



(Board Copy)  
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority  
**METRO ELECTRONIC ACTION DOCUMENT**

IDENTIFICATION			
MEAD ID:	94131	ACTION:	N/A
AWARD VALUE:	(Not yet awarded)	CONTRACT: (Proposed)	
FUND SOURCES: (View)		CONTRACTOR:	
LAST MODIFIED:	07/07/2005		

DESCRIPTION	
SUBJECT:	To request Board approval of the Authority's 2006 DBE Program Goal.
PURPOSE:	The purpose of this MEAD is to request Board approval of the Authority's Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006 annual DBE Program Goal.

ORIGINATION					
INITIATOR			DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL		
GWENDOLYN HARRIS on 04/27/2005			Not Approved Yet		
PHONE:	202-962-5554	OFFICE:	PRMT	DEPT:	Secretary and Chief of St

COORDINATION (ROUTING)		
OFFICE	NAME	ACTION/DATE
AGMW (5100)	SCOTT II, WILLIAM	Approved 06/27/2005
COUN (1410)	O'KEEFFE, CAROL	Approved 06/21/2005
PRMT (7400)	ZINGALE, JAMES	Approved 04/28/2005
SCOS (7100)	BARTLETT, HAROLD	Approved w/ Comments 04/29/2005
GMGR (1100)	WHITE, RICHARD	<i>Wm White</i>

FINAL APPROVALS	
OFFICE	NAME/ACTION
BEMR	Approved w/ Comments for SCOS by HAROLD BARTLETT on 04/29/2005
HR_CMTE	Approved for AGMW by WILLIAM SCOTT II on 06/27/2005
BOARD	BOARD WMATA (Not Yet Approved)





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**NARRATIVE**

As a recipient of Federal financial assistance, the Authority is required to establish an annual DBE goal. Section 26.45(f)(3) prescribes that the overall goal be allocated between a percentage that will be achieved through race-neutral measures and a percentage that will be achieved through race-conscious measures.

Local recipients of Department of Transportation (DOT) funds are required to design their DBE programs to reflect local conditions and circumstances unique to the recipient in order to narrowly tailor the remedial measures to eliminate the effects of discrimination. Part 26.45(a) requires that the Authority use a two step process to establish the goal.

In Step One, the "base figure" was based upon the availability of DBEs in the market including the DBE Directory, the Authority's Vendor Registration System (VRS) and statistics from the U.S. Census. In Step Two, the "base figure" was adjusted by examining evidence in the market that might impact the overall goal. Historical evidence from prior years was used to make the appropriate adjustment.

Previous goals and achievements from FFY99 to FFY04 are as follows:

Year	FFY99	FFY00	FFY01	FFY02	FFY03	FFY04
Goal	23.0%	20.0%	15.0%	15.0%	21.0%	21.0%
Achievement	45.0%	38.3%	16.8%	22.5%	21.0%	19.0%

Closely following the guidance provided by the Department of Transportation to analyze and research the outcome, the staff recommends an overall goal of 16% which will be bifurcated as follows:

15% race-conscious, and  
 1% race-neutral.

These goals will be achieved through various programmatic efforts including vendor outreach; upgrading and maintaining a DBE directory in hardcopy and electronic format; monitoring contract compliance; improving data collection; reorganizing the staff for better coordination between the contracting and DBE branches; and, ongoing training for staff, DBEs and customers.

**IMPACT ON FUNDING:**

None.

**DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) REQUIREMENTS:**

None.

**ALTERNATIVES:**



Establishing a DBE goal is required by the FTA as long as WMATA receives federal funding. The percentage may vary but it cannot be less than 10%.

The DBE Branch followed guidance from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation entitled *Tips for Goal-Setting in the Disadvantaged Enterprise (DBE) Program*, which was published on January 5, 2005. The alternative is to use a different methodology to establish the goal. A different method would yield a different percentage.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board adopt a DBE annual goal for Federal Fiscal Year 2006 for implementation of the FTA Regulations for federally-funded contracts, recognizing that the overall goal will be achieved through 15% race-conscious and 1% race-neutral measures and be established on a contract by contract basis.