



DULUTH TRANSIT AUTHORITY DBE POLICY

Policy Statement and Objectives, 49 CFR 26.1, 26.23

The Duluth Transit Authority ("DTA") established a Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with the regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation ("DOT") 49 CFR Part 26. The DTA has received Federal financial assistance from the DOT by and through the Federal Transit Administration ("FTA") and as a condition of receiving this assistance, the DTA has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26. The DTA also supports and encourages participation of Veteran-owned concerns (including Service Disabled Veteran-owned concerns) in procurement actions.

To ensure that Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (and Veteran-owned concerns, where applicable) have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in procurement actions, it is the DTA's policy:

- a. To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts;
- b. To create a level playing field on which Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts;
- c. To ensure that the DTA Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises programs are narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
- d. To ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate in DOT-assisted projects as Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises;
- e. To help remove barriers to the participation of Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in DOT-assisted projects;
- f. To cooperate with and assist those private, nonprofit, and publicly funded agencies that assist Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, and Veteran-owned businesses to compete successfully in the marketplace outside the Small and Disadvantaged Business programs.

The DTA's Director of Administration has been delegated as the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Liaison Officer, and in that capacity, is responsible for implementing the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program. Contact:

Nancy Brown
Duluth Transit Authority
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Liaison Officer
2402 West Michigan Street
Duluth, MN 55806
218-623-4329
nbrown@duluthtransit.com

Implementation of the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by the DTA in its assistance agreements with the United States Department of Transportation.

The DTA's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise policy may be obtained by calling 218-623-4317 or via email at nbrown@duluthtransit.com.

The DTA has disseminated this policy statement to the DTA's Board of Directors and all of the departments in our organization. It is incorporated into the DTA's policies and procedures and is continuously available for public viewing on the DTA website. We have distributed this statement to Disadvantaged Business Enterprises and Non-Disadvantaged Business communities that perform work for us on DOT assisted contracts, to the Minnesota branch of the Small Business Administration, to the Minnesota Procurement Technical Assistance Center in the Minnesota Department of Administration, Minnesota Builder's Exchange, to the University of Minnesota Duluth, the University of Wisconsin, Superior, local stake holder groups, including Community Action Duluth and the Family Freedom Center, and in a legal notice in the newspaper of record, the Duluth News Tribune, the Wisconsin Telegram, and the Cloquet Pine Journal.

Signed this 30th day of November, 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Fournier', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Rod Fournier
General Manager
Duluth Transit Authority