

**2026-2028  
FAA DBE Methodology &  
Goal  
Public Consultation Forum**



# INTRODUCTION

- Welcome
- Purpose of the Forum
- The Regulatory Mandate
- Overview of the Methodology
- Questions & Discussion

# THE REGULATORY MANDATE

- Creating a level playing field in competing for federally-funded transportation projects
- Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 26
  - Establishes requirements for DBE Programs
  - Triennial DBE Goals
  - FAA Funded Projects

# REGULATORY MANDATE (CONTINUED)

- Key terms
  - Strict Scrutiny
  - Compelling Interest
  - Narrowly Tailored
- Two-step process
- Race Conscious/Race Neutral Projections

# OBJECTIVES OF THE DBE PROGRAM

- Nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts
- Level playing field for DBEs to compete fairly
- DBE program is narrowly tailored
- Only eligible firms participate as DBEs

# OBJECTIVES (CONTINUED)

- Remove barriers to participation in contracts
- Assist the development of DBE firms
- Provide appropriate flexibility in establishing and providing opportunities for DBEs

# GOAL SETTING & IMPLEMENTATION

- Goal Setting
  - Local Market Analysis
  - Overall Goal- an aggregate of project goals
- Goal Implementation
  - Monitoring Goals
  - Good Faith Efforts

# STEP 1 – BASE FIGURE

Determining the Relative Availability of DBE Firms



# STEP 1 – BASELINE FIGURE

- Identify all federally-assisted projects for the goal period.
  - For the 26 – 28 goal period 140 FAA assisted projects were identified
- For each project:
  - Define geographic market
  - Assign NAICS codes for planned work

# STEP 1 CONTINUED

- Estimate dollar value per NAICS code
- Count RWA (ready, willing, and able) firms in the market area
- DBE firms (from State UCPs)
- All firms (from U.S. Census CBP)

# COUNTING FIRMS

- NAICS Codes
- U.S. Census Bureau's County Business Patterns (CBP)
- Unified Certification Program (UCP)

# PROJECT TYPES MODELS

- Horizontal Construction
- Horizontal Design
- Master Plan
- Airport Layout Plan
- Electrical
- Vertical Design
- Vertical Construction
- Fencing
- Site Preparation
- Small Maintenance Projects

# GOALS ARE RATIOS

$$DBE \div EU = Goal$$

- *DBE = Disadvantaged Business Enterprises*
- *EU = Establishment Universe*

# WEIGHTING OF PROJECTS

- Weighting of each project by financial significance during goal period
- Method
  - $\text{Project dollar value} / \text{Total dollar value of all projects}$

# CALCULATED BASE FIGURE

- 2026 – 2028 FAA base figure = 20.67%

# ADJUSTING THE BASE FIGURE

- **Goal:** Refine the base figure using historical participation data.
- Review DBE participation over past 5 federal fiscal years
- Calculate median past participation
  - 7.4%
- $(\text{Base Figure} + \text{Median Past Participation})/2$ 
  - $(20.67 + 7.4)/2 = 14.04^*$

\*Rounded for Display purposes

# RACE-CONSCIOUS VS. RACE-NEUTRAL ALLOCATION

- **Goal:** Determine how much of the DBE goal will be met through race-neutral efforts.
- **Process:**
  - Review race-neutral attainment over past 5 years
  - Median race-neutral attainment: **1.90%**

# SUMMARY

<b>Step</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Result</b>
Step 1	Base Figure from DBE Availability	20.67%
Step 2	Adjusted with Past Participation	14.04%
Race-Neutral	Race-Neutral Attainment	1.90%
Race-Conscious	Race-Conscious Portion	12.14%

# DATA SOURCES

All data is taken from internal PennDOT, UCP, or publicly available sources.

Data	Source
EUs for each NAICS Code	Census Bureau's County Business Patterns
DBEs for each NAICS Code	UCP lists
DBE Past Participation data	DBE Uniform reports submitted to FAA

# QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION



## **WEBSITES:**

### **DBE PROGRAM INFORMATION**

#### ***PENNDOT :***

***[HTTPS://WWW.PA.GOV/AGENCIES/PENNDOT/ABOUT-PENNDOT/EQUAL-OPPORTUNITY-EQUITY](https://www.pa.gov/agencies/pennDOT/about-pennDOT/equal-opportunity-equity)***

#### ***USDOT:***

***[HTTPS://WWW.TRANSPORTATION.GOV/CIVIL-RIGHTS/DISADVANTAGED-BUSINESS-ENTERPRISE](https://www.transportation.gov/civil-rights/disadvantaged-business-enterprise)***



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