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 solicitations. This formal policy signed by VIA's President & Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Mr. Jon Gary Herrera, and submitted to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) designates VIA's Director of Small Business Development, 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. John Clamp, Chief Administrative Officer, with a dotted line to Mr. Jon Gary Herrera, President & Chief Executive Officer for DBE-related matters.

The DBELO is responsible for the implementation of the DBE program to ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts to create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts. The DBELO is also responsible for ensuring the DBE program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law to ensure that only firms that fully meet this part's eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs. The objective of the DBE Program is to help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT-assisted contracts, to promote the use of DBEs in all types of federally assisted contracts and procurement activities, and to assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the marketplace outside the DBE program.

VIA's Office of Small Business Enterprise (OSBE) 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 website. The DBE Plan will be distributed electronically or in paper form upon request.

As President & Chief Executive Officer, I shall take all reasonable steps to ensure the achievement of VIA's DBE program plan. The Board of Trustees at VIA, the Advanced Transportation District, and the Executive Management Team will continue supporting the DBE program.

Jon Gary Herrera
President & Chief Executive Officer

5-14-2025
Date