

**CITY OF LAS CRUCES DBE PROGRAM
POLICY STATEMENT**

Section 26.1, 26.23 Objectives/Policy Statement

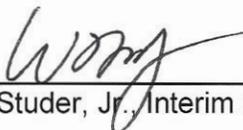
The City of Las Cruces (City) has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. The City has received Federal financial assistance through the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). As a condition of receiving this assistance, the City has signed assurances that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26.

It is the policy of the City to ensure that DBEs, as defined in 49 CFR Part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in 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;
3. 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;
5. To help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT-assisted contracts;
6. To assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the marketplace outside the DBE program;
7. To provide appropriate flexibility to recipients of Federal financial assistance in establishing and providing opportunities for DBEs.

David Dollahon, Assistant City Manager COO, has been designated as the DBE Liaison Officer (DBELO). In that capacity, Mr. Dollahon will be responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE program. Implementation of the DBE program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by the City in its financial assistance agreements with the U. S. Department of Transportation.

This amended policy modifies the August 2019 Policy 3.2, Section 26.39, to reflect specific actions the City will take to encourage small business participation in City contracting opportunities. Specifically, the new language clarifies a timeline for vendor outreach educational events, defines the process used to identify and invite small businesses to these events, specifies topics covered at these events, and City recordkeeping of these events . The City has disseminated this policy statement to the City Council of Las Cruces and all the components of the organization. The City has publicized its program objectives to DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for the City on DOT-assisted contracts through the City Purchasing Department web site, and in any Invitation for Bids (IFB), Requests for Bids (RFB), or Requests for Proposals (RFP) issued by the City’s Purchasing Department.



William F. Studer, Jr., Interim City Manager

3-12-20

Date