

DBE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN

POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of _____ 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.

The requirements of Rule Chapter 14-78, F.A.C., shall apply to all contracts entered into between the Florida Department of Transportation and _____ . Subcontractors and/or suppliers to _____ 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 the Florida Department of Transportation.

_____, 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 the Department of Transportation.

_____, 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 _____ and to disadvantaged controlled businesses. The statement is posted on notice boards of the Company.

X _____, President

X _____

I. DESIGNATION OF LIAISON OFFICER

_____ will aggressively recruit disadvantaged businesses as subcontractors and suppliers for all contracts with the Florida Department of Transportation. 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 Florida Department of Transportation contracts;
- (2) The Liaison Officer will submit all records, reports, and documents required by the Florida Department of Transportation, and shall maintain such records for a period of not less than three years, or as directed by any specific contractual requirements of the Florida Department of Transportation.

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

II. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION METHODS

In order to formulate a realistic Affirmative Action Plan, _____ 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 Florida Department of Transportation work;
3. Lack of interest in performing on Florida Department of Transportation contracts;
4. Lack of response when requested to bid;
5. Limited knowledge of Florida Department of Transportation plans and specifications to prepare a responsible bid.

In view of the barriers to disadvantaged businesses stated above, it shall be the policy of _____ to provide opportunity by _____ utilizing the following affirmative action methods to ensure participation on the contracts with the Florida Department of Transportation. _____ 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 the work to be performed by DBEs in order to increase the likelihood of meeting contract 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 the Florida Department of Transportation 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.

_____ 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

On contracts with specific DBE goals, _____ will make every effort to meet contract goals as stated by utilizing its affirmative action methods. On projects with no specific goals, the Company will, as an expression of good faith, seek to utilize DBE subcontractors where work is to be subcontracted.

IV. REPORTING

_____ 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 Florida Department of Transportation projects;
4. **The Company shall comply with Florida Department of Transportation's requirements regarding payments to subcontractors including DBEs for each month (estimate period) in which the companies have worked.**

V. DBE DIRECTORY

_____ will utilize the DBE Directory published by the Florida Department of Transportation.

The Company will distribute Form Number 275-030-01, Schedule A Certification Form Number 1, to potential DBE contractors and assist in their completion.