
Overview

The Washington County Transportation Authority – Freedom Transit (WCTA-FT) has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. The WCTA-FT has received Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, the WCTA-FT has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26.

Section 26.1, 26.23 - Objectives/Policy Statement

It is the policy of the WCTA-FT to ensure that DBEs are defined in part 26, 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 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 fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
5. To help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT assisted contracts;
6. To assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE Program.

The Deputy Director of Finance of WCTA-FT has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, the Deputy 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 WCTA-FT in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

WCTA-FT has disseminated this policy statement to the Board of Directors and all of the components of our organization. WCTA-FT will publish this policy in general circulation newspapers in the Washington County area and will distribute this statement to local DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for WCTA-FT on DOT-assisted contracts. The policy statement will be referenced in all procurement documents and contracts between WCTA-FT and any contractors.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Sheila J. Gombita".

2/25/2025

Sheila J. Gombita
Executive Director

Date

Washington County Transportation Authority / Freedom Transit
