



Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Policy Statement of the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority

The Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) is committed to the utilization of small, minority, women and socio-economically disadvantaged businesses in the award of its contracts and procurements. To this end, the Authority has developed a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with the Federal Department of Transportation's DBE regulations reflected in 49 CFR Parts 23 and 26. The goal of this program is to achieve a level playing field, which promotes increased competition and cost savings resulting from the involvement of DBE(s).

Further, MARTA is committed to providing small, minority, women and socio-economically disadvantaged businesses with access to training, technical assistance and business development activities to overcome the vestiges of prior discrimination. This is intended to expand the DBE's business acumen, knowledge of prevalent industry practices, as well as, their capability to access capital. Since DBE(s) by definition are small business concerns, and small businesses are the backbone of the U.S. economy that hire the largest number of people, MARTA's effort to foster their growth and development not only improves the economy but it expands the number of jobs available in the marketplace, as well.

That is why the Authority has integrated its DBE program into its contracts and procurement process. This affords us the opportunity to identify and remove barriers that preclude participation; determine DBE availability based on an assessment of expertise; and alert small, minority, women and socio-economically disadvantaged businesses of available contract opportunities immediately after the advertisement of bids. This has resulted in viable business entities competing vigorously in the marketplace.

As General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of MARTA, please know that we have committed the support and resources needed to make this program a success for small, minority, women and socio-economically disadvantaged businesses. It has the unwavering support of the Authority's Board of Directors, management staff and employees in general.

Beverly L. Scott
Dr. Beverly Scott, General Manager /CEO

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Date