

Exhibit A – MTS Board Policy No. 26

DBE POLICY STATEMENT

San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) has established and adopted a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 26 "Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in Department of Transportation Financial Assistance Programs (49 CFR Part 26)." MTS has received Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, MTS has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26.

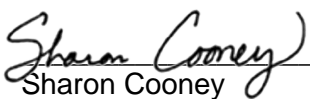
It is the policy of MTS to ensure that DBEs as defined in 49 CFR Part 26 have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in MTS's DOT-assisted contracts.

It is also MTS policy to:

1. Ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of all MTS contracts and subcontracts;
2. Create a level playing field by which DBEs can compete for and perform in MTS's DOT-assisted contracts;
3. Ensure that the MTS DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law and current legal standards, including the Ninth Circuit Ruling in *Western States Paving vs. Washington State Department of Transportation*;
4. Ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
5. Help remove procurement and contracting barriers, which impede DBE participation in MTS DOT-assisted contracts;
6. Monitor and enforce contractors' compliance in meeting established goal objectives and program requirements;
7. Assist in the development of DBEs and Small Businesses to increase their ability to compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE Program; and
8. Ensure MTS contractors and subcontractors take all necessary and reasonable steps to comply with these policy objectives.

MTS has designated Deputy General Counsel as the DBE Liaison Officer (DBELO). In this capacity, the DBELO is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE program.

This signed and dated policy statement expresses MTS's commitment to pursuing the objectives of the DBE Program.


Sharon Cooney
Chief Executive Officer

10/15/21
Date