



City of
Fort Smith
Transit
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)
Small Business Program

FFY 2024-2026

In Compliance With
Title 49 Part 26 of the Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR 26)



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Attachment 7 – Video Conference Presentation Notes

Notice of Nondiscrimination:

Fort Smith Transit shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the award and performance of any DOT-assisted contract or the administration of its DBE program or the requirements of 49 CFR Part 26. The recipient shall take all necessary and reasonable steps under 49 CFR Part 26 to ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts. The recipient’s DBE program, as required by 49 CFR Part 26 and as approved by DOT, is incorporated by reference in this agreement. Implementation of this program is a legal obligation and failure to carry out its terms shall be treated as a violation of this agreement. Upon notification to FST of its failure to carry out its approved program, the Department may impose sanction as provided for under 49 CFR Part 26 and may, in appropriate cases, refer the matter for enforcement under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and/or the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986 (31 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.).

This notice is available in large print, on audio tape, and in braille, and language assistance is available for limited English proficiency upon request.

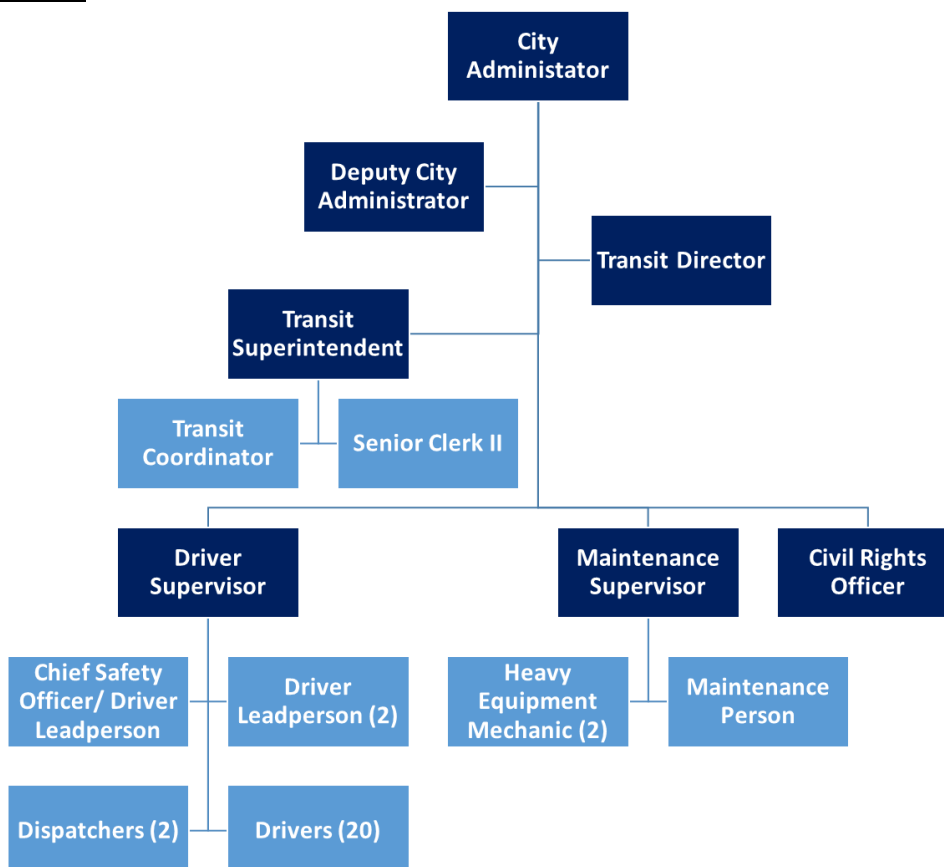
INTRODUCTION

Fort Smith Transit (FST) has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in compliance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26 which details Fort Smith Transit’s process for setting the FFY’s 2024-2026 overall goal for DBE participation in federally assisted transit projects.

Federal regulations 49 CFR 26 requires that this goal be submitted for review by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). This submission must include 1) A description of the methodology used to establish the goal, including the base figure and evidence with which it was calculated, and the evidence relied on for any adjustments; and 2) A projection of the portions of the overall goal expected to be met through race/gender-conscious measures, respectively; and should include 3) A summary listing of relevant available evidence of disparity and, where applicable, an explanation of why that evidence was not used to adjust the base figure.

For any questions or comments contact: Gregory A. Carthon Fort Smith Transit
DBE Liaison Officer P.O. Box 1908
Civil Rights Officer Fort Smith, AR 72902
Phone: (479) 788-4148

Organizational Chart



Policy Statement

It is the policy of Fort Smith 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:

1. To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts;
2. To create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts;
3. To ensure that the DBE program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
4. To ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
5. To help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT-assisted contracts;
6. To assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the marketplace outside the DBE program.

The Civil Rights Officer has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, the CRO is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE program. Implementation of the DBE program is afforded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by Fort Smith Transit in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

Fort Smith Transit has disseminated this policy statement to the appropriate officials of the organization and all of the components of the organization. We have distributed this statement to DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for us on DOT-assisted contracts. Distributions include the Arkansas Department of Transportation, Transit Advisory Commission, local media, and local minority-based media.

Ken Savage, Transit Director

Date

SUMMARY

Proposed DBE Goal for Federal Fiscal Years 2024–2026

The Fort Smith Transit (FST) proposes the following goal for participation by DBEs on federally assisted transit contracts for FFY's 2024-2026.

Total DBE Goal – 2%

FTA/DOT-assisted contracts that FST expects to award during FFY 2024-2026 are estimated at \$3,801,000 in total project cost, of which \$3,040,800 are estimated in FTA funds. The dollar amount was derived by reviewing a list of anticipated constrained projects FFY's 2024-2026.

Therefore, FST has set a goal of expending \$76,020 in FTA total project funds with DBE's FFY 2024-2026.

Public Participation Process

It is FST's practice to publish a notice in English, Vietnamese, and Spanish announcing the proposed overall goal via the newspapers Times Record as well as Arkansas Democratic-Gazette. The notice will inform the public of the proposed goal and its rationale. It will be available for review on the FST website https://fortsmithar.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=42&Itemid=219 or during normal business hours at the department's office at 6821 Jenny Lind Road. Comments are accepted for forty-five (45) days from Monday, April 17, 2023, the date of the notice. No comments were received as a result of the postings, displays or presentations.

FST conducted two-consultation meetings about the overall DBE's goals. The meetings included a list of vendors identified from the ARDOT DBE certification listing as well as DBEs in our local market area (LMA). The presentation, notes, and plan are to be placed on the department's website for future viewing.



**TRANSIT CIVIL RIGHTS
INFO MEETING**

- Title VI Program 2024-2026
- Equal Employment Opportunity Plan (EEO) 2023
- Small Business Enterprise Program (SBE) 2024-2026
- Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program (DBE) 2024-2026

MONDAY, JULY 17TH | 6:00PM
Elm Grove Community Center 1901 N Greenwood Ave. Fort Smith, AR 72904

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19TH | NOON
Creekmore Community Center 3301 S M St, Fort Smith, AR 72903

FOR MORE INFORMATION
(479) 783-6464
fortsmithar.gov/transit

**GREGORY
CARTHON**
CIVIL RIGHTS OFFICER



DESCRIPTION OF METHODOLOGY

The methodology used to calculate the FST's FFY 2024-2026 DBE goal was based on the information provided in 49 CFR Part 26 and specifically Part 26.45 for goal-setting information. Other related information was obtained from website search activities.

In general, the methodology used to calculate the FST's FFY 2024-2026 DBE Goal was based on the United States Department of Transportation Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization's "Tips for Goal-Setting in the DBE Program". While we strongly believe our only method of achieving our goal will require a conscious effort, FST has limited contracting opportunities to imply a race-gender-conscious effort, therefore we will establish our goal as race-gender neutral.

The FST local market area is defined as the area where the substantial majority of contracting dollars are spent and the area in which the substantial majority of the contractors and subcontractors are located. FST defines its local market area to be within the Fort Smith Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) (Le Flore and Sequoyah Counties in Oklahoma, and Sebastian and Crawford Counties in Arkansas) as supported by the City of Fort Smith's vendor database. The methodology for determining ready, willing, and able contractors relies upon US Census Economic Data as well as DBEs identified in the ARDOT DBEs databases in calculating the FFY's 2024-2026 DBE goal.

ARDOT DBE

<https://www.ardot.gov/divisions/equal-employment-opportunity-disadvantaged-business-enterprise/dbe/>

US Census Economic Data

<https://data.census.gov/>

Background Information

FST provides fixed route, paratransit, and demand response public transportation within the city limits of Fort Smith. FST uses federal grant assistance in conjunction with local matching funds to facilitate the operating and capital needs for the public transportation program in Fort Smith, Arkansas. FST operates as a direct recipient and performs services using in-house personnel. FST does not use sub-recipients. FST made concerted efforts in the past and will continue to work in concert with the Arkansas Department of Transportation and local officials to encourage business entrepreneurs to seek applications and qualifications from ARDOT's DBE program. However, it is widely known across the state and by officials at ARDOT that despite cooperative efforts to identify minority contractors for certification as disadvantaged enterprises, the number of certified DBE contractors remains limited. The projects identified in this plan predominately involve materials costs; therefore, contain a very little opportunity for unbundling.

STEP ONE: DEVELOPMENT OF THE BASE GOAL

In Step One of the goal-setting process, contractual items were identified and a weighted average was figured for each item. Then the base goal was figured using the relative availability (percentage) of DBEs in Arkansas to perform contracts (both prime and sub) scheduled for FFY 2024-2026. These percentages can be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Base Goal} = \frac{\text{Ready, Willing, and Able DBEs}}{\text{All Firms, Ready, Willing \& Able (DBEs \& Non-DBEs)}} = \text{Relative Availability}$$

To give a more specific example, if your work for the year involves both heavy construction and trucking, then: where there are 44 DBEs in heavy construction and 14 in trucking, and 300 firms (DBEs and non-DBEs together) in heavy construction and 150 firms (DBEs and non-DBEs together) in trucking, the ratio would look like this:

$$\frac{44 \text{ DBEs in heavy construction} + 14 \text{ DBEs in trucking}}{300 \text{ firms in heavy construction} + 150 \text{ firms in trucking}} = \frac{58}{450} = 12.8\%$$

To further refine this percentage, weighting was applied using both the percentage of work to be done and the availability of DBEs to perform each work category. Reference materials were taken from a combination of website search efforts. The official North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) website was used to determine classification codes and the 2020 U.S. economic census data tables were used to determine the number of firms available for the state of Arkansas. The number of DBE firms was taken from the Arkansas Department of Transportation’s directory listing of certified DBEs. The weight of each category was determined by calculating the relative availability of DBEs in that category against the weight of contracting funds in each category. See the tables below for a detailed explanation of methods used to determine the base goal.

	NAICS Code	Project	Amount of DOT funds on project:	% of total DOT funds (weight)
1)	236220	Admin. Facility Improvements Phase II	\$2,200,000	0.5788
2)	541310	<i>(AFI Phase II) Architectural Services</i>	\$176,000	0.0463
3)	236220	Transfer Station Addition	\$300,000	0.0789
4)	541310	<i>(TS Addition) Architectural Services</i>	\$24,000	0.0063
5)	236220	Electric Charge Station	\$300,000	0.0789
6)	541310	<i>(EC Station) Architectural Services</i>	\$24,000	0.0063
7)	236220	CNG Station Expansion	\$400,000	0.1052
8)	541310	<i>(CNG Station) Architectural Services</i>	\$32,000	0.0084
9)	812331	Uniform Service	\$10,000	0.0026
10)	561720	Janitorial Service	\$10,000	0.0026
11)	532490	Copier Lease Service	\$5,000	0.0013
12)	541611	Transportation Planning Service	\$20,000	0.0053
13)	488999	Fare System Improvements	\$300,000	0.0789
	Total FTA-Assisted Contract Funds		\$3,801,000.00	1.0000

	NAICS Code	Project	Number of DBEs available to perform this work	Number of all firms available (including DBEs)	Relative Availability	
1)	236220	Admin. Facility Improvements Phase II	7	367	0.0191	
2)	541310	(AFI Phase II) Architectural Services	2	139	0.0144	
3)	236220	Transfer Station Addition	7	367	0.0191	
4)	541310	(TS Addition) Architectural Services	2	139	0.0144	
5)	236220	Electric Charge Station	7	367	0.0191	
6)	541310	(EC Station) Architectural Services	2	139	0.0144	
7)	236220	CNG Station Expansion	7	367	0.0191	
8)	541310	(CNG Station) Architectural Services	2	139	0.0144	
9)	812331	Uniform Service	0	4	0.0000	
10)	561720	Janitorial Service	3	446	0.0067	
11)	532490	Copier Lease Service	0	65	0.0000	
12)	541611	Transportation Planning Service	9	540	0.0167	
13)	541519	Fare System Improvements	1	33	0.0303	
	Combined Totals		49	3112	0.0157	Overall availability of DBEs

	NAICS Code	Project	Weight	x	Availability	Weighted Base Figure
1)	236220	Admin. Facility Improvements Phase II	0.57880	x	0.01907	1.10%
2)	541310	(AFI Phase II) Architectural Services	0.04630	x	0.01439	0.07%
3)	236220	Transfer Station Addition	0.07893	x	0.01907	0.15%
4)	541310	(TS Addition) Architectural Services	0.00631	x	0.01439	0.01%
5)	236220	Electric Charge Station	0.07893	x	0.01907	0.15%
6)	541310	(EC Station) Architectural Services	0.00631	x	0.01439	0.01%
7)	236220	CNG Station Expansion	0.10524	x	0.01907	0.20%
8)	541310	(CNG Station) Architectural Services	0.00842	x	0.01439	0.01%
9)	812331	Uniform Service	0.00263	x	0.00000	0.00%
10)	561720	Janitorial Service	0.00263	x	0.00673	0.00%
11)	532490	Copier Lease Service	0.00132	x	0.00000	0.00%
12)	541611	Transportation Planning Service	0.00526	x	0.01667	0.01%
13)	488999	Fare System Improvements	0.07893	x	0.03030	0.24%
					Total	1.95%
					Rounded, Weighted Base Figure:	2%

STEP TWO: ADJUSTMENTS

In Step Two of the calculation process, the Step One Base Goal may be adjusted. The factors considered in making adjustments include past participation and evidence from disparity studies, as well as any other data available that would help to measure the percentage of DBE participation in the absence of discrimination. There were no disparity studies performed within the market area in the past several years. No adjustment is reflected in the overall DBE Goal.

Past Participation

FST records suggest levels of past participation very similar to the number we calculated in Step One. The reason we are not making an adjustment for past participation is that our past participation is very similar to our Step One Base Figure and the number of available DBEs is less than the last FFY.

FST received a letter of DBE program goals and methodology exemption on November 17, 2014, from Ms. Rebecca E. Rand, Region VI Civil Rights Officer, for FFY 2015-2017.

DBE PARTICIPATION:

FFY 2015-2017	EXEMPT
FFY 2018-2020	4.7%
FFY 2021-2023	2.67%

FFY 2024-2026 GOAL **2%**

Analysis of Failure to Meet DBE Goal:

FST recognizes the difficulty in meeting the FFY 2024-2026 goal due to the limited number of contractual opportunities. The relatively small number of opportunities places a heavy weight on each project. Another cause for concern relates to the difficulty in registering and maintaining certified DBEs in Arkansas to support transit-related projects. Furthermore, there are a limited number of certified DBEs in Fort Smith's local market area as compared to the larger metropolitan areas. The extensive DBE application process discourages many businesses to apply. ARDOT encourages DBE participation with regard to certification and utilization. FST also makes every effort to encourage minority businesses to become certified DBEs in Arkansas.

RACE/GENDER NEUTRAL AND RACE/GENDER-CONSCIOUS DETERMINATION

The next step is to forecast the race/gender-neutral and race/gender-conscious portion of step two adjusted goal. It is stated in 49 CFR 26.51, the maximum feasible portion of your overall goal must be met using race/gender-neutral means of facilitating DBE participation. Race/gender-neutral participation includes:

1. DBEs who win prime contracts through customary competitive procurement procedures;
2. DBEs who are awarded subcontracts on prime contracts that do not carry a DBE goal;
3. DBEs who are awarded subcontracts over the stated project goal.

The following considerations were made when determining the race-gender-neutral and race-gender-conscious components of the goal-setting process.

Past Race/Gender-Neutral Participation by DBEs on Transit Projects

It is FST's understanding that DBE participation has been low statewide. This can be attributed to the difficulty in identifying ready, willing, and able DBEs to participate in a limited number of procurements. The primary cause is low participation by DBEs in the certification process. FST will assist ARDOT in its efforts to encourage potential DBEs to complete the required certification process.

The DBE Goal for FFYs 2024-2026 is 2% entirely with race-neutral DBE participation.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Objectives

The objectives of Fort Smith Transit's DBE program can be found in the introduction section of this plan.

Applicability

Fort Smith Transit (FST) is the recipient of Section 5307 small urban federal transit funds.

Definitions

Definitions are contained in Section 26.5 of Part 26 for this program.

Record-Keeping Requirements

- Uniform Report of DBE Awards or Commitments and Payments:

FST will report DBE participation to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) using the Uniform Report of DBE Awards or Commitments and Payments form found in Appendix B of 49 CFR Part 26.

- Bidders List

FST will monitor bidders' lists, consisting of information on all DBE and non-DBE firms that could potentially bid or quote on DOT-assisted contracts. The bidders' lists will include the names and addresses of all non-DBEs and qualified DBEs. FST will also monitor SBEs in the same manner.

- Contract Assurance

FST will ensure that the following clause is placed in every DOT-assisted contract and subcontract:

The contractor, sub-recipient, or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR part 26 in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy as the recipient deems appropriate.

ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

DBE Program Updates

Since FST anticipates awarding more than \$3,801,000 (*total projects*) in FTA operating assistance in FFY 2024-2026, we will continue to carry out this program until all funds from FTA financial assistance have been expended. We will provide FTA updates representing significant changes in the program.

DBE Liaison Officer (DBELO)

FST has designated the following individual as the DBE Liaison Officer:

Gregory A. Carthon, Civil Rights Officer
6821 Jenny Lind Rd., Fort Smith, AR 72908
Phone: (479) 788-4148
[*gcarthon@fortsmithar.gov*](mailto:gcarthon@fortsmithar.gov)

In that capacity, the DBELO is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE program and ensuring that FST complies with all provisions of 49 CFR Part 26. The DBELO has direct, independent access to the Transit Director concerning DBE program matters. An organizational chart displaying the DBELO's position in the organization is found in Attachment 1 to this program.

The DBELO is responsible for developing, implementing, and monitoring the DBE program, in coordination with other appropriate officials. The duties and responsibilities include the following:

1. Gathers and reports statistical data and other information as required by DOT.
2. Reviews third-party contracts and purchase requisitions for compliance with this program.
3. Ensures that bid notices and requests for proposals are available to DBEs promptly.
4. Identifies contracts and procurements so that DBE goals are included in solicitations (both race-neutral methods and contract-specific goals attainment and identifies ways to improve progress).
5. Analyzes FST's progress toward attainment and identify ways to improve progress.
6. Participates in pre-bid meetings.
7. Advises the Transit Director on DBE matters and achievements.
8. Provides DBEs with information and assistance in preparing bids, and obtaining bonding and insurance.
9. Plans and participates in DBE training seminars.
10. Provides outreach to DBEs and community organizations to advise them of opportunities.

DBE Financial Institutions

It is the policy of FST to investigate the full extent of services offered by financial institutions owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals in the community, to make reasonable efforts to use these institutions and to encourage prime contractors on DOT-assisted contracts to make use of these institutions. FST will make every effort to identify and use such institutions. We will also re-evaluate the availability of DBE financial institutions every year. To date, there have been no such institutions identified but will continue to research the availability.

Prompt Payment Mechanisms

- Prompt Payment

FST will include the following clause in each DOT-assisted prime contract:

The prime contractor agrees to pay each subcontractor under this prime contract for satisfactory performance of its contract no later than thirty (30) days from the receipt of each payment the prime contract received from FST. Any delay or postponement of payment from the above-referenced time frame may occur only for good cause following written approval of FST.

- Retainage

FST will include the following clause in each DOT-assisted prime contract:

The prime contractor agrees to return retainage payments to each subcontractor within thirty (30) days after the subcontractor's work is satisfactorily completed. Any delay or postponement of payment from the above-referenced time frame may occur only for good cause following written approval of FST.

Monitoring and Enforcement

FST has established an internal review process and will implement progressive project meetings to monitor and enforce the prompt payment and return of retainage.

Directory

FST has entered into an agreement with ARDOT to utilize its DBE certification list. ARDOT agrees to administer certifications and re-certifications, no change affidavits, notices of changes, personal net worth statements, and any other necessary documentation from firms eligible to participate as DBEs. The directory lists the firm's name, address, phone number, date of the most recent certification, and the type of work the firm has been certified to perform as a DBE. The directory is updated at least annually and is available through the ARDOT website or hard copy by request.

Overconcentration

FST has identified no presence that an overconcentration exists in the types of work that DBEs perform.

Business Development Programs

FST has not established a business development program. We will re-evaluate the need for such a program every year.

Monitoring and Enforcement Mechanisms

FST will take the following monitoring and enforcement mechanisms to ensure compliance with 49 CFR Part 26.

1. We will bring to the attention of the DOT any false, fraudulent, or dishonest conduct in connection with the program so that DOT can take the steps (e.g., referral to the Department of Justice for a criminal prosecution, referral to the DOT Inspector General, action under suspension and debarment or Program Fraud and Civil Penalties rules) provided in 26.109.
2. We will consider similar action under our legal authorities, including responsibility determinations in future contracts.
3. We will also provide a monitoring and enforcement mechanism to verify that work committed to DBEs at contract award is performed by DBEs. This will be accomplished through the provisions of the Davis-Bacon employee interviews.
4. We will keep a running tally of actual payments to DBE firms for work committed to them at the time of contract award.

Small Business Participation

FST has incorporated a non-discriminatory element to its DBE program, to facilitate competition on DOT-assisted projects by small business concerns. The Small Business Program is provided in Attachment 5.



City of
Fort Smith
Transit
Small Business Program

**DBELO – Civil Rights Officer
P.O. Box 1908
Fort Smith AR 72902
Phone: 479-783-6464
Fax: 479-788-6525**

A. Overview

Fort Smith Transit's (FST) small business program implements strategies that will facilitate competition by SBEs on DOT-assisted projects. The small business program will assist FST in creating opportunities for race and gender-neutral participation in DOT-assisted projects.

For this program, a small business is defined as one meeting the requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 for a "Small Business Concern". SBEs meeting this definition, regardless of race, gender, or socio-economic status, will be considered for inclusion in the small business program. SBEs shall be certified as small businesses with the US Small Business Administration (www.SBA.gov), the Arkansas Economic Development Commission (www.arkansas.gov), or the Arkansas Small Business and Technology Development Center (www.asbtdc.org). FST will use these sources to verify SBE certification.

FST's small business program will adhere to the following assurances:

1. All the strategies listed in this program are authorized under Arkansas state law.
2. Certified DBEs that meet the size criteria of 1.32 million or less in net worth are presumptively eligible to participate in the program. This will be determined following a review of a signed, notarized statement of personal net worth, with appropriate supporting documentation.
3. There are no geographic preferences or limitations imposed on any federally assisted procurements included in this program.
4. There are no limits on the number of contracts awarded to firms participating in the program; however, every effort will be made to avoid barriers to the use of new, emerging, or untried businesses.
5. Aggressive steps will be taken to encourage minority and women-owned firms that are eligible for DBE certification to become certified for the small business benefits as well.

A. Strategies

FST plans to use the following strategies to help eliminate obstacles to SBE participation in DOT-assisted projects

- For large construction contracts (those over \$1,000,000), FST will require bidders on the prime construction contract to specify elements of the contract that are of a size that small businesses can reasonably perform. This will be confirmed by an acknowledgment as a part of the contract clauses, which includes the contractor's identification of small business subcontract possibilities.
- After the contract award, prime contractors will be required to provide FST with a list identifying small business subcontracts on large procurements for verification and reporting purposes. Contractors will also be required to verify small businesses on the list can adequately perform the tasks to be completed. The project manager will insure all work activities have met the required performance standards.
- For large construction projects (those over \$1,000,000) that can be reasonably unbundled, FST will unbundle such construction contracts to a size that SBEs can reasonably perform. For this case, the phrase "reasonably unbundled" refers to projects that have work items that can be split from the project so that the project can be performed by separate contracts in separate work areas. FST will encourage other contractors to follow the same practice.

- FST will stress the benefits and development opportunities of being a certified minority business enterprise to its vendors as well as other outside vendors.
- Assist applicants in the steps required to become a DBE firm and to be listed in the state-wide publication.
- FST will encourage small business certifications by posting the small business plan on our website (www.fortsmithar.gov)

B. Reporting

All race-neutral DBE participation obtained by the plan will be reported as part of the FST’s DBE Reporting. In addition, FST will track the plan’s small business participation in the table below by a review of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission’s small and minority business directory frequently to determine small business utilization.

Fort Smith Transit Small Business Participation Reporting			
Fiscal Year	Federal Dollars to SBEs	Percentage of Total Federal Dollars to SBEs	Race-Neutral DBE Participation
<i>Ex. 2013</i>	<i>\$20,000</i>	<i>3.9%</i>	<i>3.2%</i>

GOALS, GOOD FAITH EFFORTS, AND COUNTING

Set-Asides or Quotas

FST does not use quotas in any way in the administration of this DBE program.

Overall Goals

FST will submit its triennial overall DBE goal to FTA on or before the FTA-specified due date (October 1 for FFY 2024-2026).

FST may request the use of project-specific DBE goals as appropriate, and/or will establish project-specific DBE goals as directed by FTA.

Goal Setting and Accountability

FST will analyze in detail the reason for the difference between the overall goal and the actual awards/commitments throughout the prior year. Revisions will be considered regarding the need for contract goals following each annual review. FST did not include a shortfall analysis due to being on track with our FFY 2021-2023 goals.

Transit Vehicle Manufacturer's Goals

FST will require each transit vehicle manufacturer, as a condition of being authorized to bid or propose on FTA-assisted transit vehicle procurements, to certify that it has complied with the requirements of this section. Alternatively, FST may, at its discretion and FTA approval, establish project-specific goals for DBE participation in the procurement of transit vehicles instead of the TVM complying with this element of the program.

Good Faith Efforts Procedures

In those instances where FST's DBE goal does not meet the verified countable DBE anticipated participation, it will document its adequate good faith efforts to meet the DBE goal, even though it was unable to do so.

Counting DBE Participation

FST will count DBE participation toward overall goals as provided in 49 CFR 26.55.

DBE CERTIFICATION

Unified Certification Program

FST is a member of a [Unified Certification Program](#) (UCP) administered by the Arkansas Department of Transportation. The UCP will meet all the requirements of this section. FST will use and count for DBE credit only those DBE firms certified by ARDOT. For more information on the UCP, contact ARDOT at P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR 72203-2261 or (501) 569-2000.

DBE Application: [DBE Uniform Certification Application](#)

ARDOT Equal Employment Opportunity & Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Link:
<https://www.ardot.gov/divisions/equal-employment-opportunity-disadvantaged-business-enterprise/dbe/>

DBE Regulations, 49 CFR Part 26: <https://ecfr.io/Title-49/Part-26>

U.S. Department of Transportation's Tips for Goal Setting in the DBE Program:
<https://www.transportation.gov/osdbu/disadvantaged-business-enterprise/tips-goal-setting-disadvantaged-business-enterprise>

ARDOT DBE Directory

Currently Certified Companies on Record Matching Search Criteria

Vendor	Location	Phone	Certifications
1st Choice Utility Construction, LLC	Little Rock, AR 72215	501-779- 6525	DBE
			MBE
2nd Gen Business Development & Investments, LLC	Plumerville, AR 72127	501-358- 6210	DBE
47 Snacks	Bryant, AR 72022	501/356- 0576	DBE
			ACDBE
A & A Fire & Safety Company, LLC	Sherwood, AR 72120	501-834- 5353	DBE
			MBE
A & J Electric, LLC	Mayflower, AR 72106	501-932- 4675	DBE
			MBE
A Touch of Nature, Inc.	Little Rock, AR 72204	501/240- 9003	DBE
			MBE
A. L. Blood Hauling, Inc.	Little Rock, AR 72209-5319	501-562- 9954 / 501- 681-9106	DBE
			MBE
Anders Trucking, Inc.	El Dorado, AR 71730	870-862- 9629	DBE
			MBE
Arkansas Flag & Banner, Inc.	Little Rock, AR 72201	501-375- 7633	DBE
			MBE
Arkansas Sign & Barricade, Inc.	Mabelvale, AR 72103	501-653- 2300	DBE
			MBE
ATV Trucking	Crossett, AR 71635	870-500- 5425	DBE
			MBE
AVCOR Construction, LLC	Heber Springs, AR 72543	501/241- 4066	DBE
			MBE
Bami Technologies, LLC	Bryant, AR 72022	501/226- 4153	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
Berry Concrete Construction, Inc.	Conway, AR 72034	501-258- 7826	DBE
			MBE
Better Than Amazing Hauling, LLC	North Little Rock, AR 72117	501-612- 5235	DBE
			MBE
Beverly's Construction	Batesville, AR 72503	870-251- 3129	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
Booker Simmons Trucking, LLC	Little Rock, AR 72219	501-414- 3707	DBE
Bryan Blood Hauling, Inc.	Little Rock, AR 72209	501-568- 0578	DBE
			MBE
Built By Brenda, Inc.	Conway, AR 72032	501-472- 6331	DBE
			MBE

Cantique, LLC	Fayetteville, AR 72702	479-445- 7110	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
Cattails Environmental, LLC	Bentonville, AR 72713	479/659- 4380	DBE
			MBE
Central Arkansas Contractors, Inc.	Little Rock, AR 72216	501-681- 5840	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
Charles McClendon Trucking, Inc.	Little Rock, AR 72206	501-804- 5905	DBE
			MBE
CHF Contractors, Inc.	Little Rock, AR 72216	501-551- 7220	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
Choice Promotions, LLC	Little Rock, AR 72205	501-666- 9499	DBE
			ACDBE
			MBE
CMC Project Solutions, Inc.	Bentonville, AR 72712	877-778- 2337	DBE
Commercial Door & Hardware, Inc.	Fort Smith, AR 72901	479-783- 7303	DBE
			MBE
Common Scents	Little Rock, AR 72206	501/398- 0030	DBE
			MBE
Construction Materials Testing Services, Inc.	Arkadelphia, AR 71923	870-246- 7278	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
CP Construction Enterprises, LLC	Little Rock, AR 72210	501-387- 3604	DBE
			MBE
Creative Design Concepts, Inc.	Van Buren, AR 72957	479-420- 7396	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
CSP MGT, LLC	Little Rock, AR 72201	501/712- 4242	DBE
			MBE
D & D Paving, Inc.	Sherrill, AR 72152	870-879- 3084	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
D & R Concrete Construction, LLC	Conway, AR 72034	501/428- 4350	DBE
			MBE
Dayboy Hauling, LLC	Alexander, AR 72002	501-454- 0497	DBE
			MBE
DeArrius Howard, Inc.	Bentonville, AR 72713	479/321- 4651	DBE
			MBE
Delta Grass Masters, LLC	Little Rock, AR 72222	501-803- 9005	DBE
			MBE
Diamond Hotshot Trucking Company, LLC	North Little Rock, AR 72115	501-529- 5461	DBE
			MBE
			DBE

Double C Pressure Washing	Conway, AR 72032	501/450-8476	MBE
Doyne Construction Company, Inc.	North Little Rock, AR 72119	501-376-8900	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
Dusty Road Builders, Inc.	Russellville, AR 72811	479-967-3200	DBE
			MBE
Earls Trucking	Benton, AR 72019	501-912-6949	DBE
			MBE
Envirotrac Safety & Erosion, Inc.	Danville, AR 72833	479-272-4961	DBE
Evergreen Erosion & More, LLC	Centerville, AR 72829	479-576-2794	DBE
			MBE
Freight Insights, LLC	Gravette, AR 72736	479-787-3604	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
Government Supply Services, LLC	El Dorado, AR 71730	870-562-7311	DBE
			MBE
Graylee Construction & Demolition, LLC	Austin, AR 72007	870-917-0038	DBE
Harbor Environmental, Inc.	Little Rock, AR 72205	501-663-8800	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
Hariotte, LLC	Texarkana, AR 71854	903-826-1809	DBE
			MBE
Harris Construction Management	Little Rock, AR 72216	501-945-7715	DBE
			MBE
Harris Plastering & Construction, Inc.	Conway, AR 72034	501-416-8193	DBE
			MBE
HDMS & Standard GIS, Inc.	North Little Rock, AR 72114	501/374-5500	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
Helguera Construction, LLC	Sherwood, AR 72124	501-891-4210	DBE
			MBE
Henry E. Peacock and Associates, LLC	Forrest City, AR 72336	870-633-0437	DBE
			MBE
Heritage Excavation, Inc.	Beebe, AR 72012	501-882-6138	DBE
			MBE
Hot Springs Pharmacy, LLC	Hot Springs, AR 71914	501-760-2444	DBE
			MBE
HP Engineering, Inc.	Rogers, AR 72758	479-899-6370	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
International Decal Management Corporation	Rogers, AR 72756	479-366-9993	DBE
			MBE
			DBE

Ivan Hudson Agency, LLC	Little Rock, AR 72203	501/823-3630	MBE
J & W Trucking & Hauling Service, LLC	Sherwood, AR 72124	501-425-1832	DBE
			MBE
J Kelly Referrals & Information Services, Inc.	Little Rock, AR 72214	501-374-5000	DBE
			MBE
J's Construction Company	Conway, AR 72034	501-450-9405	DBE
			MBE
Joe Harris, Jr. Trucking Del-Ark Consulting	Osceola, AR 72370	870-563-6798	DBE
			MBE
Jones Landscaping & Lawn Service, Inc.	Little Rock, AR 72207	501-888-8789	DBE
			MBE
K & K Trucking	Star City, AR 71667	870-628-3911	DBE
			MBE
Kenreg Trucking, Inc.	Stuttgart, AR 72160	870-673-1104	DBE
			MBE
Kesser International, Inc.	Little Rock, AR 72203	501-244-2450	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
Lambert Construction Company, Inc.	Little Rock, AR 72206	501-888-6150	DBE
			MBE
Larco, Inc.	Crossett, AR 71635	870-364-6765	DBE
			MBE
Lasker Brothers', Inc.	Conway, AR 72034	501-470-1147	DBE
			MBE
Latrobe, LLC	Marion, AR 72364	724-317-8414	DBE
			MBE
LBL Construction Company	Little Rock, AR 72209	501-993-1080	DBE
			MBE
Lisa Stephens CPA, PLC	Conway, AR 72032	501-327-2834	DBE
			MBE
LJH Series, Inc.	Little Rock, AR 72203	501-285-0202	DBE
			MBE
Long's Drilling Service, Inc.	Harrison, AR 72601	870-437-2200	DBE
			MBE
M & T Paving & Construction Company, Inc.	Forrest City, AR 72336-0329	870-633-6651	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
Marshall Construction, Inc.	Mountainburg, AR 72946	479-369-2268	DBE
			MBE
McCormick Works	Mulberry, AR 72947	479-297-6122 or 479-518-8649	DBE
			MBE
			SBP
McGowan Enterprises, LLC	Atkins, AR 72823	479-223-1895	DBE
			MBE
Millar, Inc.			DBE

	Lake Village, AR 71653	870-265- 5325	MBE SBP
Mr. Keith's Gourmet Kettle Corn	North Little Rock, AR 72116	501/412- 2595	DBE ACDBE MBE
Odyssey Farms Trucking, LLC	Star City, AR 71667	870/370- 6526	DBE MBE
Ox & Company Construction, LLC	Doddridge, AR 71834	903-826- 7143	DBE MBE
Phoenix Energy, LLC	Little Rock, AR 72205	877/791- 1775	DBE MBE
Positive Results Lawn Services, Inc.	North Little Rock, AR 72115	501-753- 2432	DBE MBE
R L Jackson's Construction Company, LLC	Jonesboro, AR 72404	870-530- 1039	DBE MBE
Ramos Farms	Hermitage, AR 71647	870/820- 5660	DBE MBE
Rick McGinty Company, Inc.	Greenbrier, AR 72058	501-691- 6430	DBE MBE
Riley Paving Company	Hamburg, AR 71646	870-853- 8779	DBE MBE SBP
Sebastian Tech Systems, LLC	Jonesboro, AR 72401	870/520- 6113	DBE
Seneca, Inc.	Van Buren, AR 72956	479-650- 2578	DBE MBE
Steven Brockman Construction	Conway, AR 72033	501-733- 3930	DBE MBE
Streamworks Mitigation Services, LLC	Little Rock, AR 72221	501-773- 9098	DBE MBE
Sugg Construction, Inc.	Jonesboro, AR 72403	501-470- 6402	DBE MBE SBP
TAN Construction, Inc.	Jonesboro, AR 72403	870-761- 0084	DBE MBE
The RSI Group	Little Rock, AR 72201	501-673- 4054	DBE ACDBE MBE
Thomas & Associates, Inc.	Little Rock, AR 72214	501-960- 7802	DBE MBE
Time Striping, Inc.	Van Buren, AR 72957	479-474- 0452	DBE MBE SBP
Total Erosion Control, Inc.	Beebe, AR 72012	501-726- 0345	DBE MBE

<u>Two-Foxx Transportation</u>	Conway, AR 72033	501-208- 4922	DBE MBE
<u>Valet Solutions, Inc.</u>	Little Rock, AR 72207	800-641- 3342	DBE MBE
DBA: Ambassadors Plus			
<u>Vaughn Excavating, Inc.</u>	Ash Flat, AR 72513	870-834- 0683	DBE MBE
<u>Vic's Construction, Inc.</u>	North Little Rock, AR 72117	501-515- 1169	DBE MBE
<u>VLX, LLC</u>	Springdale, AR 72762	479-631- 6433	DBE MBE
DBA: Lane X Traffic Control			
<u>Williams Pest Control, LLC</u>	North Little Rock, AR 72118	501/348- 0030	DBE MBE
<u>Woods Group Architects</u>	Little Rock, AR 72202	501-372- 2230	DBE MBE SBP
<u>Wrenco Inspections, LLC</u>	Hot Springs Village, AR 71909	903-559- 3207	DBE MBE
<u>Zavier Muhammad</u>	North Little Rock, AR 72190	501-563- 9166	DBE MBE
DBA: Xpert Communication Specialist			

LOCAL MARKET AREA



APPENDIX C: METROPOLITAN AREA BOUNDARY MAP

