



# Board of County Commissioners

## Transit Division

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State of Florida

**OKALOOSA COUNTY**  
**EMERALD COAST RIDER**  
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise  
Participation Goal and Methodology (FY2023 – 2025)

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requires that recipients of FTA grant assistance take necessary and reasonable steps to ensure that Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE's) are afforded the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts which are financed in whole or in part with federal funds. As evidence of compliance, Okaloosa County must, every three years, set a goal for DBE participation in contracts which are expected to be awarded during the three following fiscal years. This report complies with the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) rule in Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 26 (49 CFR 26)

For the purpose of this program, a DBE is defined as: a small business concern which is both owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged persons. This means that disadvantaged individuals must own at least 51% of the business and they must control the management and daily operations of the business. Included in the classification of disadvantaged individuals are United States citizens who are: African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Asian-Pacific Americans, Asian-Indian Americans, women or members of other groups or individuals who the Small Business Administration (SBA) has determined are economically and socially disadvantaged under Section 8(a) of the Small Business Act.

Okaloosa County anticipates meeting the overall triennial goal for DBE participation using race and gender neutral methods. Race and gender neutral methods will include making efforts to assure that bidding and contract requirements facilitate participation by DBE's and other small businesses, encouraging prime contractors to subcontract portions of the work that might otherwise be performed by the prime contractor and providing technical assistance and other support services to facilitate consideration of DBE's and other small businesses.

### **Public Participation**

In conformance with public participation requirements of 49 CFR Section 26.45, the goal analysis will be available for review to interested parties including members of the public. Okaloosa County will post its FY2023 – 2025 Proposed DBE Participation Goal and Methodology on its transit website at [www.ecrider.org](http://www.ecrider.org), focusing on women and minority businesses. The website posting will inform the public that the annual goals are available for review during normal business hours 30 days following the date of the website posting and the County will accept comments on the goals for 45 days from the date of website posting. In addition, Okaloosa County will invite and meet with DBE and Small Businesses at its next Quarterly Local

Coordinating Board and Transportation Cooperative Meetings scheduled for October 2022 and November 2022.

### **Methodology**

Okaloosa County staff reviewed DBE participation from the past three years and utilized the State of Florida DBE Uniform Certification program in order to determine the DBE population of the local market area, this includes Okaloosa County, Santa Rosa County, and Walton County. Staff compiled data of certified DBEs and Non-DBEs by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) in Okaloosa County from the U.S. Census Bureau of Business Pattern Database. These quantities are compared with all businesses in order to determine a ratio.

### **Goal**

The below table depicts the business data gathered for ready, willing and able DBEs as well as all relevant businesses in the local market area for anticipated contracts over the next three years. Based on this data, the County has established a DBE race and gender neutral participation goal of .24%.

Description of Work	NAICS CODE	LMA DBE's	Total LMA Businesses	DBE's Relative Availability
Fuel	221119	0	12	0.00
Fence installation	238990	43	272	.16
Auto Supplies	423130	2	5	.40
Shelters (pre-fabrication)	332311	7	7	1.00
Concrete	238110	23	186	.12
Security Systems	561621	15	25	.60
Temporary Labor	561320	37	78	.47
Furniture	442110	2	54	.04
Graphics	541430	32	71	.45
Office Supplies	453210	3	5	.60
Printing & Binding	323111	16	25	.64
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>180</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>0.24</b>
<b>(180 LMA DBE's)/(740 Total LMA's) =.24%</b>				

### **Disparity Studies**

There were no available disparity studies performed or other evidence of discrimination presented within the local market area.

