



2021 -2023 FTA DBE Triennial Goal

FAQs

Q: Did Metropolitan Council create the methodology?

A: No, the methodology to establish the DBE triennial goal is found in CFR 49 Part 26.45 and FTA authored guide materials.

Q: What was the last Triennial goal?

A: The 2018 – 2020 goal was 15%

Q: What was the achievement?

A: 2017 - 14% 2018 --15% 2019 - 16% 2020 to date – 11%

Q: What is a primary factor past achievement?

A: A number of large federally assisted contracts, including SWLRT, Transit Police Department, and Orange Line BRT Construction, have been awarded in 2018 & 2019

Q: How is this triennial goal different than the last?

A: The 2018 – 2020 triennial goal forecast was comprised of 98 federally assisted contracts with a total value of \$2,652,974,816. This forecast included SWLRT, Orange Line BRT construction, Metro Transit Police Department, and Heywood Bus Garage. The 2021 – 2023 triennial goal forecast is comprised of 25 projects with a total value of \$495,500,000. The Gold Line Construction contract comprises \$300,000,000 of this total.

Q: How does this goal compare to MnDOT & MAC?

A: MnDOT FHWA	2019 - 2021 goal is 12.23%	Achievement in 2019 = 10.5%
MnDOT FTA	2019 – 2021 goal is 9.12%	Achievement in 2019 = 0%
Metropolitan Airport Commission	2017 - 2019 goal is 14%	Achievement in 2019 = 13.83%

Q: How did the Council determine our Market Area?

A: Local market area is the area in which the substantial majority of the contractors and subcontractors with which the Council does business are located and the area in which the Council spends the substantial majority of our contracting dollars

Q: Why is the goal not higher than 15% if the median of the last triennial was 15%?

A: Goal methodology is prescribed in federal regulation. The total base goal and median are averaged to get an adjusted goal. This goal can be further adjusted to reflect current market and current DBE availability in the market region. Due to current conditions, Metropolitan Council believes that 13% is most reflective of DBE participation on future projects.

Q: What monitoring mechanisms do you have in place to ensure you are on track to meet or exceed the goal?

A: The Council submits semi-annual achievement reports to FTA that includes an analysis if the Council is under or over the 3-year goal. Furthermore, in setting contract specific goals the triennial goal is always used as an adjustment tool to bring achieve the Triennial goal of 13%

Q: What if you do not meet the 13% program goal at the end of the triennial?

A: OEO provides FTA a shortfall analysis if the 13% detailing the achievement if the program goal is not met.

Q: Can you be penalized if you do not meet the goal?

A: No, recipients cannot be penalized for not meeting their goal if they administer their DBE program in good faith.

Q: Will you increase the goal for the next triennial if you exceed the 15% program goal?

A: Possibly. Triennial goals are calculated using the relative availability of DBE firms in the marketplace and the forecasted makeup of capital projects, both of which vary from year to year.

Q: Are any efforts being taken to increase the DBE pool?

A: Yes, Metropolitan Council Office of Equal Opportunity is taking steps to identify industry gaps for which there are limited firms to perform the work and utilizing industry resources to proactively seek firms that may fill this need.

Q: Why is the Council taking this action?

A: All recipients of FTA funding over \$250,000 are required to have a DBE program and create a DBE triennial goal.

Q: To what activities does this goal apply?

A: All construction and design projects that anticipate using FTA dollars within the next three years.

Q: What is race neutral and race conscious measures?

A: Race neutral measures are ones that can be used to assist all small businesses. (providing financial and technical assistance) / Race conscious measures are those focused specifically on DBEs. (contract goal setting)

Q: What is the DBE program? / What is the purpose of the DBE program?

A: The DBE FTA program is a subcontracting program that exists to mitigate the effects of past discrimination, provide access and is designed to level the playing field for businesses owned by women, people of color and indigenous persons (DBEs)

Q: Where can I go to learn more about the DBE program generally?

A: <https://metro council.org/About-Us/Organization/Office-of-Equal-Opportunity/Small-Business-Programs/Disadvantaged-Business-Program.aspx>, or email db e@metc.state.mn.us

Q: How can I get more involved with the DBE program at the Met Council?

A: email db e@metc.state.mn.us
