Board of Directors ultimately is responsible for ensuring that the *DBE Program* has a high priority and is effectively implemented and adhered to at CCCTA.

#### B. General Manager

The General Manager has primary responsibility for ensuring that the Board's policies are implemented throughout CCCTA.

#### C. Management Staff

Management staff who are responsible for making contracting decisions, share in the responsibility of assuring the processes of contracting and procurement of goods and services are carried out in a nondiscriminatory manner. In coordination with the DBE Liaison Officer (DBELO), other management staff will assist in problem identification and resolution, monitor and audit contracts, and remove any contracting obstacles to ensure the *DBE Program* guidelines are being followed.

#### D. DBE Liaison Officer

The DBE Liaison Officer (DBELO) is responsible for development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the *DBE Program*. The DBELO will have direct, independent access to the General Manager concerning *DBE Program* matters. The DBELO will work closely with Legal Counsel and management staff responsible for construction, procurement and professional service contracts. Specific responsibilities of the DBELO include, but are not limited to:

1. Developing, recommending, monitoring, evaluating, and revising the *DBE Program*, DBE policies and procedures, and internal and external communications mechanisms. Issuing supplementary policies and procedures for implementation of the *DBE Program* by CCCTA staff, as necessary.
2. Gathering, analyzing and assessing available resources and evidence for the establishment and achievement of an overall DBE participation goal for three fiscal years. Adjusting an overall DBE goal during that three-year period, if required, due to changed circumstances. Preparing and submitting CCCTA's *DBE Overall Goal and Goal Setting Methodology (DBE Report)*.
3. Conducting race-neutral measures to facilitate participation of small business concerns, including DBEs, through outreach and other communication programs, training and business development programs, restructuring contracting opportunities, simplifying bonding, surety and insurance requirements, or other race-neutral means.
4. Identifying contracts and procurements where DBE or SBE goals can be included in solicitations (both race-neutral methods and contract-specific goals).

5. Participating in the contract solicitation and award process, including recommending specific contract goals, where appropriate, reviewing contract specifications, attending pre-bid and pre-proposal conferences, and evaluating bids and proposals for contractor responsiveness, responsibility and good faith efforts related to the DBE or SBE requirements of the contract.
6. Providing outreach to DBEs, SBEs and community organizations to advise them of contracting opportunities. Ensuring contracting information is available to identified DBEs and SBEs in a timely manner.
7. Providing DBEs and SBEs with information and assistance, as appropriate, in preparing bids/proposals and obtaining bonding and insurance.
8. Frequently monitoring contract performance and actual DBE and SBE participation and contract payments.
9. Monitoring overall DBE participation, adjusting overall DBE goal and means of achievement, and assessing any areas of over-concentration of DBE participation.
10. Participating as a member of the Business Outreach Committee (BOC). Representing CCCTA, as assigned, on other regional, state and national groups or organizations working in support of DBEs and SBEs.
11. Participating as a member of the California Unified Certification Program (CUCP) in accordance with 49 CFR § 26.81 and the CUCP Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).
12. Maintaining all appropriate records and documentation of the *DBE Program*.
13. Advising the General Manager, Board of Directors and U.S. DOT officials, as required, on DBE matters and achievement.
14. Preparing, maintaining, and submitting reports and documents, as required.

**E. Reconsideration Official**

In accordance with 49 CFR §§ 26.53(d)(2) and 26.87(e), all proceedings by CCCTA regarding the reconsideration of compliance with provisions of the DBE Regulations concerning a contract award will be made by the General Manager or his/her designated representative who did not take part in the original determination. This official will preside over CCCTA hearings that may be held pursuant to this *DBE Program*, including administrative reconsideration of the DBELO's determination of a bidder's or proposer's compliance with good faith efforts.



## IV. ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

### A. Dissemination of Policy Statement

Pursuant to 49 CFR § 26.23, the DBELO shall distribute a signed and dated Policy Statement throughout CCCTA's offices, on the CCCTA website and to the business community, including DBEs and non-DBEs that perform work on U.S. DOT-assisted contracts for CCCTA. The entire *DBE Program* will be available to the public upon request and made available for public access on CCCTA's website.

### B. Regional Coordination/Unified Certification Program

The DBELO is designated by the General Manager to represent CCCTA as a member of the Business Outreach Committee (BOC). The DBELO will participate in BOC programs, activities and efforts to create a level playing field on which DBEs and SBEs can compete fairly; to enhance outreach and communication efforts with these firms; to provide appropriate assistance and information for participation in U.S. DOT-assisted contracts; and to develop joint resources among U.S. DOT-recipients. To this end, the DBELO will attend scheduled meetings of the BOC and will contribute to the achievement of projects approved by CCCTA's General Manager.

CCCTA is a participant in the California Unified Certification Program (CUCP), which is a reciprocal statewide DBE certification program. It is the intent of CCCTA to cooperate and participate fully in the facilitation and implementation of the CUCP.

CCCTA is a signatory to the California Unified Certification Program (CUCP) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The DBELO will participate in CUCP activities to further the objectives of the *DBE Program*, consistent with the DBE Regulations and the CUCP MOA, as approved by the U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary on March 13, 2002, and as may be amended from time to time.

As a member of the CUCP, CCCTA relies upon the CUCP for the certification of DBE firms and assurance that only firms certified as eligible DBEs participate in the *DBE Program*. The CUCP MOA provides U.S. DOT recipients the option to be either a certifying member or a non-certifying member. CCCTA has elected to be a non-certifying member.

As designated by the General Manager, the DBELO will represent CCCTA on other regional, state and national groups or organizations working in support of DBEs and SBEs.

### C. DBE Database

The CUCP DBE Database (DBE Database) is a consolidated and automated directory that identifies firms that have been certified as DBEs by the CUCP. The DBE Database is jointly maintained and updated by the CUCP certifying member agencies, in coordination with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) as the CUCP DBE Database Manager.

CCCTA will use the DBE Database as a resource when developing overall and contract-specific DBE participation goals and conducting outreach and other activities to promote DBE participation on U.S. DOT-assisted contracts. The CUCP DBE Database is available in printed form and

electronically at <https://californiaucp.dbesystem.com/>. The database is available to contractors, DBE firms, other public agencies and the public.

Potential contractors will be apprised of the availability of the DBE Database as a means of identifying DBEs with capabilities relevant to general contracting requirements and particular solicitations, thereby facilitating contractors' efforts to meet DBE requirements. Potential DBE firms will be encouraged by CCCTA to seek DBE certification so that they can be added to the DBE Database. The importance of taking advantage of this resource as a means of increasing the likely use of DBE firms will be emphasized, and the procedure by which their businesses can become a California certified DBE will be explained to prospective firms.

The DBE Database includes the following information on each DBE firm: name of firm, name of owner(s), business and mailing addresses, telephone number, firm website, types of work utilizing the CUCP Work Codes and North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Codes for which the firm is certified as a DBE, and work descriptions. Additionally, the Database may include, whenever possible: certification status, race/ethnicity, licenses, and email address. The DBE Database does not, in any way, prequalify the identified DBE firms with respect to licensing, bonding, competence or financial responsibility.

#### **D. Bidders List**

CCCTA will require all prime contractors bidding or proposing on U.S. DOT-assisted contracts to submit the following information about the prime contractor and all subcontractors who provided a bid, proposal or quote to the prime contractor: the firm's name, address including zip code, status as a DBE or non-DBE, race and gender information of the firm's majority owner, NAICS code applicable to each scope of work the firm seeks to perform, age of the firm, and annual gross receipts or gross receipts bracket of the firm. CCCTA will use this information to maintain and update its Bidders List, including entering it into a system designated by U.S. DOT. CCCTA will maintain the confidentiality of any proprietary information in accordance with applicable California laws and the Regulations.

#### **E. Monitoring Actual DBE and SBE Participation and Payments**

It is the prime contractor's responsibility to maintain records and documents for three (3) years following performance of the contract. This reporting requirement is extended also to any DBE or SBE subcontractors. Records maintained by prime contractors and DBE or SBE subcontractors will be made available for inspection, upon request of any authorized representative of CCCTA or U.S. DOT.

The DBELO will frequently monitor and track actual DBE and SBE participation through contractor reports of payments and other monitoring mechanisms as determined by the DBELO based on the size and complexity of the project. The DBELO will maintain a running tally of payments actually made to DBE and SBE firms and may require prime contractors and DBE or SBE subcontractors and suppliers to provide appropriate documentation to verify such payments.

The DBELO will ensure that DBE participation is counted toward contract goals and DBE participation is counted toward the overall DBE goal in accordance with the Regulations. Credit toward overall or contract goals will only be given upon satisfactory evidence that payments were actually made to DBEs.

CCCTA may perform interim audits of contract payments to DBEs and SBEs. The audit will review payments to DBE and SBE subcontractors to ensure that the actual amount paid to them equals or exceeds the dollar amounts stated on the List of Prime Contractor and Subcontractors/Suppliers form and any contract amendments.

#### **F. Monitoring the Performance of Program Participants**

CCCTA will apply legal and contract remedies available under federal, state and local laws to ensure all program participants comply with the Regulations and this *DBE Program*. The DBELO and project managers will frequently monitor contractor performance to ensure that work committed to DBEs or SBEs at contract award, and subsequent contract amendments, is actually performed by the identified DBEs or SBEs and payments are made to those firms in accordance with the contract requirements.

This monitoring mechanism will include a written certification that the DBELO and/or the project manager has reviewed contracting records and monitored work sites in the CCCTA service area of firms performing CCCTA contracts. This monitoring may be conducted in combination with monitoring of contract performance for other purposes (e.g., close-out review for a contract).

#### **G. Reporting to U.S. Department of Transportation**

The DBELO will report DBE participation, overall goal setting methodology, revisions in the *DBE Program*, and other information and documentation to FTA as required. Statistical data will be maintained as prescribed and the Uniform Report of DBE Awards or Commitments and Payments form will be submitted to FTA at the intervals stated on the form, reflecting the DBE participation on CCCTA's federally assisted procurement activities. These reports will provide DBE participation on CCCTA's race-neutral contracts, race-conscious contracts, and the combined DBE participation on all U.S. DOT-assisted procurement activities.

#### **H. DBE Financial Institutions**

It is the policy of CCCTA to investigate the full extent of services offered by financial institutions located in its service area that are owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, to make reasonable efforts to use these institutions, and to encourage prime contractors on U.S. DOT-assisted contracts to use these institutions.

As of May 1, 2024, the Federal Reserve Board on its website [www.federalreserve.gov](http://www.federalreserve.gov) listed no minority-owned financial institutions located in the CCCTA service area. The DBELO will continue to use this source to identify and solicit minority-owned banks to participate in CCCTA's *DBE Program*.

#### **I. Over-Concentration**

Pursuant to 49 CFR § 26.33, if the DBELO determines that DBE participation is so over-concentrated in certain types of work or contracting opportunities that it unduly burdens the participation of non-DBEs in that type of work, the DBELO will develop appropriate measures to address the over-concentration. The DBELO will seek approval of these corrective measures from FTA and once approved, they will become part of this *DBE Program*. Currently, CCCTA is unaware of any types of work that have a burdensome over-concentration of DBE participation.

## J. Small Business Element

One method of providing race-neutral efforts for DBE participation will be through CCCTA's small business element, which is incorporated into this *DBE Program*. The small business element is intended to facilitate compliance with the two objectives in 49 CFR § 26.51: (1) To meet the maximum feasible portion of CCCTA's DBE overall goal by using race-neutral means of obtaining DBE participation; and (2) to establish DBE contract goals to meet any portion of the DBE overall goal CCCTA is unable to meet using race-neutral methods alone. CCCTA will implement the small business element within nine (9) months of receiving approval from FTA.

The small business element applies to sub-recipients in the same way as CCCTA's *DBE Program*. CCCTA will ensure that any sub-recipients implement CCCTA's approved small business element. If a sub-recipient has its own DBE Program separate from CCCTA's *DBE Program*, the sub-recipient is responsible for creating and implementing its own small business element.

An important part of CCCTA's small business element is its outreach activities. These outreach efforts include active, effective steps to increase small business participation, such as soliciting bids/proposals from DBEs and SBEs, responding to requests for information, participating at pre-bid and pre-proposal meetings, and participating at outreach and training events for DBEs and small businesses. CCCTA will collaborate with regional resources by pooling resources and/or creating joint programs for review and approval by FTA.

As time and resources allow, the DBELO will help plan and/or participate in outreach and informational events for DBEs and small businesses that may be coordinated with other U.S. DOT recipients, federal agencies, or local organizations. Discussed during these outreach events will be procedures on how to do business with CCCTA, how to become certified as a DBE or SBE, CCCTA's *DBE Program* requirements, and other topics of interest to DBEs and small businesses.

Other strategies that CCCTA will consider as a part of its small business element include unbundling contracts and setting SBE contract-specific goals when subcontracting opportunities are available.

For purposes of this DBE Program, a small business enterprise (SBE) is defined as a Small Business Concern that does not exceed the Business Size Standard. CCCTA's small business element includes a verification process to ensure eligibility of small business firms to participate in its *DBE Program*. To avoid fraud, a firm's small business status will be verified when CCCTA utilizes SBE contract goals on a project. CCCTA will rely on the certification/verification process used by other agencies, providing their process is to confirm eligibility consistent with those of Part 26, including the requirement that the SBE firm may not exceed the Business Size Standard. CCCTA will not accept certifications/verifications by agencies that allow companies to self-certify as small businesses. A currently certified DBE is presumed eligible to participate in the small business element of CCCTA's *DBE Program*. CCCTA will require that all SBEs and any DBEs not certified by the CUCP provide documentation to verify their certification status. CCCTA may require SBEs to submit additional documents, as necessary, to verify their eligibility.

CCCTA will track and report any race-neutral participation by currently certified DBEs achieved through the small business element in the same way it reports race-neutral DBE participation obtained through other methods. To the extent feasible, data on small business participation will be collected and maintained in order to respond to any future questions regarding the results of CCCTA's *DBE Program*.

**K. Business Development and Mentor/Protégé Program**

CCCTA may establish a DBE business development program to assist firms in gaining the ability to compete successfully in the marketplace outside the *DBE Program*. As a part of the business development program or separately, CCCTA may establish a mentor/protégé program in which another DBE or non-DBE firm is the principal source of business development assistance. If CCCTA determines such a program is beneficial, a proposed program will be written and submitted to FTA's regional office for approval, after which it will become part of this *DBE Program*. Guidelines outlined in Appendices C and D of 49 CFR Part 26 will be utilized in setting up the formal agreements and programs. CCCTA may participate in a business development program and/or mentor/protégé program established by other U.S. DOT recipients.

**L. Issuance of Supplementary Procedures**

The General Manager, upon recommendation of the DBELO and in consultation with Legal Counsel, may issue supplementary written procedures for the implementation of the *DBE Program*, consistent with the Regulations.

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## **V. DETERMINING AND ACHIEVING OVERALL GOAL AND COUNTING DBE PARTICIPATION**

Pursuant to 49 CFR § 26.45, the CCCTA Board of Directors will establish an overall DBE goal on a fiscal-year basis every three years for the participation of DBEs in all budgeted contracts utilizing U.S. DOT financial assistance. The overall DBE goal shall be expressed as a percentage of the total amount of U.S. DOT funds CCCTA anticipates expending during those three fiscal years.

CCCTA's overall DBE goal represents the amount of ready, willing and able DBEs that are available to participate in U.S. DOT-assisted contracting opportunities. The overall DBE goal is reflective of the amount of DBE participation CCCTA expects based upon its analysis of CCCTA's planned federally assisted projects and the number of available DBEs within CCCTA's market area. CCCTA intends to meet its goal to the maximum extent feasible through race-neutral measures. Where race-neutral measures are inadequate to meet the overall DBE goal, CCCTA will establish specific contract goals for particular projects with subcontracting opportunities.

### **A. Methodology for Setting Overall DBE Goal**

#### **1. Projecting U.S. DOT-Assisted Contract Expenditures**

In conjunction with the preparation and adoption of the budget for each fiscal year, the DBELO, in consultation with the appropriate CCCTA department managers responsible for contracting activities, will conduct an analysis of the projected numbers, types of work, and dollar amounts of contracting opportunities that will be funded, in whole or in part, by U.S. DOT financial assistance for each fiscal year during that three-year period. This analysis will exclude projected contract expenditures with transit vehicle manufacturers, which will be subject to the requirements of 49 CFR § 26.49.

If required by FTA, CCCTA will express its overall DBE goal as a percentage of funds for a particular grant or project or group of grants and/or projects. A project DBE goal may be adjusted to reflect changed circumstances with the concurrence of FTA. A project DBE goal covers the entire length of the project to which it applies. A project DBE goal includes a projection of the DBE participation anticipated to be obtained during each fiscal year covered by the project DBE goal. The funds for the project to which the project DBE goal pertains are separated from the base from which CCCTA's regular overall DBE goal applicable to contracts not part of the project covered by a project goal is calculated.

#### **2. Establishing a Base Figure**

Pursuant to 49 CFR § 26.45(c), CCCTA will develop a base figure, based upon the projected fiscal year budgets for the three-year term of the goal to express the availability of DBEs as a percentage of all contractors, subcontractors, manufacturers and suppliers in the relevant contracting markets. CCCTA will follow one of the methodologies provided in the Regulations or develop an alternative methodology and provide the appropriate documentation in the *DBE Overall Goal and Goal Setting Methodology (DBE Report)*.

##### **a. Analyzing Available Businesses in the Relevant Contracting Markets**

The DBELO will conduct an analysis of the relevant contracting markets in which CCCTA will solicit participation from contractors, subcontractors, manufacturers and suppliers for each fiscal year. This analysis will include a description of geographical boundaries of the solicitations, the applicable North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Codes for the types of work to be contracted and any other indicators that CCCTA determines to be relevant to defining its contracting markets. The DBELO will then determine the available businesses according to the relevant contracting markets. The DBELO will consult a variety of sources including, but not limited to, the U.S. Census Bureau, CCCTA's Bidders List and any relevant disparity studies.

b. Analyzing Available DBEs in the Relevant Contracting Markets

The DBELO will conduct a similar analysis to determine the number of ready, willing and able DBEs that are available to participate as contractors, subcontractors, manufacturers and suppliers in the projected federally assisted contracts for each fiscal year. This analysis will include a description of the available DBEs relative to the geographical boundaries of the solicitations, the NAICS Codes for the types of work to be contracted, and any other pertinent factors. The DBELO will consult a variety of sources including, but not limited to, CUCP DBE Database, U.S. Census Bureau, CCCTA's Bidders List and any relevant disparity studies.

c. Calculating the Base Figure

The DBELO will compare the available DBEs to the available businesses in the relevant contracting markets for each fiscal year. The calculation will include a weighting factor according to the U.S. DOT-assisted contracting expenditure patterns.

d. Adjusting the Base Figure

Pursuant to 49 CFR § 26.45(d), the DBELO will adjust the base figure based on demonstrable evidence indicating that the availability of DBEs for U.S. DOT-assisted contracts for each fiscal year may be higher or lower than the base figure indicates. At a minimum, the DBELO will analyze:

- (1) The results of CCCTA's efforts to contract with DBEs for the current and recent years;
- (2) Any available and relevant disparity studies (to the extent that they are not accounted for in the base figure);
- (3) Any available and relevant results of other, similar U.S. DOT recipients' efforts to contract with DBEs;
- (4) Any relevant feedback or projections from DBE firms, minority and women professional and resource organizations, the U.S. Small Business Administration, general contractor organizations, community groups, or others; and
- (5) Any other available evidence from related areas that affects the opportunities for DBEs to form, grow and compete.



e. Projection of Percentage of Overall DBE Goal to be Achieved Through Race-Neutral and Race-Conscious Measures

Once the overall DBE goal is calculated, the DBELO will analyze and project the maximum feasible portion of the goal that can be achieved by using race-neutral methods. Where the projected portion of the goal using race-neutral methods is less than the overall DBE goal, the remaining portion may be achieved by establishing contract goals for particular projects that have subcontracting opportunities.

The DBELO shall monitor and adjust the use of contract-specific goals in accordance with 49 CFR 26.51(f). When projecting the percentage of the overall goal to be achieved through establishing contract-specific goals, the DBELO shall analyze the actual achievement of the overall goal through race-neutral methods in the current and recent years. When establishing contract-specific goals during the current fiscal year, the DBELO shall analyze the progress toward achieving the overall goal and increase, reduce or eliminate the use of contract-specific goals accordingly. Contract goals will provide for participation by certified DBEs or SBEs and will not be subdivided into group-specific goals.

**B. Public Participation and Adoption of the Overall DBE Goal**

1. Consultation with Various Groups, Organizations and Officials

In a joint effort, members of the CUCP and BOC will continue to hold public participation sessions to obtain input in the goal-setting process, specifically on the availability of disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged businesses, the effects of discrimination on opportunities for DBEs, and efforts to establish a level playing field for the participation of DBEs. Members from the public invited to attend the public participation sessions will include, but not be limited to, minority, women and general contractor groups, community organizations, and other U.S. DOT recipients.

2. DBE Report

Upon completion of the analysis described above and after consultation with various groups, organizations and officials, the DBELO will prepare the *DBE Report* for a three-year period for review and approval by the General Manager. The report will document the analysis and methodology as well as the proposed DBE goal and estimated percentages to be achieved through race-neutral measures. Upon the General Manager's approval and recommendation, the Administration & Finance (A&F) Committee will consider authorizing publication of the proposed DBE goal for public comment and adoption of the DBE goal thereafter.

3. Publication of the Proposed Overall DBE Goal

Pursuant to 49 CFR § 26.45(g), CCCTA will publish the proposed overall goal on its Internet Website and may also publish the proposed goal in general circulation and DBE oriented media before submission to the FTA.



Concurrently, CCCTA may notify the public of the availability of the *DBE Report* for review and comment. The notice will include a statement that the methodology and report are available for inspection for thirty (30) days from the date of publication. Upon receipt of any public comments, the DBELO will prepare a summary report analyzing the public comments and recommending any modifications to the overall DBE goal or methodology and will furnish it to the General Manager for review and concurrence. If no comments are received that would change substantially the goal analysis, the results of the public comment period may be presented as an informational matter to the Board of Directors with no further action required.

4. Adoption of the Overall DBE Goal

The A&F Committee will consider making a recommendation to the Board of Directors to adopt the overall goal. The Board of Directors will consider and determine whether to adopt the overall DBE goal for DBE participation in U.S. DOT-assisted contracts. Unless otherwise directed, the *DBE Overall Goal* will be submitted every three years by August 1<sup>st</sup>, to FTA for review and approval.

The overall DBE goal applies to each fiscal year during that three-year period. CCCTA may adjust the overall DBE goal during that three-year period to which it applies in order to reflect changed circumstances. Such an adjustment will be submitted to FTA for review and approval.

**C. Transit Vehicle Manufacturers Participation and Certification**

CCCTA will require transit vehicle manufacturers (TVMs) to certify that they have established an overall DBE participation goal that has been approved by FTA (or the goal has been submitted but not disapproved) as a condition of being authorized to bid on any FTA-assisted transit vehicle procurements. Expenditures for FTA-assisted transit vehicle procurements are not included in establishing the CCCTA overall DBE goal for U.S. DOT-assisted contract expenditures.

**D. DBE Quotas or Set-Asides**

CCCTA will not use quotas for DBEs and will not set-aside contracts for DBEs on U.S. DOT-assisted contracts. CCCTA will make every effort to achieve its DBE goals by utilizing the means outlined in the *DBE Program*.

**E. Achieving the Overall DBE Goal**

CCCTA will attempt to achieve the overall DBE goal for DBE participation through a combination of race-neutral measures and contract goals for contracts with subcontracting opportunities.

If an overall DBE goal is not achieved by the end of its fiscal year, CCCTA will analyze the reason(s) for the shortfall and establish specific steps and milestones to correct the problems identified in the analysis that will enable CCCTA to meet its DBE goal for the following fiscal year. This analysis and corrective action will be retained in the record for three years and made available to FTA upon request for its review.

1. Race-Neutral Methods

CCCTA will use race-neutral methods to the maximum extent feasible to achieve its overall DBE goal, including:

- a. Ensuring contracting barriers do not exist by using contracting arrangements (such as, arranging solicitations, times for the presentation of bids, quantities, specifications and delivery schedules) that facilitate participation by DBEs and other small businesses and make contracts more accessible to them.
- b. Configuring large contracts into smaller contracts to make contracts more accessible to small businesses, when feasible, providing it would not impose significant additional cost, delay or risk to CCCTA.
- c. Identifying components of the work that represent subcontracting opportunities and identifying the availability of DBE subcontractors. Contractors will be encouraged to consider DBE subcontractors for components of the work for which there is a known supply of ready, willing and able DBE subcontractors, as well as non-DBE subcontractors, in preparing their bids and proposals.
- d. Assisting in overcoming limitations in bonding and financing, when requested and as appropriate.
- e. Providing technical assistance and other business related services, as requested and as appropriate.
- f. Providing outreach and communications programs related to contracting opportunities and procedures to ensure the inclusion of DBEs and other small businesses on mailing lists soliciting bids and proposals.
- g. Requiring prime bidders on multi-year design-build contracts or other large contracts to specify elements of the contract or specific subcontracts that are of a size that small businesses, including DBEs, can reasonably perform.
- h. Requiring prime contractors on contracts not having a DBE goal to provide subcontracting opportunities of a size that small businesses, including DBEs, can reasonably perform rather than self-performing all the work involved.
- i. Ensuring that a reasonable number of prime contracts are of a size that small businesses, including DBEs, can reasonably perform them.
- j. Providing information about the availability of the CUCP DBE Database, through print and electronic means, to potential prime contractors, DBEs, public agencies and the general public. Encouraging prime contractors to use the DBE Database to solicit DBE firms. Encouraging eligible DBEs to become certified, and to remain certified, so they will be listed in the DBE Database.

2. Contract Goals

CCCTA shall establish contract-specific DBE or SBE participation goals on particular prime contracts with subcontracting opportunities to the extent that it cannot achieve its overall DBE goal with other race-neutral measures. Where a contract-specific DBE or SBE goal has

been established, the bidder or proposer must meet the contract-specific goal or demonstrate that it made sufficient good faith efforts to do so. A bidder/proposer shall be ineligible for award if it does not meet the goal or demonstrate sufficient good faith efforts.

The General Manager will establish the contract-specific DBE goal based on a recommendation from the DBELO. The contract-specific DBE goal will apply to the percentage participation of DBEs or SBEs in the total contract work and shall be set forth in the contract specifications. CCCTA is not required to establish a contract-specific DBE goal for every prime contract with subcontracting opportunities. For each U.S. DOT-assisted contract involving subcontracting opportunities, the factors outlined below will be considered to determine whether a contract-specific DBE goal should be established for the particular contract and, if so, what the percentage DBE goal will be.

- a. The projected amount of the contract and the full range of activities in the proposed contract.
- b. CCCTA's progress toward achieving its overall DBE goal.
- c. The projected portion of the overall goal that will be met by establishing a contract-specific goal.
- d. The availability of DBEs or SBEs as prime contractors, subcontractors or suppliers in the types of work involved in the performance of the proposed contract.
- e. The unique conditions of the project that might affect the ability of the prime contractor to coordinate utilize or incorporate subcontractors or suppliers into the project.
- f. Any other relevant criteria.

3. Awarding Contracts with Contract-Specific Goals

CCCTA will award its contracts to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for construction contracts and other procurements as required under applicable procurement laws, U.S. DOT procurement guidelines, and CCCTA policies.

For such contracts, as well as for contracts awarded pursuant to a request for proposal procedure where the lowest responsible bidder standard does not apply, a bidder/proposer that fails to demonstrate that it achieved the contract-specific DBE or SBE participation goal, and fails to demonstrate that it made sufficient good faith efforts to do so, will not be deemed "responsive" and, therefore, shall be ineligible for award of the contract.

a. Evaluation of Bids and Proposals

After the bid opening, or submission deadline for proposals, the DBELO will evaluate all bids/proposals with regard to the DBE or SBE requirements to determine whether the bidders/proposers submitted all the information required by 49 CFR § 26.53 and CCCTA's procurement documents. Prior to making a recommendation to the CCCTA Board of Directors for award of contract, bidders/proposers will be required to demonstrate that they have met the requirements of 49 CFR § 26.53.

The responsible bidder with the lowest apparent bid price, or the most highly ranked proposer, who also meets the contract-specific DBE or SBE goal or demonstrates sufficient good faith efforts, shall be recommended for award of contract. In the event that the bidder with the lowest monetary bid price (or the proposer ranked first), fails to meet the contract-specific goal or fails to demonstrate sufficient good faith efforts, or is otherwise nonresponsive or not responsible, the DBELO will evaluate the bidder with the next lowest bid price (or the proposer ranked second).

Bidders/proposers will be required to submit with their bids/proposals (or at a later date specified in RFP documents, but not later than 5 days after the proposal due date) the completed List of Prime Contractor and Subcontractors/Suppliers form. This form requests the following information about DBE and non-DBE firms that will participate in the contract: name and address of firm including zip codes, phone number, owner's name, DBE or SBE, age of firm, annual gross receipts, description of work and type of materials/supplies to be furnished for the contract, and dollar amount of the work or supplies. By submitting the List of Prime Contractor and Subcontractors/Suppliers form, a bidder/proposer certifies that it is committed to using the identified DBEs or SBEs in the performance of the contract.

CCCTA will require written documentation from the DBEs and/or SBEs that they are participating in the contract as provided in the prime contractor's commitment. In addition, subcontractors not currently certified by the CUCP and SBEs will be required to submit information verifying their current certification status and will be encouraged to seek DBE certification in California. CCCTA may require that SBEs submit additional documentation, as necessary, to verify their eligibility.

If the DBELO determines additional information is needed to evaluate a bidder's or proposer's submission regarding the DBE or SBE requirements, the DBELO will request the bidder/proposer to submit the required information. The DBELO may contact, also, the listed DBEs and SBEs directly to obtain the information.

b. Evaluation of DBE and SBE Certification Status

CCCTA will ensure that only firms currently certified as eligible DBEs and SBEs will be counted as DBEs or SBEs on its contracts. Any DBEs or SBEs listed by bidders or proposers for participation in the contract must be certified as eligible DBEs or SBEs when the bids/proposals are due (or at a later date specified in the contract documents).

The DBELO will review the List of Prime Contractor and Subcontractors/Suppliers form and other pertinent information to confirm the certification status of each DBE or SBE. For DBE firms, CCCTA will accept current certifications by the CUCP in accordance with the Regulations. For SBE firms, CCCTA will accept certifications and verifications by the California Department of General Services, the U.S. Small Business Administration, and other public agencies, provided the firm's Business Size Standard does not exceed the SBA size standard and the U.S. DOT cap of \$30.72 million, whichever is lower. CCCTA will not accept SBE certifications from agencies that allow firms to self-certify as small businesses.

If a change in DBE or SBE participation is proposed by the prime contractor after the contract is fully executed (such as a contract amendment or replacement of a defaulting DBE or SBE subcontractor) both CCCTA and the prime contractor will follow the process outlined in 49 CFR § 26.53(f).

c. Determination of Amount of DBE or SBE Participation

The DBELO will review for accuracy the total dollar value of the work to be performed and supplies to be furnished by DBEs or SBEs with the total contract amount reported on the List of Prime Contractor and Subcontractors/Suppliers form. The DBELO will then determine the percentage of total DBE or SBE participation and compare it to the contract-specific DBE goal established for the contract, if one has been established for the project.

d. Determination of Good Faith Efforts

If the amount of DBE or SBE participation does not meet the contract-specific DBE goal, the DBELO will review the report of good faith efforts submitted by the bidder/proposer. The DBELO will determine whether the bidder/proposer performed the quality, quantity and intensity of efforts that demonstrates a reasonably active and aggressive attempt to meet the contract-specific DBE goal in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26, Appendix A.

DBE and SBE bidders/proposers on prime contracts will be expected to make the same outreach efforts as other bidders/proposers and to document good faith efforts in situations where they do not fully meet the contract goals.

e. DBE or SBE Termination, Substitution, or Replacement

Prime contractors may not terminate or reduce the scope of work of a DBE or SBE subcontractor listed on the contractor's bid/proposal documents without CCCTA's prior written consent. This includes, but is not limited to, instances in which a prime contractor seeks to perform work originally designated for a DBE or SBE subcontractor with its own workforce or those of an affiliate, a non-DBE firm or another DBE firm. CCCTA may provide such written consent if it determines that the prime contractor has good cause, as described in 49 CFR Part 26.53, to terminate or reduce the scope of work of the DBE or SBE subcontractor.

Before transmitting to CCCTA its request to terminate and/or substitute a DBE or SBE subcontractor, the prime contractor must give notice in writing to the DBE or SBE subcontractor, with a copy to CCCTA, of its intent to request to terminate and/or substitute and the good cause basis for the request. The prime contractor must give the DBE or SBE five (5) days to respond to the prime contractor's notice and advise CCCTA and the prime contractor of the reasons, if any, of: (1) why the DBE or SBE objects to the proposed termination or reduction in the scope of work of the subcontract; and (2) why CCCTA should not approve the prime contractor's proposed action.

In addition to post-award terminations, these provisions apply to pre-award deletions of or substitutions for DBE or SBE firms put forward by offerors in negotiated procurements.

Prime contractors will be required to utilize good faith efforts to include additional DBEs to replace a defaulting DBE or SBE subcontractor to the extent needed to meet the contract-specific DBE goal, which must be documented by the prime contractor. A prime contractor may not terminate or reduce the scope of work a DBE or SBE firm for convenience and then perform the work with its own workforce without, following the procedures detailed in this section, including obtaining CCCTA's prior written consent.

The prime contractor must immediately notify the project manager and the DBELO of the inability of the DBE or SBE to perform the work and must provide documentation to substantiate its claims to the satisfaction of the DBELO within seven (7) days of the request by CCCTA. This time period may be extended by an additional seven (7) days at CCCTA's discretion when requested by the prime contractor. The prime contractor must provide copies of new or amended subcontracts for each new DBE or SBE or any applicable good faith efforts. If replacement of the DBE or SBE is acceptable to CCCTA, it will issue written notification to the prime contractor. If the contractor fails or refuses to comply in the timeframe specified in the contract documents, CCCTA will pursue administrative remedies available under the contract or laws of California.

f. Right to Administrative Reconsideration

In the event the DBELO determines that the apparent successful bidder/proposer has not met the contract-specific goal and has not demonstrated sufficient good faith efforts, the DBELO will notify the bidder/proposer in writing. The notification will include the reasons for the DBELO's determination and advise that the bidder/proposer has the right to submit additional written documentation or appear at a hearing for reconsideration, which must be submitted to the General Manager, or his/her designee within 10-days from date on the written notification.

All requests for reconsideration must be submitted to the General Manager, or his/her designee.

Following a reconsideration hearing and/or review of any additional information received, the General Manager, or his/her designee, will provide the bidder/proposer with a written decision on reconsideration, explaining the basis for the determination. In the event the General Manager, or his/her designee finds a bidder/proposer did not meet the contract goal or demonstrate sufficient good faith efforts, that determination is final and such bidder/proposer will be deemed not responsive. The reconsideration decision of the General Manager, or his/her designee cannot be appealed administratively to U.S. DOT.

g. Recommendation for Award

Following the determination of the responsiveness with a contract-specific DBE or SBE requirement, the DBELO will prepare a report on compliance with the DBE/SBE requirements of all bidders/proposers for review by the General Manager and project manager for presentation to the Board of Directors at the time the contract award is considered. If the Board disagrees with the staff recommendation for award of contract, it shall reject all bids/proposals or refer the matter back to the General Manager for further evaluation and recommendation. The decision of the CCCTA Board



of Directors on the award of contract, if such a decision is made, shall be final and binding on all parties, subject to CCCTA's protest procedures.

#### **F. Counting and Tracking DBE and SBE Participation**

Following award of contract for all DOT-assisted contracts, the DBELO will frequently monitor and track the types of work and dollar amounts actually paid by the prime contractor to DBE or SBE subcontractors. The DBELO will require the prime contractor to submit periodic reports of payments made to DBEs or SBEs. DBEs and SBEs will be required to verify the work they performed and the dollar amounts they received from the prime contractor.

The prime contractor will notify the project manager and DBELO in writing of any proposed contract changes or amendments, and it will submit a statement regarding how that change may affect DBE or SBE subcontracting opportunities. Following CCCTA's approval of that contract change or amendment, the project manager and DBELO will assure that work is actually done by the DBE or SBE firms, as verified through job site visits and other contract compliance mechanisms.

Only the work actually performed by a DBE or SBE will be counted toward the contract-specific DBE goal. The cost of supplies and materials obtained by the DBE or SBE or equipment leased may also be counted consistent with the Regulations. However, the DBE or SBE subcontractor and its prime contractor may not count toward the DBE goal items that the DBE or SBE purchases or leases from its own contractor.

DBE and SBE prime contractors may count toward goals the work they perform with their own workforce as well as the work performed by DBE or SBE subcontractors. Work that a DBE or SBE subcontracts to a non-DBE or non-SBE firm does not count toward contract-specific DBE goals.

The DBELO will not count a DBE's participation toward DBE or SBE goals if the firm is not currently certified, in accordance with the eligibility standards in the Regulations. An SBE firm will be counted toward an SBE goal if the firm is currently certified and it does not exceed the Business Size Standard. Additionally, the DBELO will not count toward the overall DBE goal that portion of a DBE's participation achieved after the certification of the DBE has been removed during the performance of a contract. Additionally, participation of a DBE subcontractor will not be counted toward the prime contractor's DBE goal or CCCTA's overall DBE goal until the DBE has been paid for work completed on the project. The DBELO will track the participation of DBEs in contracts with goals separately from DBE participation considered to be race neutral.

Expenditures may only be counted if the DBE or SBE is performing a commercially useful function. According to the Regulations, a DBE performs a commercially useful function when it is responsible for execution of the work of the contract and is carrying out its responsibilities by actually performing, managing and supervising the work involved. If a DBE or SBE does not perform or exercise responsibility for at least thirty percent (30%) of the total cost of its contract with its own workforce, or the DBE or SBE subcontracts a greater portion of the work of a contract than would be expected on the basis of normal industry practices for the type of work involved, the firm is not performing a commercially useful function. CCCTA will use factors outlined in 49 CFR § 26.55(d) to determine if a DBE or SBE trucking company is performing a commercially useful purpose. Decisions on commercially useful function are subject to review by the FTA, but cannot be appealed administratively to U.S. DOT.

The DBELO will count DBE and SBE participation on the contract in the following manner:

- Count at 100% the entire amount of that portion of a contract for construction, professional services, or other services that is performed by the firm's own workforce, including the cost of supplies and materials purchased or equipment leased by the DBE or SBE for the contract work (except supplies and equipment the DBE or SBE subcontractor purchased or leased from the prime contractor or its affiliate).
- Count the entire amount of fees or commissions charged by a DBE or SBE for providing a bona fide service, such as professional, technical, consultant or managerial services, or for providing bonds or insurance specifically required for the contract if the fees are reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees customarily allowed for similar services.
- Count one-hundred percent (100%) of the cost of materials or supplies obtained from a DBE or SBE manufacturer. Count sixty percent (60%) of the cost if the materials and supplies are purchased from a DBE or SBE regular dealer, or forty percent (40%) of the cost if that materials and supplies are purchased from a distributor that does not maintain inventory or uses its own equipment. This includes the entire amount of fees or commissions charged for assistance in the procurement of the materials and supplies, or fees or transportation charges for the delivery of materials or supplies required on a job site.
- When a DBE or SBE performs as a participant in a joint venture, count a portion of the total dollar value of the contract equal to the distinct, clearly defined portion of the work of the contract that the DBE or SBE performs with its own workforce.



## VI. CONTRACT PROVISIONS

Each financial assistance agreement CCCTA signs with U.S. DOT will include a nondiscrimination assurance from CCCTA. U.S. DOT-assisted contracts that CCCTA solicits and awards will include, as appropriate, the model contract provisions that are set forth in the current edition of CCCTA's *Procurement Manual*. The DBELO shall have discretion to modify the contracting provisions for particular contracts as needed, in consultation with Legal Counsel. These required contract provisions consist of:

- CCCTA's *DBE Program* policy statement.
- A nondiscrimination assurance from the contractor (and each subcontract the prime contractor signs with a subcontractor).
- A clause requiring the prime bidder or proposer to submit the List of Prime Contractor and Subcontractors/Suppliers form.
- A clause that requires prime contractors to pay subcontractors for satisfactory performance of their contracts no later than thirty (30) days from receipt of each payment CCCTA makes to the prime contractor.
- A clause that requires the prompt return of retainage payments from the prime contractor to the subcontractor within thirty (30) days after the subcontractor's work is satisfactorily completed.
- The website address for the CUCP DBE Database identifying DBE firms eligible to participate in the *DBE Program*.
- Statements describing the amount of the DBE or SBE goal, if established, DBE or SBE certification standards, required documents for verification of certification status, how DBE or SBE participation is counted toward the goal, and required good faith efforts if the DBE or SBE goal is not achieved.
- A section on recordkeeping and reporting requirements, including a provision ensuring that DBE participation is credited toward the overall DBE goal and DBE or SBE participation is counted on contract goals only when payments are actually made to DBE or SBE firms.
- A section on administrative and legal remedies to ensure compliance with the *DBE Program*.

## VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND OUTREACH EFFORTS

CCCTA's activities managing public participation and outreach efforts are directed at assisting CCCTA to solicit public input to set its overall annual DBE participation goals and to meet the established overall annual DBE goals. In establishing an overall annual DBE goal, CCCTA will provide for the following public participation.

- Prior to finalizing the annual *DBE Report*, the DBELO will consult with other U.S. DOT recipients, minority, women, and general contractor groups, community organizations, and other individuals, officials or organizations that could be expected to have information concerning the availability of disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged businesses, the effects of discrimination on opportunities for DBEs, and CCCTA's own efforts to establish a level playing field for the participation of DBEs.
- CCCTA will publish the proposed overall goal on its Internet Website and may also publish the proposed goal in general circulation and DBE oriented media before submission to the FTA. CCCTA may elect to notify the public of the availability of the *DBE Report* for review and comment. The notice will include a statement that the methodology and report are available for inspection for thirty (30) days from the date of publication.
- In conjunction with CCCTA's activities to meet its overall DBE goals, CCCTA will implement various public participation and outreach activities designed to broaden awareness of CCCTA's *DBE Program* for contracts. The measures described in 49 CFR Part 26.51, focusing on race-neutral means will be actively pursued, and CCCTA will encourage its contractors to make similar outreach efforts to include DBE participation in subcontracting opportunities. In conjunction with the BOC, CUCP and other U.S. DOT recipients, CCCTA will continue to organize and offer informational programs for meeting DBE certification eligibility requirements, familiarize potential contractors with CCCTA's procurement procedures and requirements, and develop effective programs to further the inclusion of DBEs in CCCTA's contracting activities.