

## Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program Policy Statement

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

## **Objectives/Policy Statement (§26.21 & §26.23)**

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

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

The Planning & Scheduling Coordinator has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, the Planning & Scheduling Coordinator 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 GRTC in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

GRTC has disseminated this policy statement to the GRTC Board of Directors and Departmental Directors. GRTC has distributed this statement externally to DBE and non-DBE vendors that perform work for GRTC on DOT – assisted contracts and to minority organizations and agencies, via U.S. mail.

Sheryl Adams, Interim CEO

8/5/19 Date