

**Forrest Claypool**  
President  
Chicago Transit Authority



567 W. Lake Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60661

## **POLICY STATEMENT**

### **DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM**

TO ALL CTA EMPLOYEES AND THE SERVICE COMMUNITY:

As a major provider of public transportation and whose thousands of employees have extensive daily contact with the public, the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) recognizes its responsibility to the community which it serves. As such, the CTA is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination. It is the policy and commitment of CTA not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the award and performance of any CTA contract or in the administration of its Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program. The CTA will take all necessary and reasonable steps to assure that small business enterprises, certified and defined as DBEs pursuant to 49 CFR Part 26, shall have a fair opportunity to participate in CTA contracts. As part of its DBE policy commitment, CTA will make every effort to achieve the following objectives of 49 CFR Part 26:

- a) Ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of contracts;
- b) Create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts;
- c) Ensure that the CTA's DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
- d) Ensure only firms that fully meet eligibility standards of 49 CFR Part 26 are permitted to participate as DBEs;
- e) Help remove barriers so DBEs can fully participate in contracts; and,
- f) Assist the development of firms so they can compete successfully in the marketplace outside the DBE Program.
- g) Provide appropriate flexibility to recipients of Federal financial assistance in establishing and providing opportunities for DBEs.

Implementation of the DBE Program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations required by CTA's financial assistance agreements with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

The President and the General Manager of the Small Business Compliance Department are specifically delegated responsibility to ensure proper DBE participation in CTA's procurement process. However, all Executive Vice Presidents, Vice Presidents, General Managers, and their management staff share in the responsibility for making CTA's DBE Program a success.

This statement is made available to DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for CTA. The Transit Board is committed to the DBE Program. In my role as President, I shall take all reasonable steps to ensure achievement of our goal.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

6/30/11

  
President