

POLICY STATEMENT

Section 26.1, 26.23 Objectives/Policy Statement

City of Fort Worth (City), owner of Fort Worth Alliance Airport, Fort Worth Meacham International Airport and Fort Worth Spinks Airport has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26 (hereafter referred to as "Part 26"). The City has received federal financial assistance from Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, the City has signed assurances that it will comply with Part 26 and other federal requirements.

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the City of Fort Worth to ensure that DBE's as defined in Part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT funded contracts. It is also the City of Fort Worth's 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;
- Ensure that only firms that fully meet 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;
- Assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE Program; and
- Make appropriate use of the flexibility afforded to recipients of Federal financial assistance in establishing and providing opportunities for DBEs.

The Assistant Diversity and Inclusion Director, Business Equity Division, Diversity and Inclusion Department, has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, the Assistant Diversity and Inclusion Director 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 City in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

In September 2017, the City's original Policy Statement was approved by the City Manager, and the DBE Program Resolution No. 4846-09-2017 was adopted by the Mayor and City Council. This updated statement has been approved by the Mayor and City Council on January 26, 2022 under Resolution No. 5522-01-2022 and additionally, has been dispersed through all of the components of the City. The Statement has been distributed to the DBE and non-DBE communities that perform work for the City on federally-funded contracts. The distribution was accomplished by:

- 1. Public Notice posted on the City's Calendar and bulletin board
- FAA DBE Public Informational Forum meeting held July 13, 2021
- 3. City 's quarterly Informational Vendor Forums
- Posting of DBE Program Goal and opportunities distributed through the B2GNow System to more than 10,000 DBE, MWBE and SBE businesses
- Interviews with small businesses at Business Networking events and trade fairs held throughout the years.
- Policy Statement and DBE Program Goals and Methodology posted on the Business Equity Division website at: https://www.fortworthtexas.qov/departments/diversity-inclusion/business-equity

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