

**TO: PORT ARTHUR NEWS CLASSIFIED**

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(DISADVANTAGE BUSINESS ENTERPRISE) GOALS FOR PORT ARTHUR TRANSIT SYSTEM

Notice for public comment is hereby given for feedback on DBE (Disadvantage Business Enterprise) as outlined by PAT until September 30, 2014, for the purpose of responding to Deputy Transportation Secretary Porcari's letter sent on May 6, 2010 and 49 CFR Section 26.45. These changes will be implemented for all routine contracts, but more so for those > \$250,000 and with funds allotted in accordance with the *American Recovery Reinvestment Act*. PAT's general DBE goals for routine contracts will be **10% Race neutral** and **Race conscious 1-2%** based on historical participation of bidders and businesses in the City Limits that are *considered* minority owned. However, those contracts that are > \$250,000 will be given a flexible three year DBE ARRA goal of **3-5% Race neutral** and **Race conscious 1%** based on the scope of work and availability of local Port Arthur vendors that are capable of doing said work. While the goals may be higher, PAT will thrive to attain these given 20:80 capital match by routinely evaluated the goals and setting contract goal to view specific projects and subcontractor. Some of our vendors are specialized and others are the sole suppliers within a 200 miles radius of SETX-gulf coast area. One percent will be allotted as possible to "small business" so certified.

Nevertheless, the *Best Management Practices* (BMP) will be implemented looking at factors such as (responsiveness to needs, responsible vendor history, credit record/OIG listing and safety reports) and not just the essence of the lowest bid. The main provisions include:

1. Greater accountability for recipients who fail to meet the overall goal
2. An inflationary adjustment of the personal net worth cap for DBEs
3. Provisions to facilitate interstate certification of DBEs
4. Making sure that prime contractors fulfill DBE commitments;
5. Increasing small business participation; and
6. The revision of certification standards and procedures

**COMMENTS MAY BE SENT TO RUSSELLC@PORTARTHUR.NET OR TOMK@PORTARTHUR.NET.**  
LETTERS SHOULD BE MAILED TO 444 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET, P.O. BOX 1089, PORT ARTHUR, TX 77641-1089.  
Additional information is @ websites- <http://fta.dot.gov/dbe> <http://osdbu.dot.gov/DBEProgram/index.cfm> and [sba.gov](http://sba.gov).  
There will be no changes to these goals without additional publication. This will be published September 23, 2012.

Colleen Russell,  
Director of Transit