

**AUGUSTA, GEORGIA PUBLIC TRANSIT DEPARTMENT
DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE
TRIENNIAL OVERALL GOAL & GOAL-SETTING METHODOLOGY REPORT**

FEDERAL FISCAL YEARS 2018-2020

I. INTRODUCTION

Consolidated Government of Augusta, Georgia (AUGUSTA, GEORGIA) is required to develop and submit a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Overall Goal for DBE participation as a condition of receiving federal assistance, pursuant to the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) DBE regulations, 49 CFR Part 26.45. The DBE regulations require USDOT recipients to set an overall triennial goal for DBE participation on their federally assisted projects.

For Federal Fiscal Years 2018 - 2020, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA has established a proposed overall DBE goal of **10%** based on the requirements of 49 CFR Part 26.45.¹

The regulations require that the overall goal be prepared using a two-part process. According to the USDOT Tips for Goal Setting² (USDOT Tips), approved by the General Counsel of the USDOT, the recipient must first determine a base figure for the relative availability of certified DBEs and potentially certified Minority and Woman-owned Business Enterprises, hereafter collectively referred to as Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs), in the local market area. Next, the recipient must examine all relevant evidence to determine what adjustment, if any, is needed to the base figure to arrive at an overall goal. The final adjusted figure is the recipient's overall goal, and represents the proportion of federal transportation funding that the recipient is expected to allocate to DBEs during the subsequent three federal fiscal years (FFY). Once the adjusted overall goal is determined, the process requires considering what portion of the goal will be met by race and gender-neutral measures. If a recipient purports that it can meet its overall goal with race and gender-neutral measures, those measures must be utilized. In contrast, if the recipient determines it cannot achieve the entire overall goal using only race and gender-neutral measures, it must establish a race and gender-conscious portion of the overall goal.³

Citing *City of Richmond v. J.A. Croson Co.* (Croson), the Court declared that an inference of discriminatory exclusion could arise where there is a statistically significant disparity between the number of qualified minority contractors willing and able to perform a particular service and the number of such contractors actually engaged by the locality or its prime contractors.

¹ Effective February 28, 2011, the USDOT amended the DBE regulations set forth in 49 CFR Part 26 as described in the Federal Register, Volume 76, Number 19 and Vol. 79 Thursday, No. 191 October 2, 2014 Part II Disadvantaged Business Enterprise: Program Implementation Modifications; 49 CFR Part 26 [Docket No. OST-2012-0147] IN 2105-AE08.

² United States Department of Transportation, Tips for Goal Setting in the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program, U.S. Department of Transportation, May 15, 2015, <http://www.osdbu.dot.gov/DBEProgram/tips.cfm>.

³ Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in Department of Transportation Financial Assistance Programs, 49 CFR Part 26, 26.51(f)(1), §26.51(d).

This Overall DBE Goal-Setting Report is based upon the DBE regulations contained in 49 CFR Part 26.45 as amended, the decisions of the United States Federal Court, and the USDOT Guidance Memorandum.

II. BACKGROUND

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA has implemented a race and gender-neutral Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with directives issued by the Department of Transportation.

Pertinent Aspects of the Guidance:

- If a recipient does not currently have sufficient evidence of discrimination or its effects, then the recipient would submit an all race and gender-neutral overall DBE goal.
- The recipient submission shall include a statement concerning the absence of adequate evidence of discrimination and its effects and a description of plans to either conduct a disparity/availability study or other appropriate evidence gathering process to determine the existence of discrimination or its effects on the recipient's marketplace.
- An action plan describing the study and timeline for its completion should also be included.
- Recipients will be required to continue to monitor, collect and report participation and utilization of DBEs on federal-aid contracts.
- All DOT federal-aid procurements shall contain Race and Gender-Neutral DBE solicitation and DBE solicitation and contract language.

III. LOCAL MARKET AREA

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA has defined its local market area as Richmond County. This is the area where the substantial majority of the contractors and subcontractors are located with which AUGUSTA, GEORGIA does business and the area in which AUGUSTA, GEORGIA spends the substantial majority of its contracting dollars.

IV. DOT-ASSISTED CONTRACTING PROGRAM FOR FFY 2018-2020

Table 1 represents AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's DOT-assisted contracting program that was considered in preparing its Overall DBE Goal-Setting Methodology. The fiscal years' FTA-assisted contracting program includes 1) the construction of a new transit maintenance and operations facility, 2) bus stop upgrades and existing facility improvements, 3) delivery service of five new buses, and 4) travel agency service to attend FTA-assisted conferences/seminars, which were assessed in preparing AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's Overall DBE Goal-Setting Analysis.

All projects listed have contracting and subcontracting possibilities and are anticipated to be awarded within FFY 2018-2020, a required criterion for Overall DBE goal preparation.

LOCAL MARKET AREA = RICHMOND COUNTY	
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FACILITY – AUGUSTA PUBLIC TRANSIT	
1)	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction (incl. Equipment)
2)	Ready-Mix Concrete Manufacturing
3)	Administrative Management
4)	Site Development
BUS STOP UPGRADES (CONCRETE PADS) – ADA ACCESS	
5)	Poured Concrete Foundation and Structure Contractors
6)	Ready-Mix Concrete Manufacturing
7)	Administrative Management
8)	Landscaping, Hauling, Paving, Other Exterior Improvements
CONFERENCES, SEMINARS (AUGUSTA, GEORGIA PUBLIC TRANSIT STAFF AND COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT STAFF	
9)	Travel Agency (travel training)
DELIVERY OF FIVE NEW BUSES FROM CALIFORNIA TO AUGUSTA, GEORGIA	
10)	Specialized Freight (except Used Goods) Trucking, Long-Distance (automobile carrier trucking)

Table 1

Table 2 provides a summary of work grouped into five (5) primary categories: Construction; Manufacturing; Transportation and Warehousing; Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services; and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services. These work categories were classified based on the utilization of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) work categories and comparable 2015 Census Business Patterns NAICS Work Codes.

Primary Category	NAICS Code	Description
Construction	236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction
Manufacturing	327320	Ready-Mix Concrete Manufacturing
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	561730	Landscaping, Hauling, Paving, Other Exterior Improvements
Construction	238110	Poured Concrete Foundation and Structure Contractors
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	541611	Consulting services
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	561510	Travel agency
Transportation and Warehousing	484230	Specialized Freight (except Used Goods) Trucking, Long-Distance (automobile carrier trucking)

Table 2

V. OVERALL GOAL-SETTING METHODOLOGY

The two-part goal-setting process required by the regulations has been used to determine the recommended overall goal for FFY 2018-2020. The two parts for setting an overall goal are as follows:

- Part 1 - Establish a base figure for the relative availability of DBEs (*Part 1 consists of three steps*)
- Part 2 - Determine the base figure adjustment, if necessary

The base figure is intended to be a measurement of the current ready, willing and able DBEs (RWA DBEs) as a percentage of all businesses ready, willing and able (RWA) to perform the recipient's anticipated FTA-assisted contracts.

To establish AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's Base Figure of the relative availability of DBEs to all comparable firms (DBEs and Non-DBEs) available to propose on AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's FFY 2018-2020 DOT-assisted contracting opportunities projected to be solicited, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA followed one of the five prescribed federal goal-setting methodologies in accordance with Title 49 CFR Part 26 regulations. This was accomplished by accessing the Georgia Department of Transportation's Unified Certification Program (GEORGIA UCP) Directory of Certified DBE Firms and the 2015 U.S. Census Bureau County Business Patterns (CPB) Database. Comparisons were made within AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's market area (defined as Richmond County) and by specified industries and types of businesses identified in **Table 2**. AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's local market area represents where the substantial majority of AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's contracting dollars are expended and/or where the substantial majority of contractors and subcontractors' bids or quotes are received.

Part 1: Develop a Base Figure (§26.45)

Part 1 consists of three steps (1A, 1B, 1C):

Step 1A, Determine the weight of each type of work by NAICS Code.

First, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA compiled a list of all FTA-assisted contracts it anticipates awarding over the next three years. Then, each type of work was entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet and assigned its respective six-digit NAICS Code. (The codes were found online at <https://www.naics.com>.) The estimated cost of each individual type of work was weighted against the estimated total cost of all FTA-assisted projects anticipated over the next three years as identified in **Table 3**.

LOCAL MARKET AREA = RICHMOND COUNTY				
	NAICS Code	Project	Amount of DOT funds on project:	% of total DOT funds (weight)
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FACILITY - AUGUSTA PUBLIC TRANSIT				
1)	236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction (incl. Equipment)	\$13,000,000.00	0.8383
2)	327320	Ready-Mix Concrete Manufacturing	\$150,000.00	0.0097
3)	541611	Administrative Management	\$1,000,000.00	0.0645
4)	561730	Site Development	\$1,000,000.00	0.0645
BUS STOP UPGRADES (CONCRETE PADS) - ADA ACCESS				
5)	238110	Poured Concrete Foundation and Structure Contractors	\$200,000.00	0.0129
6)	327320	Ready-Mix Concrete Manufacturing	\$90,000.00	0.0058
7)	541611	Administrative Management	\$25,000.00	0.0016
8)	561730	Landscaping, Hauling, Paving, Other Exterior Improvements	\$10,000.00	0.0006
CONFERENCES, SEMINARS (AUGUSTA GEORGIA PUBLIC TRANSIT STAFF AND COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT STAFF)				
9)	561510	Travel Agency (travel training)	\$3,000.00	0.0002
DELIVERY OF FIVE NEW BUSES FROM CALIFORNIA TO AUGUSTA, GEORGIA				
10)	484230	Specialized Freight (except Used Goods) Trucking, Long-Distance (automobile carrier trucking)	\$30,000.00	0.0019
Total FTA-Assisted Contract Funds			\$15,508,000.00	1

Table 3

Step 1B, Determine the relative availability of DBE's by NAICS Code.

The relative availability of DBEs by NAICS Code was calculated by dividing the Number of RWA DBEs available to perform this work by the Number of all RWA businesses available (including DBEs and non-DBEs) as identified in **Table 4**.

$$\text{Standard Base Figure} = \frac{\text{Number of Ready, willing and able DBEs}}{\text{Number of all Ready, willing, and able businesses (including DBEs and Non-DBEs)}}$$

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA made a concerted effort to ensure that the scope of businesses included in the numerator was as close as possible to the scope included in the denominator.

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA used data from the Census Bureau's 2015 County Business patterns; Georgia Department of Transportation's (GDOT) Uniform Certification Program (UCP) Directory of certified DBE firms; AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's general vendor list; and area business consultations. The Census Bureau's webpage address to find the quantity of all business establishments listed in 2015 for those particular NAICS code for the anticipated scopes of work is as follows: <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2015/econ/cbp/us-states-counties-pr-island-areas.html> .

LOCAL MARKET AREA = RICHMOND COUNTY						
	NAICS Code	Project	Number of DBEs available to perform this work	Number of all firms available (including DBEs)	Relative Availability	
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FACILITY - AUGUSTA PUBLIC TRANSIT						
1)	236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction (incl. Equipment)	27	245	0.1102	
2)	327320	Ready-Mix Concrete Manufacturing	1	110	0.0091	
3)	541611	Administrative Management Consulting Services	6	475	0.0126	
4)	561730	Landscaping, Hauling, Paving, Other Exterior Improvements	16	203	0.0788	
BUS STOP UPGRADES (CONCRETE PADS) - ADA ACCESS						
5)	238110	Poured Concrete Foundation and Structure Contractors	27	245	0.1102	
6)	327320	Ready-Mix Concrete Manufacturing	1	110	0.0091	
7)	541611	Administrative Management Consulting Services	6	475	0.0126	
8)	561730	Landscaping, Hauling, Paving, Other Exterior Improvements	16	203	0.0788	
CONFERENCES, SEMINARS (AUGUSTA GEORGIA PUBLIC TRANSIT STAFF AND COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT STAFF)						
9)	561510	Travel Agency (travel training)	16	203	0.0788	
DELIVERY OF FIVE NEW BUSES FROM CALIFORNIA TO AUGUSTA, GEORGIA						
10)	484230	Specialized Freight (except Used Goods) Trucking, Long-Distance (automobile carrier trucking)	6	118	0.0508	
	Combined Totals		122	2387	0.0511	Overall availability of DBEs = 5.1%

Table 4

Step 1C, Determine the Weighted Base Figure.

The Weighted Base Figure was calculated by multiplying the Weighting that was calculated in Step 1A by the relative Availability that was calculated in Step 1B. The resulting amount was converted to a percentage then rounded up to the nearest whole number as identified in **Table 5**.

To enumerate a more refined accounting of availability, the database was queried for businesses within the NAICS codes of the anticipated contracts only. Businesses that do not perform the types of work related to the anticipated contracts were excluded to ensure that the standard base figure did not overstate the number of available businesses. **Table 5** below presents the relative availability by NAICS code for FFY 2018-2020.

The percent of available businesses in each NAICS code reflects the portion of all available businesses in the market area. The relative availability of DBEs within the market area is 5.1 percent.

LOCAL MARKET AREA = RICHMOND COUNTY

	NAICS Code	Project	Weight	x	Availability	Weighted Base Figure
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FACILITY - AUGUSTA PUBLIC TRANSIT						
1)	236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction (general contractors)	0.83828	x	0.11020	0.0924
2)	327320	Ready-Mix Concrete Manufacturing	0.00967	x	0.00909	0.0001
3)	541611	Administrative Management Consulting Services	0.06448	x	0.01263	0.0008
4)	561730	Landscaping, Hauling, Paving, Other Exterior Improvements	0.06448	x	0.07882	0.0051
BUS STOP UPGRADES (CONCRETE PADS) - ADA ACCESS						
5)	238110	Poured Concrete Foundation and Structure Contractors	0.01290	x	0.11020	0.0014
6)	327320	Ready-Mix Concrete Manufacturing	0.00580	x	0.00909	0.0001
7)	541611	Administrative Management Consulting Services	0.00161	x	0.01263	0.0000
8)	561730	Landscaping, Hauling, Paving, Other Exterior Improvements	0.00064	x	0.07882	0.0001
CONFERENCES, SEMINARS (AUGUSTA GEORGIA PUBLIC TRANSIT STAFF AND COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT STAFF)						
9)	561510	Travel Agency (travel training)	0.00019	x	0.07882	0.0000
DELIVERY OF FIVE NEW BUSES FROM CALIFORNIA TO AUGUSTA, GEORGIA						
10)	484230	Specialized Freight (except Used Goods) Trucking, Long-Distance (automobile carrier trucking)	0.00193	x	0.05085	0.0001
					Total	0.1000
					Expressed as a % (*100)	10.00%
					Rounded, Weighted Base Figure:	10%

Table 5

Part 2: Adjust the Base Figure, if necessary (§26.45)

Upon establishing the Base Figure, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA reviewed and assessed other known evidence potentially impacting the relative availability of DBEs within AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's market area, in accordance with the prescribed narrow tailoring provisions set forth under 49 CFR Part 26.45 Step II; DBE Goal Adjustment guidelines. Evidence considered in making an adjustment to the Base Figure included AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's Past DBE Goal Attainments, Bidders List, Disparity Studies, and other Agencies' DBE Goals and Attainments within AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's jurisdiction and Other Evidence. A summary of these considered follows:

A. Past DBE Goal Attainments

Table 6 reflects the demonstrated capacity of DBEs (measured by actual historical DBE participation attainments) on FTA-assisted contracts awarded by AUGUSTA, GEORGIA within the last four (4) Federal Fiscal Years:

<i>Federal Fiscal Year</i>	<i>DBE Goal %</i>	<i>Total Dollars Awarded or Committed to DBEs</i>	<i>Percentage of Total Dollars to DBE</i>
2014	4.83	\$1,607	0.20%
2015	4.50	0	0%
2016	4.50	\$19,000	0.10%
2017	4.50	\$105,393	6%

Table 6

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA considered an adjustment to the Base Figure based on historical DBE goal attainments on DOT-assisted contracts completed within the past four FFYs (2014-2017). However, based on AUGUSTA, GEORGIA’s review of the completed DOT-assisted contract(s) in this period, it was found that there were only a few projects completed, within the past four FFYs (2014-2017), which do not provide continuous data to pull a median. The projects captured in the attainment period did not contain data with enough similarities to the scopes of work projected in the projects expected to be issued during this triennial period. For these reasons, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA cannot assume that the attainment data for the related projects is an accurate reflection of DBE capacity in the primary types of work projected in the upcoming overall goal period. AUGUSTA, GEORGIA has therefore elected not to make any adjustment to the Base Figure supported in AUGUSTA, GEORGIA’s past participation.

B. Evidence from Disparity Studies

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA did not find it possible to conduct its own independent availability/disparity study during the current triennial period (FFY 2015 – 2017) and, therefore, does not have adequate current evidence of discrimination and its effects. Thus, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA considered the Georgia Department of Transportation’s Disparity Study (Study) and the City of Savannah’s (Savannah, Georgia) Study. Those Studies were initiated to determine the existence of discrimination or its effects within Richmond County. AUGUSTA, GEORGIA reviewed the results of the Study and determined that there was a significant difference in the types of contracting opportunities, specifically contract type compared to AUGUSTA, GEORGIA contracting opportunities. Upon review of the Study, it had a heavy emphasis on prime and subcontractor construction and engineering contracts, which will coincide with the types of projects to be let by AUGUSTA, GEORGIA in the upcoming triennial period.

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA did not make an adjustment under this factor at this time. AUGUSTA, GEORGIA will continue to monitor other agency Disparity Studies, if relevant studies become available and consider the appropriate adjustments to its DBE Program, if suitable.

C. Other Agencies DBE Goals

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA surveyed another FTA or FAA recipient within its local market area, with similar contracting programs to assess its DBE goals and attainments toward making an adjustment. The following agency was queried:

Augusta Regional Airport

However, after the review of this agency's DBE Goals (*with similar contracting programs*), AUGUSTA, GEORGIA has determined that an adjustment based on this factor is **not warranted**.

VI. RWA DBE FIRMS and RWA ALL FIRMS

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA evaluated the DBE Directory based on firms certified as of June 23, 2017. The NAICS codes used in **Tables 7** and **8** are consistent with the type of work AUGUSTA, GEORGIA has performed in the past and FTA-assisted contracts AUGUSTA, GEORGIA anticipates letting in the future. **Table 7** provides a breakdown of the number of DBE firms by NAICS code in the local market area, which is further detailed by the types of work AUGUSTA, GEORGIA intends to procure.

<i>RWA DBEs</i>	<i>NAICS Code</i>	<i>Description</i>
27	236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction
2	327320	Ready-Mix Concrete Manufacturing
32	561730	Landscaping, Hauling, Paving, Other Exterior Improvements
27	238110	Poured Concrete Foundation and Structure Contractors
12	541611	Consulting Services
16	561510	Travel Agency
6	484230	Specialized Freight (except Used Goods) Trucking, Long-Distance (automobile carrier trucking)

Table 7

Total RWA DBE Firms = 122

Source: GEORGIA UCP – Georgia Department of Transportation Unified Certification Program (GEORGIA UCP)

Using the same NAICS codes as identified in **Table 7**, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA reviewed the number of businesses published in the Census Bureau County Business Pattern. **Table 8** provides a breakdown of all firms from the Census Bureau by their NAICS code in the local market area.

<i>RWA All Firms (DBEs and non-DBEs)</i>	<i>NAICS Code</i>	<i>Description</i>
245	236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction
220	327320	Ready-Mix Concrete Manufacturing
406	561730	Landscaping, Hauling, Paving, Other Exterior Improvements
245	238110	Poured Concrete Foundation and Structure Contractors
950	541611	Consulting Services
203	561510	Travel Agency
118	484230	Specialized Freight (except Used Goods) Trucking, Long-Distance (automobile carrier trucking)

Table 8

Total RWA All Firms = 2387

Source: 2015 Census Bureau Business Pattern (CBP)

VII. PROPOSED OVERALL GOAL FOR FFY 2018-2020

Based on the requirements set forth in 49 CFR Part 26 and the USDOT's Guidance Memorandum, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA is submitting a goal for FFY 2018-2020. **The recommended overall DBE goal for the period is 10 percent.** The FTA reporting period for the recommended overall goal will be October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2020.

VIII. RACE AND GENDER-NEUTRAL MEASURES

The Overall DBE Goal for FFY 2018-2020 for AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's DOT-assisted contracts is 10 percent. AUGUSTA, GEORGIA will strictly implement race and gender-neutral measures to meet its Overall DBE Goal Objectives, including, but not limited to the following:

- Submitting timely solicitations, conducting pre-bid meetings/conferences, develop clearly written plans and specifications, and delivery schedules in ways that facilitate DBEs and other small business firms' participation.
- Unbundling large contracts to make them more accessible to small businesses; requiring or encouraging Service Providers to subcontract portions of work that they might otherwise perform with their own work forces.
- Providing information and communication programs on AUGUSTA, GEORGIA contracting procedures and specific contract opportunities.
- Providing assistance through available resources to interested DBEs in obtaining bonding, lines of credit, and/or insurance requirements.
- Advertise in local and regional plan rooms for large dollar and construction projects.
- Ensure adequate awareness and distribution of the DBE directory through including on AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's website the Georgia Unified Certification Program link.
- Increase outreach and training events/materials for DBE certification, DBE utilization on contracts, and DBE resources.

IX. AUGUSTA, GEORGIA DISPARITY STUDY

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA restructured its DBE Division during 2016. The restructure included new enhancements to data collection from manual to an online data management system – B2G Now. The anticipated B2G Now implementation is FY2017 - Fourth Quarter. During the same timeline, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA will issue a bid for consulting services to conduct a new disparity study to evaluate the current state of DBEs in the AUGUSTA, GEORGIA marketplace; any evidence of discrimination for minority and women owned firms; the degree of specific and persistent practice and lingering effects of discrimination that diminishes contracting opportunities for women and members of racial and ethnic minority groups; the barriers of doing business with AUGUSTA, GEORGIA, and the lack of business resources. The results of a completed disparity study will provide guidance to AUGUSTA, GEORGIA narrowly tailored remedies for any existing imbalances in accessing and bidding successfully on AUGUSTA, GEORGIA contracts.

The action plan to complete the disparity study is as follows:

- Issue Disparity Study Bid FY2017 4th Quarter
- Award Disparity Study Bid FY2017 4th Quarter
- Complete Disparity Study FY2018 2nd Quarter
- Implement Remedies FY2018 4th Quarter

X. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND FACILITATION

In accordance with the Public Participation Regulatory Requirements of Title 49 CFR Part 26, minority businesses, women-owned businesses, local business chambers, and community and business organizations within AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's local market area will be provided an opportunity to review the goal analysis. AUGUSTA, GEORGIA will undertake a proactive communication awareness effort to advise the local market area business community of the proposed DBE goals analysis and its availability for review and comment.

A. Public Consultation Meetings

A public consultation meeting will be held for stakeholders, which include minority and women business groups, community organizations, trade associations and other officials or organizations that may have information concerning the availability of disadvantaged business and comments on the DBE overall goal and goal methodology.

1. Wednesday, August 2, 2017; 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, at the Augusta Public Library Auditorium, located at 823 Telfair Street, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA, 30901.
2. Wednesday, August 16, 2017; 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM, at the AUGUSTA, GEORGIA Compliance Department, Conference Room 791, located at 535 Telfair Street- 7th Floor, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA, 30901.

B. Public Notices

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA will also issue Public Notices in the general circulation media and in other small business-focused media publishing outlets outlining AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's proposed Race and Gender Neutral Overall DBE Goal for the FFY 2018-2020 DOT-assisted contracts. The Notice will inform the public about the proposed goal and its rationale. Additionally, the public will be notified that AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's DBE Goal Methodology is available for inspection at AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's office during normal business hours for 30 days following the date of the Public Notice, and that AUGUSTA, GEORGIA will accept comments on the goal analysis and methodology for 30 days from the date of the Public Notice. AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's published Public Notice of the proposed Overall DBE goal for FFY 2018-2020 will also be advertised in the following local market area publications:

Augusta Chronicle
Metro-Courier
Metro Spirit
Urban Pro Weekly

C. AUGUSTA, GEORGIA Website

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA will upload the proposed Overall DBE Goal for the FFY 2018-2020 DOT-assisted contracts to its website (www.augustaga.gov) for convenient electronic access for review and comment.

D. Public Comment

The FFY 2018-2020 overall DBE goal and goal methodology report (goal report) will be made available for public review and comments for 30 days from July 31, 2017 to August 31, 2017 during regular business hours of 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the following locations:

- Augusta Public Transit Department, 1535 Fenwick Street, Augusta, GA 30904
- Augusta Georgia Compliance Department 535 Telfair Street, Suite 710, Augusta, GA 30901
- Clerk of Commission, 535 Telfair Street, Suite 220, Augusta, GA 30901
- Online at www.augustaga.gov

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA will email the goal report to certified DBEs listed in the 2015 Census Bureau County Business Patterns based on their respective NAICS codes. Upon completion of the required Public Facilitation Process, any revisions to AUGUSTA, GEORGIA's proposed goal resulting from this process will be forwarded to the FTA.

**PROPOSED OVERALL DBE GOAL:
10 percent**