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
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 28\textsuperscript{th}-September 28\textsuperscript{th}
  - 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 13\textsuperscript{th}
  - FTA goal presented to Transportation Committee on September 11\textsuperscript{th}
  - EPA goal presented to Environment Committee on September 12\textsuperscript{th}

- Virtual Public Comment meeting was held via TEAM on September 14\textsuperscript{th}

- Dr. Myers presented goals to EAC on September 19\textsuperscript{th}

- Goals brought back to management committee and full council meeting on October 25\textsuperscript{th} for approval

- Goal submitted to FTA in November
Questions?

Megan Solberg – Small Business Unit Manager, OEEO
Megan.Solberg@metc.state.mn.us
651-602-1406