



FTA and EPA Triennial DBE Goals

Proposed for FFYs 2024-2026



September 2023

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Federal Transit Administration (FTA) DBE Program

DBE Program Objective

- Federal program to create a level playing field for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) and ensure nondiscrimination in the award of contracts (49 CFR 26)
- Each recipient of USDOT funding is responsible for setting and overall program goal every three years
- Requires a public 30-day public comment period



Environment Protection Agency (EPA) DBE Program

DBE Program Objective

- Federal program to create a level playing field for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) and ensure nondiscrimination in the award of contracts (40 CFR 33)
- In 2019, the EPA suspended requirement to set a 3-year goal
- Despite the suspension, the Council continues to set a goal that promotes greater inclusion and identification of DBE firms in the region



2024-2026 Proposed FTA and EPA DBE Goals



- **Proposed FTA goal of 13.4%**
 - Race-Conscious 11.0%
 - Race-Neutral 2.4%

- **Proposed EPA goal of 11.9%**
 - Race-Conscious 5.4%
 - Race-Neutral 6.5%

How was the proposed goal determined?

Methodology

- Determine availability rates in well-defined geographic market area
- Produce any adjustments to the base DBE goal
- Propose maximum portion of the goal that can be achieved through race-neutral means



Previous Action Taken on Goals

- FTA goal 30-day Public Comment period from August 28th-September 28th
 - Total of 18 comments received-zero comments about the methodology
 - Comments ranged from making the goal higher to eliminating the DBE program
- Dr. Myers and Ashanti present both goals to Management Committee on September 13th
 - FTA goal presented to Transportation Committee on September 11th
 - EPA goal presented to Environment Committee on September 12th
- Virtual Public Comment meeting was held via TEAM on September 14th
- Dr. Myers presented goals to EAC on September 19th
- Goals brought back to management committee and full council meeting on October 25th for approval
- Goal submitted to FTA in November

Questions?

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