

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DIVISION OF LOCAL ASSISTANCE

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January 19, 2012

CITIES AND COUNTIES IN CALIFORNIA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AGENCIES

Dear Director:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is a recipient of federal highway funds. Therefore, Caltrans must comply with federal regulations and implement the Federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program. Local Agencies are the sub-recipients of some of these funds. Caltrans, as part of the DBE program, has set an overall goal of 13.5 percent DBE participation for the federal fiscal year (FFY) 2012. This overall goal includes the DBE participation on projects administered by sub-recipients also. For the FFY 2011 (October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2011), local agencies achieved less than 6.0 percent DE participation. This participation falls well short of the overall goal of 13.5 percent. Therefore, the Division of Local Assistance (DLA) is urging local agencies to take the following actions:

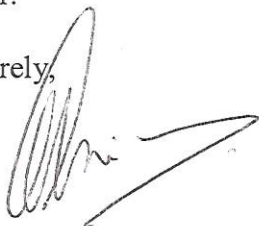
- Ensure all work performed by DBEs is being reported.
- Ensure contract goals consider all subcontracting opportunities available for Underutilized DBE.
- Ensure contracts are being awarded to contractors who make a good faith effort (GFE) to meet contract goals.
- Increase race neutral participation through race neutral measures.

Caltrans is committed to meeting the overall goal of 13.5 percent, but can only accomplish this goal if local agencies increase their DBE participation. In order to assist the local agencies with this, DLA has begun providing workshops to local agencies for evaluating GFE and determining contract goals for construction contracts. I encourage you to contact your District Local Assistance Engineer (DLAE) and be active participants in these workshops.

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If you have any questions, please contact your DLAE. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Denix D. Anbiah', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

DENIX D. ANBIAH
Chief
Division of Local Assistance

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bc: Mohsen Sultan, Chief, Office of Policy Development and Quality Assurance, Division of Local Assistance
Suzanne Theiss, District Local Assistance Engineer, District 1
Ian Howat, District Local Assistance Engineer, District 2
John Hoole, District Local Assistance Engineer, District 3
Sylvia Fung, District Local Assistance Engineer, District 4
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Erwin Gojuangco, District Local Assistance Engineer, District 11
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HW:jl

Typing:Archive:HenryW:DBE Letter to All Agencies