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Nassau County
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)
Draft Overall Goal and Goal Setting Methodology for FFY 2010
Federal Transit Administration

Nassau County is a recipient of Federal funds through the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Recipient agencies which expect to award contracts exceeding \$250,000 in FTA funds in a Federal fiscal year are required to set a Disadvantage Business Enterprises (DBE) goal. Nassau County intends to enter into contract during FFY 2010 to conduct the Alternative Analysis/Environmental Impact Statement for the Nassau Hub.

The purpose of the overall goal is to achieve a "level playing field" for ready, willing and able DBE's seeking to participate in FTA-funded contracts awarded by Nassau County. In an effort to reach this level playing field, Nassau County examined its programs and relevant market to determine the amount of participation DBE's would be expected to achieve in the absence of discrimination. This approach is consistent with 49 CFR §26.45, which requires recipients of USDOT federal-aid to utilize a two-step process in the development of their overall DBE goals.

Nassau County has chosen a geographic region that is consistent with the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) area as its relevant local market. The NYMTC region consists of 10 counties: Nassau, Suffolk, Putnam, Rockland, Westchester and the New York City counties: Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens and Richmond.

Nassau County anticipates entering into a contract for work to be completed in the business category of PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND TECHNICAL SERVICES, specifically the NAICS industries and codes of: Engineering Services (541330), Administrative Management and General Management Consulting Services (541611), Environmental Consulting Services (541620) and Public Relations Agencies (541820).

STEP ONE: Determine the base Figure for the Relative Availability of DBE's

Step one is to determine the base figure for the relative availability of DBE's. For this step Nassau County weighted the relative availability of DBE's (*for the selected industries*), giving more weight to those industries where the County expects to spend more money.

To determine the numerator, Nassau County used the number of available DBE's (*for the geographic region*) listed under the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) in the New York State Unified Certification Program (UCP) (*for the selected industries listed above*).

To determine the denominator, Nassau County used the number of available firms (*for the geographic region*) listed under the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) in the Census Bureau's County Business Patterns (CBP) (*for the selected industries listed above*).

To determine the weights, Nassau County examined its estimated contracting opportunities for FFY 2010 and gave the following weights to the NAICS codes: Engineering Services 15%; Administrative Management Consulting Services 7%; Environmental Consulting Services 70%; and Public Relations Agencies 8%.

*Base Figure = Weight * (DBE's / County Business Patterns)*

$$\text{Base Figure} = \left[.15 \frac{49}{1246} + .07 \frac{15}{3253} + .70 \frac{29}{269} + .08 \frac{15}{915} \right] \times 100$$

Base Figure = 8.30%

Based upon the above information, the DBE base figure for this project is set at 8.30%

STEP TWO: Adjustment of the Base Figure for the Overall Goal

The second step in this process is to adjust the base figure to reflect the DBE participation expected absent the effects of discrimination. Nassau County has chosen to incorporate DBE past participation in order to adjust the base figure.

Nassau County has issued two contracts in the past that offered similar contracting opportunities as the contract that will be issued in FFY 2010. The work falls under the category of Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services, in the industries listed above. In those two contracts Nassau County was able to obtain DBE participation of 9.41% and 9.71%. The median for 9.41 and 9.71 is 9.56.

To determine the adjustment of the base figure the County averaged the median past participation with the Base Figure.

$$\text{Adjustment to Base Figure: } (9.56+8.30)/2 = 8.93 \approx 9\%$$

Based upon the above information, the DBE overall goal is set at 9%.

Means to Meet Overall DBE Goal

Nassau County exceeded its DBE goal for past contracts and believes that it can do the same in this contract. The County will use race-neutral means to promote and encourage DBE participation on FTA assisted contracts.