

**MESA COUNTY/GRAND VALLEY TRANSIT
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program FY 2019-2021**

POLICY STATEMENT

Section 26.1, 26.23 Objectives/Policy Statement

The Mesa County Regional Transportation Planning Office (RTPO) has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR part 26. The RTPO has received Federal financial assistance from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and as a condition of receiving this assistance, the RTPO has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR part 26.

It is the policy of the RTPO to ensure that DBEs defined in part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in FTA- assisted contracts. It is also our policy:

1. To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of FTA - assisted contracts;
2. To create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for FTA -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 FTA assisted contracts;
6. To assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE Program.

The RTPO Transportation Planner has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, the Transportation Planner 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 the RTPO in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

The RTPO has disseminated this policy statement to the elected and appointed officials of Mesa County, Colorado and all of the components of our organization.

John Justman, Mesa County Board of Commissioners, Chair Date

Frank Whidden, Mesa County Administrator Date

Sheila Reiner, Mesa County Clerk Date

Section 26.45: Overall Goal Calculation

Amount of Goal

The RTPO overall goal for FY 2019-2021 is the following: 1% of the Federal Financial assistance we will expend in FTA - assisted contracts exclusive of FTA funds to be used for the purchase of transit vehicles, staff salaries, utilities, land purchases, rental of real property, etc.

Methodology used to Calculate Overall Goal

Step 1: 26.45(c)

The base figure for the relative availability of DBEs was calculated as follows:

	Ready, willing, and able DBEs	2
Base figure = 1%	All firms ready, willing and able	171

The data source used to derive the numerator was through the availability of DBEs from information supplied by the Colorado Department of Transportation Unified Certification Program dated April 12, 2018. This information was used to determine a total of 2 ready, willing, and able DBEs in the counties of Mesa, Garfield, Montrose, Delta, and Gunnison.

The data sources used to derive the denominator was through the U.S. Census Bureau's 2016 County Business Pattern. 171 businesses were identified were in the categories of highway, street and bridge construction; management, scientific, and technical consulting services; armored car services, and janitorial services.

When we divided the numerator by the denominator we arrived at the base figure for our overall goal of 1%.

Step 2: 26.45(d)

The RTPO did not adjust our figure for Fiscal Years 2019-2021 because the availability of DBEs in the Mesa County area is minimal. Figures of past performance by DBEs in Mesa County are very limited and show minimal participation.

Section 26.51(a-c) Breakout of Estimated Race-Neutral & Race-Conscious Participation

Mesa County will meet the maximum feasible portion of its overall goal by using race-neutral means of facilitating DBE participation. Mesa County uses the following 100% race-neutral means to increase DBE participation.

When Federal Transit Administration dollars are used on projects, Mesa County includes a required outreach effort to subcontract DBEs in its Request for Proposals. Staff intends

to obtain the FY 2019-2021 goal of 1% using this method. Mesa County will monitor the participation level and reserves the right to make changes as required in order to obtain satisfactory DBE participation.

Race-neutral DBE participation occurs when a DBE wins a contract or subcontract that did not have contract specific goals, or when the DBE status was not considered in making the award. Examples of race-neutral means are: making RFPs or bids attractive, i.e., unbundling or low bid by splitting DBEs; simplifying or reducing bonding requirements by minimum bonding amount; making DBEs aware of opportunities; and distributing DBE directories to prime contractors.

Public Participation

Mesa County contacted the following women and minority contracting groups and others who are expected to have information on the availability of disadvantaged business in our area:

- Mesa County Women’s Network – PO Box 1423, Grand Junction, CO 81502
- WCCA – Western Colorado Contractors Association – 2470 Patterson Rd, Grand Junction, CO 81505

Both groups were contacted about an upcoming goal for Mesa County and both welcomed the opportunity to share DBE goal information by email to their members. A flyer was emailed to both groups about DBEs and the goal update.

Upon completion of the draft DBE Goal, a public notice (legal ad) was published in the *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel* and *Passenger Transport*. Mesa County’s overall goal submission to FTA included a summary of information and comments received during this public participation process and our responses.

On the 1st day the draft DBE Goal was available for public review, the document was available in hard copy at the RTPO office. In addition, on that same date, the DBE Goal was available on-line on the RTPO web site home page under the *DBE Goal* link. During the review period, the DBELO e-mailed or provide a hard-copy of the DBE Goal to any requesting party.

Any comments received will be considered for inclusion in the DBE Goal.

Comments were also taken during the public comment period at the GVRTC meeting.

**CALCULATION OF FUND AMOUNTS SUBJECT TO DBE/WBE
FISCAL YEARS 2019-2021**

STEP 1:

Determine the proposed agency annual budget for Capital and Operating expenses. \$ 13,365,477

Project	Total Costs	Construction Costs	Janitorial Costs
2019			
Two Lowfloor CNG Buses	\$ 955,800	\$ -	\$ -
Sidewalk & Pullouts	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ -
Operating Expenses	\$ 3,500,000		\$ 41,682
2020			
One Lowfloor CNG Bus	\$ 492,237		
One Mid-Sized CNG Bus	\$ 153,820	\$ -	\$ -
Sidewalk & Pullouts	\$ 36,050	\$ 36,050	\$ -
Operating Expenses	\$ 3,745,000		\$ 42,933
2021			
One Lowfloor CNG Bus	\$ 507,004		
One Mid-Sized CNG Bus	\$ 158,435	\$ -	\$ -
Sidewalk & Pullouts	\$ 37,132	\$ 37,132	\$ -
Operating Expenses	\$ 3,745,000	\$ -	\$ 44,220
Total	\$ 13,365,477	\$ 108,182	\$ 128,835

STEP 2:

Estimate that portion which is Federally funded. Include funds estimated to be received from 5309, 5310, 5311 and 5316 as appropriate. \$ 6,219,327

STEP 3:

Determine if your agency receives sufficient Federal assistance to put it over the threshold. For Capital and Operating expenses, the threshold is \$250,000 in Federal funds, exclusive of transit vehicle purchase. YES: X
NO: _____

STEP 4:

If your agency is covered by the program, determine the percent Federal participation in the overall agency budget (i.e., divide the number from Step 2 by the number from Step 1). 47%

STEP 5:

Estimate the portion of your agency's total budget that is not available for contracting. Subtract those funds, which are used for staff salaries, utilities, land purchases, rental of real property, etc. Also, remember to subtract those funds that will be used for transit vehicle purchases. \$ 13,128,461

STEP 6:

Determine the portion of your total agency budget that is available for contracting. Subtract the number to determine in Step 5 from the number shown in Step. 1. \$237,017

STEP 7:

Determine that portion of the total amount available for contracting which is attributable to Federal Sources. Multiply the amount in Step 6 and the percentage determined in Step 4. The resulting dollar figure is the amount to which your DBE/WBE goals will apply. \$110,213

STEP 8:

Use figure determined in Step 7. \$110,213

STEP 9:

Include the DBE goal percentage. 1%

STEP 10:

Determine the contracting amounts for DBE goals. Multiply the figure in Step 8 by DBE percentage in Step 9. \$1,102

STEP 11:

Determine the actual dollar value of various types of contracts which must be placed with DBE firms in order to come up with the amounts determined in Step 10. \$1,102

First estimate that portion of the contracting amount determined in Step 10 to be placed in the following categories: construction, professional services, supplies/services, or other. Construction: 46%
Professional Services: 54%
Supplies/Services: _____
Other: _____

Second decide within the four categories if the proposed expenditures will be counted toward the goal at 100% or 60% of the contract amount. Generally, construction would be a 100% item; professional services would be a 100% item, supplies and services are likely to be 60% items (but could be a 100% item if purchased from DBE manufacturers, refiners or underwriters, rather than dealers or brokers) and the other category could be either 100% or 60% items).

TOTAL: 100%
Construction: 100%
Professional Services: 100%
Supplies/Services: _____
Other: _____

Prepared by: Elizabeth Collins

Name of Agency: Mesa County
Regional Transportation Planning Office (RTPO)