

**PIERCE TRANSIT
DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE POLICY STATEMENT**

OBJECTIVES AND POLICY STATEMENT

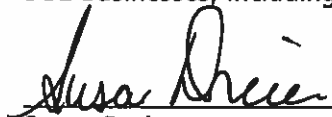
Pierce County Public Transportation Benefit Area Corporation (hereinafter referred to as "Pierce Transit"), a municipal corporation, has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program in accordance with U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. Pierce Transit receives Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, Pierce Transit has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26.

It is the policy and objective of Pierce Transit to ensure that DBEs as defined in Part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. The following are also our objectives and policies:

- To ensure non-discrimination 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 support small businesses to ensure free and open access to Pierce Transit contracting opportunities

The Procurement Manager, Linda Shilley, serves as the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Liaison Officer (DBELO). She will assure that the objectives of Pierce Transit's DBE Program are met; however, the Executive and Management Staff shall have the responsibility of assisting the DBELO in carrying out the Agency's DBE Program and Goals. Implementation of the DBE Program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by Pierce Transit in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

As CEO, I have disseminated this Policy Statement to the Pierce Transit Board of Commissioners and all of the Departments of our Organization. Upon significant changes to the DBE Program, Pierce Transit will notify the Federal Transit Administration's Regional Civil Rights Officer and publicize the revised DBE Program on Pierce Transit's website. The Policy Statement and DBE Program are available on Pierce Transit's website and are available to DBE and non-DBE firms on our bidder's list that perform work for Pierce Transit on DOT-assisted contracts. The DBE Program emphasizes Pierce Transit's commitment to providing maximum opportunity to all DBE businesses, including Small Business Enterprises (SBEs), in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26 as amended.



Susan Dreier
Chief Executive Officer

11/25/19

Date