

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Policy Statement

The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) opposes unlawful discrimination of any kind. SEPTA is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer/Contractor, and is firmly committed to providing equal employment and business opportunities for all persons.

SEPTA receives Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and, as a condition of receiving this assistance, SEPTA has signed an assurance that it will comply with the regulations of the DOT, 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 26 (Part 26). Accordingly, SEPTA has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program in accordance with Part 26.

It is the policy of SEPTA to ensure that DBEs, as defined in Part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. It is also our policy to:

- Ensure non-discrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts;
- Create a level-playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts;
- Ensure that the DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
- Ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
- Help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT-assisted contracts; and
- Assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the marketplace outside of the DBE Program.

SEPTA's Director, DBE Program Office (Director) has been designated to serve as the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Liaison Officer (DBELO) for SEPTA. In this capacity, the Director is responsible for implementing all aspects of SEPTA's DBE Program. Implementation of the DBE Program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by SEPTA in its financial assistance agreements with the DOT.

SEPTA has disseminated this policy statement to its Board of Directors and all appropriate departments throughout our organization. We distribute our policy statement, via inclusion in certification approval letters and contract documents, to the DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for SEPTA on DOT-assisted contracts. Our policy statement can also be accessed via SEPTA's website at www.septa.org. Information about our DBE Program can be obtained by contacting SEPTA's DBE Program Office via phone (215-580-7278) or email (DBEProgram@septa.org).


Jeffrey D. Knueppel
General Manager

8/28/17

Date Approved