

## **POLICY STATEMENT**

The City of Fresno has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program in accordance with the regulations of the U.S Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26 and 49 CFR Part 23. The City of Fresno in the past has received federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation and as a condition of receiving this future/ongoing assistance, the City of Fresno has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26 (part 26) and 49 CFR Part 23 (part 23).

It is the policy and commitment of the City of Fresno to ensure that DBEs as defined in part 26 and part 23, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. It is also our policy:

1. To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts;
2. To create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for contracts and subcontracts relating to construction, professional services, supplies, equipment, materials and other services for DOT-assisted contracts;
3. To ensure that the DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
4. To ensure that only firms that meet 49 CFR Part 26 and 49 CFR Part 23 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
  - a. To help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT-assisted contracts;
5. To assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the marketplace outside the DBE Program; and
6. To outreach to local firms and encourage certification and participation in the DBE Program.

The City Manager of the City of Fresno has the general responsibility for implementing Council policy.

The Purchasing Manager, 2600 Fresno Street, Room 1030, Fresno, CA 93721, (559-621-7001) has been designated the DBE Liaison Officer. The DBE Liaison Officer has direct, independent access to the City Manager concerning DBE Program matters. The City shall ensure that the DBE Liaison Officer is at all times provided with staff adequate and sufficient to administer the DBE Program in

compliance with 49 CFR Part 26 and 49 CFR Part 23, including a DBE Program Coordinator. The DBE Liaison Officer is responsible for implementing and administering 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 City in its financial assistance agreements with the DOT.

The DBE operating expenditures participation shall be delegated and administered directly by the departments which, at minimum, contribute to the overall goals of the City as a whole.

This policy statement will be circulated throughout the City of Fresno departments and the community in general. Copies of this policy will be sent to DBE and to non-DBE business communities that perform work for us on DOT-assisted contracts.