



For Immediate Release

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### ***City of Fairfield Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Policy Statement***

**Fairfield, California (Tuesday, December 19, 2023)**—The City of Fairfield is committed to promoting equal opportunities for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) and ensuring nondiscrimination in the award and administration of federally funded contracts. In accordance with Title 49 CFR Part 26, City of Fairfield will implement a DBE program to create a level playing field and foster a diverse and inclusive contracting environment for socially and economically disadvantaged businesses, including minority-owned and women-owned businesses.

To achieve these objectives, the City of Fairfield will:

- Ensure nondiscrimination in the selection and award of contracts to DBEs and prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or other protected categories in all aspects of its procurement process.
- Set annual overall DBE participation goals based on the availability of ready, willing, and able DBEs in the relevant market, and develop strategies to achieve these goals.
- Provide opportunities for DBEs to compete fairly for contracts and subcontracts in federally funded projects by breaking down tasks into smaller, more manageable components, and by ensuring prompt payment and fair treatment of DBE subcontractors.
- Monitor and enforce compliance with DBE requirements in all contracts, including prime contractors' good faith efforts to achieve DBE participation and subcontractor selection and reporting.
- Establish a DBE Liaison Officer responsible for administering the DBE program and ensuring compliance with all applicable regulations.
- Maintain a certification process to identify, verify, and certify eligible DBE firms in partnership with the state's Unified Certification Program (UCP).

- Engage stakeholders, including DBEs, community organizations, and the general public, in the development, implementation, and assessment of the DBE program.
- Ensure all staff involved in the procurement process are trained and familiar with the DBE program requirements and their role in its implementation. The City of Fairfield is committed to the success of the DBE program and will take all necessary steps to ensure its effective implementation, compliance with federal regulations, and the promotion of equal opportunities for DBEs in its procurement activities.

The Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program, as outlined in 49 CFR Part 26, mandates that recipients of DOT funding set overall DBE goals triennially. These goals are based on local market conditions and represent a percentage of the total federal transportation dollars anticipated to be spent on contracts during the three years. Recipients are expected to strive to meet these goals annually within the triennial period. The regulation emphasizes that goals must not rely on a fixed percentage or past participation rates but should instead reflect current local market conditions and the availability of DBEs. Additionally, adjustments to these goals may be made if necessary, and recipients must analyze and improve their efforts if they fall short of meeting these goals.

These goals will include assessing the local market and understanding the availability and capacity of DBEs to perform work on public transportation projects. Due to the various scope, size and duration of transit projects, goals will slightly vary based on the type of contract.

**FAST proposes an overall DBE goal of 4.73% based on the projected availability of ready, willing, and able DBEs.**