

_____ hereafter referred to as “the Company” or “this Company” has adopted this policy and plan.

Date: _____ By: _____ Signature
Corporate FEID No.: _____ Printed name & title

DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (‘DBE’) AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN

POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of this Company that disadvantaged businesses, as defined by 49 CFR Part 26, Subpart D and implemented under Rule Chapter 14-78, F.A.C., shall have the opportunity to participate as subcontractors and suppliers on all contracts awarded by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

The requirements of Rule Chapter 14-78, F.A.C., shall apply to all contracts entered into between FDOT and the Company. Subcontractors and/or suppliers to the Company will also be bound by the requirements of Rule Chapter 14-78 F.A.C. and its subcontractors shall take all necessary and reasonable steps in accordance with Chapter 14-78, F.A.C., to ensure that disadvantaged businesses have the opportunity to compete and perform work contracted with FDOT. The Company and its subcontractors shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, disability, sex, or age in the administration of contracts with FDOT. The Company has designated and appointed a Liaison Officer to develop, maintain, and monitor the DBE Affirmative Action Plan implementation. The Liaison Officer will be responsible for disseminating this policy statement throughout the Company and to disadvantaged controlled businesses. This statement is posted on notice boards of the Company.

I. DESIGNATION OF LIAISON OFFICER

The Company will aggressively recruit disadvantaged businesses as subcontractors and suppliers for all contracts with FDOT. The Company has appointed a Liaison Officer to develop and maintain this Affirmative Action Plan in accordance with the requirements of Rule Chapter 14-78, F.A.C. The Liaison Officer will have primary responsibility for developing, maintaining, and monitoring the Company's utilization of disadvantaged subcontractors in addition to the following specific duties:

- (1) The Liaison Officer shall aggressively solicit bids from disadvantaged business subcontractors for all FDOT contracts;
- (2) The Liaison Officer will submit all records, reports, and documents required by FDOT, and shall maintain such records for a period of not less than three years, or as directed by any specific contractual requirements of FDOT.

The following individual has been designated Liaison Officer with responsibility for implementing the Company's affirmative action program in accordance with the requirements of FDOT.

DBE LIAISON OFFICER:

NAME:
TITLE:
EMAIL:
ADDRESS:

II. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION METHODS

In order to formulate a realistic Affirmative Action Plan, the Company has identified the following known barriers to participation by disadvantaged subcontractors, before describing its proposed affirmative action methods:

1. Lack of qualified disadvantaged subcontractors in our specific geographical areas of work;
2. Lack of certified disadvantaged subcontractors who seek to perform FDOT work;
3. Lack of interest in performing on FDOT contracts;
4. Lack of response when requested to bid;
5. Limited knowledge of FDOT plans and specifications to prepare a responsible bid.

In view of the barriers to disadvantaged businesses stated above, it shall be the policy of the Company to provide opportunity by utilizing the following affirmative action methods to ensure participation on the contracts with FDOT will:

1. Provide written notice to all certified DBE subcontractors in the geographical area where the work is to be subcontracted by the Company;
2. Advertise in minority focused media concerning subcontract opportunities with the Company;
3. Select portions of work to be performed by DBEs in order to increase the likelihood of meeting the state's goals (including, where appropriate, breaking down contracts into economically feasible units to facilitate DBE participation);
4. Provide adequate information about the plans, specifications, and requirements of the contract, not rejecting subcontractors without sound reasons based on a thorough investigation of their capabilities;
5. Waive requirements of performance bonds where it is practical to do so;
6. Attend pre-bid meetings held by FDOT to apprise disadvantaged subcontractors of opportunities with the Company;
7. Follow up on initial solicitations of interest to DBE subcontractors to determine with certainty whether the DBE company is interested in the subcontract opportunity.
8. Utilize FDOT's DBE Supportive Services providers for assistance in identifying and notifying DBE's of contracting opportunities.

The Company understands that this list of affirmative action methods is not exhaustive and will include additional approaches after having established familiarity with the disadvantaged subcontracting community and/or determined the stated approaches to be ineffective.

III. IMPLEMENTATION

The Company will make every effort to

1. Meet state goals by utilizing its affirmative action methods.
2. Express good faith by seeking to utilize DBE subcontractors where work is to be subcontracted.
3. Ensuring that contracted DBE's perform a commercially useful function as evidenced by their execution of a distinct element of work with its own workforce and the carrying out responsibilities by actually performing, managing and supervising the work involved.

IV. REPORTING

The Company shall keep and maintain such records as are necessary to determine the Company's compliance with its DBE Affirmative Action Plan. The Company will design its record keeping system to indicate:

1. The number of DBE subcontractors and suppliers used by the Company, identifying the items of work, materials and services provided;
2. The efforts and progress being made in obtaining DBE subcontractors through local and community sources;
3. Documentation of all contracts, to include correspondence, telephone calls, newspaper advertisements, etc., to obtain DBE participation on all FDOT projects;
4. The Company shall comply with FDOT's requirements regarding payments to subcontractors including DBEs for each month (estimate period) in which the companies have worked.

V. DBE DIRECTORY

The Company will utilize the DBE Directory published by the FDOT.