



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Alaska Division

October 23, 2017

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Mr. Marc Luiken
Commissioner
Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
PO Box 112500
Juneau, AK 99811-2500

Dear Mr. Luiken:

On July 28, 2017, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) submitted the FFY 2018 – 2020 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Goal Methodology which proposed the implementation of a DBE program with an overall program goal of 8.83% to be wholly delivered through race neutral means. On October 12, 2017, it was determined by the FHWA that the methodology is legally sufficient to meet the requirements of 49 C.F.R Part 26.

With the implementation of a race-neutral DBE program in FFY 2015, progress has been made in terms of educating DOT&PF staff about the DBE program and how all sections of the DOT&PF are involved in the delivery of this program. Education on the DBE program was extended to all tiers of the highway construction industry.

Implementing the FFY 2018 – 2020 DBE program will require the DOT&PF to continue to report the monthly DBE utilization rate. In addition, by March 31 of each federal fiscal year a determination of whether the program goal of 8.83% will be achieved must be made. If it is determined that the program goal will not be achieved, the DOT&PF is required to submit to this office by April 7 of that federal fiscal year documentation noting the current utilization rate (broken down by DBE group) and the remaining portion of the program goal to be achieved through setting project goals.

If it is determined that the program goal will be achieved, the DOT&PF will submit to this office by April 7 of each federal fiscal year documentation noting the current utilization rate and specific projections which ensure the achievement of the program goal in future years.

It is strongly recommended that the DOT&PF complete two tasks prior to March 31, 2018 should it be determined that the program goal will not be achieved through race-neutral means:

1. critically review the Good Faith Efforts process currently in place, and
2. prepare materials or talking points to ensure that the DOT&PF and the highway construction industry understands the application of project goals in a race-neutral environment.

The DOT&PF's next DBE goal methodology is due August 1, 2020. However, the FHWA may require the submission of additional materials or documentation to justify a mid-cycle program adjustment.

Should you have any questions on the FFY 2018 – 2020 DBE program goal or have ideas on how FHWA can assist with the implementation of a successful DBE program, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra A. Garcia-Aline". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Sandra A. Garcia-Aline
Division Administrator

cc: Amanda Holland, Director, Administrative Services, DOT&PF
Dennis Good, Program Manager, Civil Rights Office, DOT&PF