

POLICY STATEMENT

Section 26.1, 26.23: Objectives/Policy Statement

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) see Attachment 1, Regulations: 49 CFR Part 26. VTA has received Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, VTA has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26 (hereafter referred to as "Part 26").

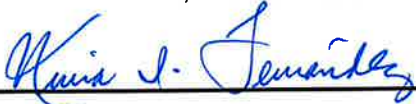
It is VTA's policy to ensure that DBEs (as defined in Part 26) have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. It is also VTA policy to engage in the following actions on a continuing basis:

1. Ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts;
2. Create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for DOT- assisted contracts;
3. Ensure that the DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
4. Ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
5. Help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT assisted contracts;
6. Promote the use of DBEs in all types of federally-assisted contracts and procurement activities;
7. Assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE Program; and
8. Make appropriate use of the flexibility afforded to recipients of Federal financial assistance in establishing and providing opportunities for DBEs.

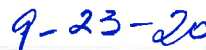
John Wesley White, Deputy Director & Chief Procurement Officer, has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, Mr. White is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE program. Implementation of the DBE program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by the VTA in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

VTA has disseminated this policy statement to the VTA Board of Directors and all of the components of our organization. This statement has been distributed to DBE and non-DBE business communities that may perform work for VTA DOT-assisted contracts. The distribution was accomplished in the following ways:

1. A copy of the policy has been posted on the VTA website, www.vta.org and through electronic notifications to DBE firms.
2. A copy of this policy statement was made available to each attendee of all pre-bid meetings dealing with covered contracting opportunities.
3. This policy statement and the entire program will be an appendix to the VTA Procurement, Contracts, and Materials Management (PCMM) Procedures Manual.



Nuria I. Fernandez, General Manager/CEO
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority



Date