## DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PARTICIPATION

## SOUTH CENTRAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

## **Policy Statement**

The South Central Transit Authority (SCTA) has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. SCTA will receive Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, SCTA has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26.

It is the policy of SCTA to ensure that DBEs, as defined in Part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in contracting and procurement activities of SCTA, including all DOT-assisted contracts. It is also our policy--

- 1) To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts;
- 2) To create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts;
- To ensure that the DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
- 4) To ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
- To help remove barriers to the participation of DBE's in DOT-assisted contracts; and
- To assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE program.

The Executive Director of SCTA shall be responsible for the implementation of this policy. This responsibility shall include ensuring nondiscrimination in the award and administration of all contracts, the designation of a DBE Liaison Officer who is responsible for implementing SCTA's DBE Program, the establishment and periodic review of goals of participation by DBEs, and ensuring consistency with sound procurement principles and applicable laws.

Implementation of the DBE program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by SCTA in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

SCTA has disseminated this policy statement to the Board of Directors and all the components of our organization. SCTA will publish this policy in general circulation newspapers in the Berks and Lancaster areas and will distribute this statement to local DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for SCTA on DOT-assisted contracts. The policy statement will be referenced in all procurement documents and contracts between SCTA and any contractors.

David W. Kilmer

Executive Director

South Central Transit Authority