

Indian River County's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Goal for FY 2012 – FY 2014

Indian River County is a recipient of FTA 49 USC, Ch. 5307 mass transit funds. As such, the County is required to establish a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal regarding these funds. This goal applies to federal financial assistance expended on DOT-assisted contracts utilizing Section 5307 funds, exclusive of funds to be used for the purchase of transit vehicles, personnel, and rent.

During Fiscal Years 2012, 2013, and 2014, the County's overall DBE goal regarding Section 5307 funds received is 2.2% of the federal financial assistance expended on DOT-assisted contracts. Both Indian River County and its transit operator, the Senior Resource Association (SRA), rely on standard procurement procedures and make extensive use of state contracts. Therefore, it is estimated that, during Fiscal Years 2012, 2013, and 2014, \$50,000 will be available each year in competitively-bid projects involving the DBE program, primarily for marketing and office related expenses. Consequently, the County has set a goal of expending \$1,100, or 2.2% of the total contractual amount, with DBEs during each fiscal year. This goal was established in accordance with the two-step process discussed below.

Step One - Under this step, the County established a base goal by dividing the total number of DBE firms (196) in the Sebastian-Vero Beach Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) and two immediately adjacent MSAs, Port St. Lucie and Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville, into the total of available firms in the same area (8,936) for appropriate NAICS codes. This effort resulted in a 2.2% ratio.

Step Two - Under this step, the County examined all available evidence as specified in 49 CFR Part 26.45(d)(1-2) to determine whether the base goal derived in Step One needs to be adjusted. The County's analysis of all available evidence is as follows:

The current capacity of DBEs to perform work in the County's DOT-assisted contracting program as measured by the volume of work DBEs have performed in recent years - In order to perform this analysis, it is important to define the DBE-eligible portion of the County's DOT-assisted contracting program. DOT-assisted contracts for the use of federal funds are subject to the DBE program, excluding the purchase of transit vehicles, personnel, and rent. Historically, the SRA has utilized Florida state contracts extensively for the purchase of vehicles and transit capital items and will continue to do so as appropriate. Therefore, only a limited amount of the County's DOT-assisted contracting program has and will continue to involve the DBE program.

As indicated above, the County expects that only \$50,000 will be available each year in competitively-bid projects involving the DBE program during Fiscal Years 2012, 2013, and 2014. Planned projects during this timeframe include bus shelters, capital equipment, and marketing. To date, the County has not

encountered problems in retaining DBE firms for these types of activities and, given the sufficient availability of DBE firms that are able to undertake these activities, the County does not expect difficulty in continuing to meet its base goal. As in the past, the goal will be met through race-neutral means. The DBE Liaison Officer will monitor closely participation in order to determine whether mid-course corrections are needed.

In accordance with 49 CFR 26.45, Indian River County anticipates meeting its entire 2.2% DBE participation goal through race-neutral means. Measures to be taken may include:

- Arranging solicitations, times for the presentation of bids, quantities, specification, and delivery schedule in the way that facilitate DBE and other small and minority owned business participation;
- Providing technical assistance and other services with special emphasis on marketing; and
- Provide the name, phone number and e-mail address for additional information pertaining to a contract.

Disparity studies - No such studies have previously been undertaken within Indian River County.

Utilizing another recipient's goal - Indian River County has not used another recipient's goal as its base figure.

Other factors - Other factors, such as statistical disparities, past discrimination, and other issues are not applicable or have not been encountered by the County to date in implementing its DBE program.

In examining all available evidence required under this step, and after consulting with the local minority business community, the County has determined that no adjustment is needed to its DBE goal for Fiscal Years 2012, 2013, and 2014. The County will continue to evaluate the capacity of local DBEs to perform work on DOT-assisted contracts and other available evidence in monitoring its overall goal each year.

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