

Information Item

Date: September 13, 2021

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

From: Aaron King, Interim Assistant City Manager
Toneq' McCullough, Director of Transportation

Subject:

Update on the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program

Strategic Focus Area: Quality Transportation

Strategic Objective: No

Strategic Plan Action Item: No

Key Work Item: Yes



The Department of Transportation staff provides updates on the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program and its goals quarterly.

The DBE goals and contractual expenditures for the federal fiscal year are reported to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) by June 1 and December 1 annually. For the first period of FFY 2021 (October 2020-March 2021) the total contractual expenditures using Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA) FTA dollars was \$3,128,210 with \$12,866 being paid to DBE contractors. This represented 0.41%. The City's FTA overall goal is 6.9%.

Some of the contractual expenditures that were used to identify towards the overall FTA dollars spent include:

- Tires
- Bus Shelter Purchase/Installments
- Fuel
- Computer Maintenance/Updates
- Parts/Repairs
- Advertising
- Uniforms
- Bus Cleaning during COVID-19
- Supplies/Materials

To increase the City's DBE participation, several steps have been taken:

- DBE Liaison participates in meetings with vendors, contractors and suppliers.
- DBE Liaison is directly involved in contract administration, assisting staff in reviewing the database to confirm if firms are registered to provide the services sought, then soliciting quotes when firms are found.
- DBE Liaison working with vendors, contractors, and suppliers to register with the North Carolina Department of Transportation to become certified DBE's.
- DBE Liaison gathers and report statistical data and other information as required by NCDOT.
- DBE Liaison ensures city contracts are meeting required Good Faith Efforts.
- DBE Liaison provides outreach to DBEs and community organizations to fully advise them of contracting opportunities.
- DBE Liaison analyzes DBE participation and identifies ways to encourage participation.
- DOT hosted stakeholder DBE informational workshop.

Although, we did not meet our overall participation goal, there have been certified DBE contractors, suppliers and vendors which have shown *Good Faith Efforts* within FTA requirements and the purchasing policy.