



## **DBE Policy Statement and Responsibility for Implementation**

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

It is DART's policy to ensure that DBEs as defined in 49 CFR Part 26 have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. DART is committed to its DBE requirements. It is also DART's objective and 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; and
6. To assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE Program.

## **Responsibility for Implementation**

Ultimate responsibility for implementation of DART's DBE Program rests with its President/Executive Director. The President/Executive Director has designated the following individual as DART's DBE Liaison Officer:

**Jesse Oliver**  
**Deputy Executive Director**  
**1401 Pacific Avenue**  
**P.O. Box 660163**  
**Dallas, TX 75266**  
**Phone: 214-749-2571**  
**Email: [joliver@dart.org](mailto:joliver@dart.org)**

As DBE Liaison Officer, Mr. Oliver, in conjunction with Michael K. Muhammad, Vice President of Diversity, develops, monitors, administers, and implements all aspects of DART's DBE Program. Mr. Oliver reports directly to the President/Executive Director and has direct, independent access to the President/Executive Director (**See Exhibits 3 and 4**). The DBE Program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by DART in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation. As the DBE Liaison Officer, Mr. Oliver in conjunction with the Vice President of Diversity, is also responsible for:

1. Gathering and reporting statistical data and other important information as required by the FTA.
2. Reviewing purchase orders for compliance with the DBE program.
3. Working with all departments to set the overall annual DBE goal and contract-specific goals.
4. Ensuring that bid notices and requests for proposals are available to DBE's in a timely manner.
5. Identifying contracts and procurements so that DBE goals are included in solicitations (through utilization of both race-neutral and contract-specific goal setting) and monitoring results.
6. Analyzing DART's progress toward race-neutral and race-conscious goal attainment and identifying ways to improve progress.
7. Participating in pre-bid meetings.

8. Advising the President/Executive Director and Board of Directors on DBE matters and progress.
9. Making Good Faith Effort recommendations.
10. Providing DBEs with information and assistance in preparing bids, obtaining bonding and insurance.
11. Planning and participating in DBE training seminars.
12. Certifying and determining the eligibility of DBEs according to DOT criteria or providing for the same to be conducted through certification agencies or other certifying entities.
13. Providing outreach to DBEs and community organizations to advise them of contracting opportunities.
14. Maintaining an updated directory of certified DBEs (**See Exhibit 7**).

The Vice President of Diversity is Mr. Oliver's assistant in carrying out his responsibilities.

Gary C. Thomas  
President/Executive Director

Original Signed By Gary Thomas 10/30/2012 and On File in the Diversity Office