

Policy Statement:

VIA Metropolitan Transit Authority (VIA) is a direct recipient of U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) funds. Thus, VIA is required to have a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program. This regulatory mandate meets the requirements of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). As a condition of this assistance, VIA has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26, Subpart A.

VIA's DBE Program policy ensures that DBEs, as defined by 49 CFR Part 26, have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of projects financed in whole or in part with Federal funds on all VIA's solicitations. This formal policy signed by VIA President/Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Mr. Jeffrey Arndt and submitted to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) designates VIA's Director of Business/Supplier Diversity, Mr. Maurice Bridges as the DBE Liaison Officer (DBELO). His office is located at 800 W. Myrtle Street, San Antonio, TX 78212; (210) 362-2071; maurice.bridges@viainfo.net. Mr. Bridges reports directly to Mr. Jeffrey Arndt, President/Chief Executive Officer.

The DBELO is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE program including, providing nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts; creating a level playing field on which DBEs can compete for DOT-assisted contracts; providing a DBE program that is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law; confirming that only firms that fully meet the requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs; helping to eliminate barriers for the participation of DBEs in DOT-assisted contracts; and assisting in furthering the development of firms that can compete successfully beyond the DBE program.

VIA's Office of Diversity & Federal Compliance will disseminate this policy document to the Board of Trustees, Executive Management Team, certified DBE firms and non-certified firms and firms interested in bidding on DOT-assisted contracts. The DBE Plan will be posted on VIA's web portal. The DBE Plan will be distributed electronically or in paper form upon request.

As President/CEO, I shall take all reasonable steps to ensure the achievement of VIA's DBE program plan. The Board of Trustees at VIA Metropolitan Transit and the Board of Trustees at VIA's Advanced Transportation District and the Executive Management Team share in the responsibility for making the DBE Program a success.



Jeffrey C. Arndt
President/CEO

12/26/2023

Date