

## **POLICY STATEMENT**

### **Section 26.1, 26.23 Objectives/Policy Statement**

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

It is the policy of Skagit Transit 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:

1. Ensure non-discrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts;
2. Promote and maintain a level playing field on which all small businesses meeting the requisite size standards, including DBEs, can compete fairly for U.S. DOT Federally assisted contracts awarded and administered by Skagit Transit.
3. Ensure that the DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
4. Ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
5. Identify and remove barriers to the participation of all small businesses meeting the requisite size standards, including DBEs, in the bidding, award and administration of U.S. DOT Federally-assisted contracts;
6. Assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE Program.
7. Increase the participation of all small businesses meeting the requisite size standards, including DBEs, in the procurement of materials, equipment and supplies;

The Executive Director of Skagit Transit has been designated as the DBE Director. The Director has the ultimate authority and responsibility for the Agency's adherence to the Skagit Transit DBE Policy and Program. The DBE Director shall delegate duties to achieve the policy goals as necessary.

The Manager of Finance and Administration has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, the Manager of Finance and Administration is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE Program. Implementation of the DBE Program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by Skagit Transit in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

Skagit Transit has disseminated this Policy Statement to the Skagit Transit Board of Directors and all of the components of our organization. We have distributed this statement to DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for us on DOT-assisted contracts. Our DBE Policy is available on our website under the Procurement section and is included as part of the standard language in each federally assisted bid advertisement.



Dale O'Brien  
Skagit Transit Executive Director