

Special Notice to Bidders
Approve a Return to FHWA DBE Utilization Goals for Northern and Southeast Regions – Central Region Approval is Pending

Effective April 1, 2011, the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities returned to DBE Utilization Goals for projects funded with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds for Northern and Southeast Regions. FHWA approved the return to DBE goals based on recommendations of the Department's completed Disparity Study.

The Department received approval and implemented in 2010 a return to DBE Utilization Goals for Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

FHWA has not yet approved the Department's request to return to DBE Utilization Goals for Central Region. A waiver to exclude a DBE group from DBE goal setting because that group had achieved parity with other contractors was requested and requires approval of the US Secretary of Transportation. This waiver request was based on the finding of the Department's completed Disparity Study. The Department expects this approval soon.

Contractors must continue to report creditable DBE participation/payments on the Monthly Summary of Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation Form 25A.36 for FHWA funded projects. This will allow the Department to continue to accurately report DBE participation to the FHWA as well as FAA and FTA.

Contractors must also continue to provide opportunities for DBE firms to participate on highway projects as appropriate. A 0% DBE participation goal does not relieve the contractor of the requirement to provide equal opportunity in subcontracting, supplies or other services offered by DBE firms. Any questions about this notice may be directed to Jon Dunham, Manager of the Civil Rights Office, (907) 269-0850, or email jon.dunham@alaska.gov