

From: Derek Chisholm <dtcdtc39@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:41:18 PM
To: Expose, Adonis C. <aexpose@rtaforward.org>
Subject: DBE Goals

Mr. Expose'

Kindly accept this statement in support of the DBE program. We appreciate all you do.

The New Orleans RTA DBE program is designed to support small businesses but has other benefits as well. Those benefits include:

1. **Access to Contracts** is provided local 'start-up' entities that may not otherwise be sufficiently resourced to identify, prepare and compete for effectively on their own.
2. **Business Development** comes from these opportunities, enabling small local businesses, often with owners and leaders from disadvantaged backgrounds, to win and perform work.
3. **Broadened Perspectives** benefit all manner of design and operational projects. New ideas come from new perspectives and the DBE program helps to create teams of contractors with different lived experience, different schooling and training.

Requiring participation from local BDEs, anywhere from 30 to 35% is somewhat typical in sophisticated markets. I fully support this program. Thanks for all that you do.

Derek Chisholm,

RTA rider and occasional contractor.