

FALLS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

International Falls-Koochiching Co. Airport Commission

DBE PROGRAM – 49 CFR PART 26

POLICY STATEMENT

Section 26.1, 26.23 Objectives/Policy Statement

The International Falls-Koochiching Co. Airport Commission has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. The Commission has received Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, the Commission has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26.

It is the policy of the Commission to ensure that DBEs as defined in Part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT–assisted contracts. It is also our policy:

1. To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT- assisted contracts;
2. To create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts;
3. To ensure that the DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
4. To ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
5. To help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT assisted contracts;
6. To promote the use of DBEs in all types of federally-assisted contracts and procurement activities;
7. To assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE Program; and
8. To provide appropriate flexibility to recipients of Federal financial assistance in establishing and providing opportunities for DBEs.

The Airport Commission Secretary has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, the Commission Secretary is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE program. Implementation of the DBE program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by the Commission in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

The Airport Commission has disseminated this policy statement to its members and all of the components of our organization. We have distributed this statement to DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for us on DOT-assisted contracts by including this policy statement in all bid documents.

Robert W. Anderson
Airport Commission Chairman

Date

SUBPART A – GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Section 26.1 Objectives

The objectives are found in the policy statement on the first page of this program.

Section 26.3 Applicability

The Commission is the recipient of Federal airport funds authorized by 49 U.S.C. 47101, *et seq.*

Section 26.5 Definitions

The Commission will use terms in this program that have the meaning defined in Section 26.5.

Section 26.7 Non-discrimination Requirements

The Commission will never exclude any person from participation in, deny any person the benefits of, or otherwise discriminate against anyone in connection with the award and performance of any contract covered by 49 CFR Part 26 on the basis of race, color, sex, or national origin.

In administering its DBE program, the Commission will not, directly or through contractual or other arrangements, use criteria or methods of administration that have the effect of defeating or substantially impairing accomplishment of the objectives of the DBE program with respect to individuals of a particular race, color, sex, or national origin.

Section 26.11 Record Keeping Requirements

Reporting to DOT: 26.11

(b) You must continue to provide data about your DBE Program to the Department as directed by DOT operating administrations.

We will report DBE participation to DOT/FAA as follows:

We will transmit to FAA annually on December 1, the “Uniform Report of DBE Awards or Commitments and Payments” form, found in Appendix B to this part. We will also report the DBE contractor firm information either on the FAA DBE Contractor’s Form or other similar format. We will begin using the revised Uniform Report of DBE Awards or Commitments and Payments for reporting FY 2015 reports due December 1, 2015.

Bidders List: 26.11(c)

The Commission will create and maintain a bidders list. The purpose of the list is to provide as accurate data as possible about the universe of DBE and non-DBE contractors and subcontractors who seek to work on our DOT-assisted contracts for use in helping to set our overall goals. The bidders list will include the name, address, DBE and non-DBE status, age of firm, and annual gross receipts of firms.

The Commission will collect this information by obtaining the Minnesota DOT Certified DBE Directory, utilizing past record information maintained by the City of International Falls Purchasing Department and obtaining information provided by firms quoting on projects.

Section 26.13 Federal Financial Assistance Agreement

The Commission has signed the following assurances, applicable to all DOT-assisted contracts and their administration:

Assurance: 26.13(a) - Each financial assistance agreement the *Commission* signs with a DOT operating administration (or a primary recipient) will include the following assurance:

The Commission shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the award and performance of any DOT-assisted contract or in the administration of its DBE program or the requirements of 49 CFR part 26. The Commission shall take all necessary and reasonable steps under 49 CFR part 26 to ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts. The Commission's DBE program, as required by 49 CFR part 26 and as approved by DOT, is incorporated by reference in this agreement. Implementation of this program is a legal obligation and failure to carry out its terms shall be treated as a violation of this agreement. Upon notification to the Commission of its failure to carry out its approved program, the Department may impose sanctions as provided for under 49 CFR part 26 and may, in appropriate cases, refer the matter for enforcement under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and/or the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986 (31 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.).

Contract Assurance: 26.13b – The Commission will ensure that the following clause is included in each contract we sign with a contractor and each subcontract the prime contractor signs with a subcontractor:

The contractor, sub recipient or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR part 26 in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy as the *Commission* deems appropriate, which may include, but is not limited to: (1) Withholding monthly progress payments; (2) Assessing sanctions; (3) Liquidated damages; and/or (4) Disqualifying the contractor from future bidding as non-responsible.

SUBPART B - ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Section 26.21 DBE Program Updates

The Commission is required to have a DBE program meeting the requirements of this part as it will receive grants for airport planning or development and will award prime contracts, cumulative total value of which exceeds \$250,000 in FAA funds in a federal fiscal year. We are not eligible to receive DOT financial assistance unless DOT has approved our DBE program and we are in compliance with it and this part. We will continue to carry out our program until all funds from DOT financial assistance have been expended. We do not have to submit regular

updates of our program, as long as we remain in compliance. However, we will submit significant changes in the program for approval.

Section 26.23 Policy Statement

The Policy Statement is elaborated on the first page of this DBE Program.

Section 26.25 DBE Liaison Officer (DBELO)

We have designated the following individual as our DBE Liaison Officer:

Kyra Briggs
Airport Commission Secretary
Falls International Airport
601 Third Street
International Falls, MN 56649
inairportcommission@gmail.com

In that capacity, the DBELO is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE program and ensuring that the Commission complies with all provision of 49 CFR Part 26. The DBELO has direct, independent access to the Chairman concerning DBE program matters. An organization chart displaying the DBELO's position in the organization is found in Attachment 2 to this program.

The DBELO is responsible for developing, implementing and monitoring the DBE program, in coordination with other appropriate officials. The DBELO has no additional internal staff to assist in the administration of the program and instead relies on the assistance of their consulting engineer. The duties and responsibilities include the following:

1. Gathers and reports statistical data and other information as required by DOT.
2. Reviews third party contracts and purchase requisitions for compliance with this program.
3. Works with all departments to set overall annual goals.
4. Ensures that bid notices and requests for proposals are available to DBEs in a timely manner.
5. Identifies contracts and procurements so that DBE goals are included in solicitations (both race-neutral methods and contract specific goals) and monitors results.
6. Analyzes the Commission's progress toward attainment and identifies ways to improve progress.
7. Participates in pre-bid meetings.
8. Advises the Chairman/Commission on DBE matters and achievement.
9. Determine contractor compliance with good faith efforts.
10. Provides DBEs with information and assistance in preparing bids, obtaining bonding and insurance.
11. Acts as liaison to the Uniform Certification Process.
12. Provides outreach to DBEs and community organizations to advise them of opportunities.

Section 26.27 DBE Financial Institutions

It is the policy of the Commission to investigate the full extent of services offered by financial institutions owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals in the community, to make reasonable efforts to use these institutions, and to encourage prime contractors on DOT-assisted contracts to make use of these institutions. We have been unable to locate any financial institutions in the International Falls area which are owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.

Information on the availability of such institutions can be obtained from the DBE Liaison Officer if and when firms become available.

Section 26.29 Prompt Payment Mechanisms

The Commission requires that all subcontractors performing work on DOT-assisted contracts shall be promptly paid for work performed pursuant to their agreements, in accordance with all relevant federal, state, and local law.

In accordance with 49 CFR §26.29, the Commission established a contract clause implementing this requirement and requires prime contractors to pay subcontractors for satisfactory performance of their contracts no later than 30 days from the prime contractor's receipt of each payment from the Commission.

We will ensure prompt and full payment of retainage from the prime contractor to the subcontractor within 30 days after the subcontractor's work is satisfactorily completed. Pursuant to §26.29, the Commission has selected the following method to comply with this requirement:

Hold retainage from prime contractors and provide for prompt and regular incremental acceptances of portions of the prime contract, pay retainage to prime contractors based on these acceptances, and require a contract clause obligating the prime contractor to pay all retainage owed to the subcontractor for satisfactory completion of the accepted work within 30 days after your payment to the prime contractor.

To implement this measure, the Commission includes the following clause from FAA Advisory Circular 150/5370-10 in each DOT-assisted prime contract:

The Contractor is required to pay all subcontractors for satisfactory performance of their contracts no later than 30 days after the Contractor has received a partial payment. The Owner must ensure prompt and full payment of retainage from the prime Contractor to the subcontractor within 30 days after the subcontractor's work is satisfactorily completed. A subcontractor's work is satisfactorily completed when all the tasks called for in the subcontract have been accomplished and documented as required by the Owner. When the Owner has made an incremental acceptance of a portion of a prime contract, the work of a subcontractor covered by that acceptance is deemed to be satisfactorily completed. From the total of the amount determined to be payable on a partial payment, 10 percent of such total amount will be deducted and retained by the Owner until the final payment is made, except as may be provided (at the Contractor's option) in the subsection 90-08 titled PAYMENT OF WITHHELD FUNDS of this section. The balance [insert balance] of the amount payable, less all previous payments, shall be certified for payment. Should the Contractor exercise his or her option, as provided in the subsection 90-08 titled PAYMENT OF WITHHELD FUNDS of this section, no such percent retainage shall be deducted.

When at least 95% of the work has been completed, the Engineer shall, at the Owner's discretion and with the consent of the surety, prepare estimates of both the contract value and the cost of the remaining work to be done.

The Owner may retain an amount not less than twice the contract value or estimated cost, whichever is greater, of the work remaining to be done. The remainder, less all previous payments and deductions, will then be certified for payment to the Contractor

Section 26.31 Directory

The Commission is a *non-certifying* member of the Minnesota Unified Certification Program (UCP). The UCP maintains a directory identifying all firms eligible to participate as DBEs, which contains all the elements required by §26.31.

The state UCP revises the Directory weekly. The Directory may be found at <http://mnucp.metc.state.mn.us/Default.aspx>

Section 26.33 Over-concentration

The Commission has not identified that over-concentration exists in the types of work that DBEs perform.

Section 26.35 Business Development Programs

The Commission has not established a business development program.

Section 26.37 Monitoring and Enforcement Mechanisms

The Commission implements and carries out appropriate mechanisms to ensure compliance with 49 CFR Part 26 program requirements by all program participants, including prompt payment, and describes and set forth these mechanisms in Commission's DBE program.

The Commission actively monitors participation by maintaining a running tally of actual DBE attainments (*e.g.*, payments actually made to DBE firms), including a means of comparing these attainments to commitments.

Monitoring Payments to DBEs and Non-DBEs

The Commission undertakes ongoing monitoring of prime payments to subcontractors over the course of any covered contract. Such monitoring activities will be accomplished through the following method(s):

The Prime and all subcontractors shall be notified at the preconstruction meeting of the payment schedule for the project. Subcontractors will be informed of the process for filing a prompt payment complaint with the Commission should that be necessary.

The Commission requires prime contractors to maintain records and documents of payments to subcontractors, including DBEs, for a minimum of three (3) years unless otherwise provided by applicable record retention requirements for the Commission's financial assistance agreement, whichever is longer. These records will be made available for inspection upon request by any

authorized representative of the Commission or DOT. This reporting requirement extends to all subcontractors, both DBE and non-DBE.

- Commission proactively reviews contract payments to subcontractors including DBEs quarterly to ensure compliance. Payment reviews will evaluate whether the actual amount paid to DBE subcontractors is equivalent to the amounts reported to Commission by the prime contractor.

Prompt Payment Dispute Resolution

Commission will take the following steps to resolve disputes as to whether work has been satisfactorily completed for purposes of §26.29.

Site meetings will be held as needed with representatives from the Commission, Engineer, Prime and Sub contractor present.

The Commission has established, as part of its DBE program, the following mechanism(s) to ensure prompt payment and return of retainage:

Arbitrations shall be governed by the Uniform Arbitration Act, Minn. Stat. § 572.08 et seq., and shall be commenced by the service of a demand for arbitration upon the respondent. The arbitrator shall be selected by the parties and shall be an individual who has served as a Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, Judge of the Minnesota Court of Appeals, Judge of a District Court of the State of Minnesota, or Judge or Magistrate Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota. The parties to the arbitration may engage in reasonable discovery which is necessary for the fair and efficient presentation of evidence at the hearing. All discovery disputes will be decided by the arbitrator. Discovery must be conducted promptly, and in no event will discovery be allowed more than six months after service of the demand for arbitration. The hearing shall be conducted in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Prompt Payment Complaints

Complaints by subcontractors regarding the prompt payment requirements are handled according to the following procedure.

- Subcontractor should initially contact their Prime directly regarding payment.
- If the Prime is not paying promptly, the Sub should file a prompt payment complaint with the Commission Engineer to help resolve.
- If filing a prompt payment complaint with the Commission Engineer does not result in timely and meaningful action by the Commission to resolve prompt payment disputes, affected subcontractor may contact the responsible MnDOT contact.

Enforcement Actions for Noncompliance of Participants

Commission will provide appropriate means to enforce the requirements of §26.29. These means include:

- Advise subcontractors of the availability of the payment and performance bond to assure payment for labor and materials in the execution of the work provided for in the contract;
- Issue a stop-work order until payments are released to subcontractors, specifying in the contract that such orders constitute unauthorized delays for the purposes of calculating liquidated damages if milestones are not met
- Cancellation, termination, or suspension of the Construction Contract in whole or in part;
- Any other available legal remedy.

The Commission will actively implement the enforcement actions detailed above.

Monitoring Contracts and Work Sites

The Commission reviews contracting records and engages in active monitoring of work sites to ensure that work committed to DBEs at contract award or subsequently (*e.g.*, as the result of modification to the contract) is actually performed by the DBEs to which the work was committed. Work site monitoring is performed by the Resident Project Representative. Contracting records are reviewed by the Project Manager. The Commission will maintain written certification that contracting records have been reviewed and work sites have been monitored for this purpose.

Section 26.39 Fostering small business participation.

The Commission has created a Small Business element to structure contracting requirements to facilitate competition by small business concerns, taking all reasonable steps to eliminate obstacles to their participation, including unnecessary and unjustified bundling of contract requirements that may preclude small business participation in procurements as prime contractors or subcontractors.

The Commission's small business element is incorporated as Attachment 10 to this DBE Program. We will actively implement the program elements to foster small business participation; doing so is a requirement of good faith implementation of our DBE program.

SUBPART C – GOALS, GOOD FAITH EFFORTS, AND COUNTING

Section 26.43 Set-asides or Quotas

The Commission does not use quotas in any way in the administration of this DBE program.

Section 26.45 Overall Goals

The Commission will establish an overall DBE goal covering a three-year federal fiscal year period if we anticipate awarding DOT/FAA funded prime contracts the cumulative total value of which exceeds \$250,000 during any one or more of the reporting fiscal years within the three-year goal period. In accordance with Section 26.45(f) the Commission will submit its Overall Three-year DBE Goal to FAA by August 1st as required by the established schedule.

The DBE goals will be established in accordance with the 2-step process as specified in 49 CFR Part 26.45. If the Commission does not anticipate awarding DOT/FAA funded prime contracts

the cumulative total value of which exceeds \$250,000 during any of the years within the three-year reporting period, we will not develop an overall goal; however, this DBE Program will remain in effect and the Commission will seek to fulfill the objectives outlined in 49 CFR Part 26.1.

(c) Step 1. The first step is to determine the relative availability of DBEs in the market area, "base figure". We will use the State of Minnesota DBE Directory and Census Bureau Data as a method to determine our base figure. The second step is to adjust the "base figure" percentage from Step 1 so that it reflects as accurately as possible the DBE participation the recipient would expect in the absence of discrimination based on past participation, a disparity study and/or information about barriers to entry to past competitiveness of DBEs on Contracts.

Any methodology we choose will be based on demonstrable evidence of local market conditions and be designed to ultimately attain a goal that is rationally related to the relative availability of DBEs in our market. We understand that the exclusive use of a list of prequalified contractors or plan holders, or a bidders list that does not comply with the requirements of paragraph (c)(2) of this section (above), is not an acceptable alternative means of determining the availability of DBEs.

(d) Step 2. Once we have calculated a base figure, we will examine all of the evidence available in our jurisdiction to determine what adjustment, if any, is needed to the base figure to arrive at our overall goal. If the evidence does not suggest an adjustment is necessary, then no adjustment shall be made.

26.45 (g)(1) In establishing the overall goal, the Commission will provide for consultation and publication. This includes consultation with minority, women's and general contractor groups, community organizations, and other officials or organizations which could be expected to have information concerning the availability of disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged businesses, the effects of discrimination on opportunities for DBEs, and the Commission's efforts to establish a level playing field for the participation of DBEs. The consultation will include a scheduled, direct, interactive exchange (e.g., a face-to-face meeting, video conference, teleconference) with as many interested stakeholders as possible focused on obtaining information relevant to the Commission's goal setting process, and it will occur before we are required to submit our goal methodology to the operating administration for review pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section. We will document in our goal submission the consultation process that we engaged in. Notwithstanding paragraph (f)(4) of this section, we will not implement our proposed goal until we have complied with this requirement.

In addition, the Commission will publish a notice announcing our proposed overall goal before submission to the operating administration on August 1st. The notice will be posted on our official internet web site and may be posted in any other sources (e.g., minority-focused media, trade association publications). If the proposed goal changes following review by the operating administration, the revised goal will be posted on our official internet web site. We will inform the public that the proposed overall goal and its rationale are available for inspection during normal business hours at our principal office and that the Commission and DOT/FAA will accept comments on the goals for 30 days from the date of the notice. Notice of the comment period will include the addresses to which comments may be sent (including offices and websites) where the proposal may be reviewed. **The public comment period will not extend the August 1st deadline.**

Our Overall Three-Year DBE Goal submission to DOT/FAA will include a summary of information and comments received, if any, during this public participation process and our responses.

We will begin using our overall goal on October 1 of the reporting period, unless we have received other instructions from DOT.

Section 26.45 (e) - Project Goals

If we establish a goal on a project basis, we will begin using our goal by the time of the first solicitation for a DOT-assisted contract for the project.

Section 26.45(f) - Prior Operating Administration Concurrent

The Commission understands that we are not required to obtain prior operating administration concurrence with our overall goal. However, if the operating administration's review suggests that our overall goal has not been correctly calculated or that our method for calculating goals is inadequate, the operating administration may, after consulting with us, adjust our overall goal or require that we do so. The adjusted overall goal is binding. In evaluating the adequacy or soundness of the methodology used to derive the overall goal, the U.S. DOT operating administration will be guided by the goal setting principles and best practices identified by the Department in guidance issued pursuant to § 26.9.

A description of the methodology to calculate the overall goal and the goal calculations can be found in Attachment 5 to this program.

Section 26.47 Failure to meet overall goals.

The Commission will maintain an approved DBE Program and overall DBE goal, if applicable as well as administer our DBE Program in good faith to be considered to be in compliance with this part.

If the Commission awards and commitments shown on our Uniform Report of Awards or Commitments and Payments at the end of any fiscal year are less than the overall goal applicable to that fiscal year, we will do the following in order to be regarded by the Department as implementing your DBE Program in good faith:

- (1) Analyze in detail the reasons for the difference between the overall goal and our awards and commitments in that fiscal year;
- (2) Establish specific steps and milestones to correct the problems we have identified in our analysis and to enable us to meet fully your goal for the new fiscal year;
- (3) Commission will prepare, within 90 days of the end of the fiscal year, the analysis and corrective actions developed under paragraph (c)(1) and (2) of this section. We will retain copy of analysis and corrective actions in records for a minimum of three years, and will make it available to FAA upon request.

Section 26.51(a-c) Breakout of Estimated Race-Neutral & Race-Conscious Participation

(a) The Commission will meet the maximum feasible portion of its overall goal by using race-neutral means of facilitating race-neutral DBE participation. Race-neutral DBE participation includes any time a DBE wins a prime contract through customary competitive procurement procedures or is awarded a subcontract on a prime contract that does not carry a DBE contract goal.

Race-neutral means include, but are not limited to the following:

- (1) Arranging solicitations, times for the presentation of bids, quantities, specifications, and delivery schedules in ways that facilitate participation by DBEs and other small businesses and by making contracts more accessible to small businesses, by means such as those provided under §26.39 of this part.
- (2) Providing assistance in overcoming limitations such as inability to obtain bonding or financing (e.g., by such means as simplifying the bonding process, reducing bonding requirements, eliminating the impact of surety costs from bids, and providing services to help DBEs, and other small businesses, obtain bonding and financing);
- (3) Providing technical assistance and other services;
- (4) Carrying out information and communications programs on contracting procedures and specific contract opportunities (e.g., ensuring the inclusion of DBEs, and other small businesses, on recipient mailing lists for bidders; ensuring the dissemination to bidders on prime contracts of lists of potential subcontractors; provision of information in languages other than English, where appropriate);
- (5) Implementing a supportive services program to develop and improve immediate and long-term business management, record keeping, and financial and accounting capability for DBEs and other small businesses;
- (6) Providing services to help DBEs, and other small businesses, improve long-term development, increase opportunities to participate in a variety of kinds of work, handle increasingly significant projects, and achieve eventual self-sufficiency;
- (7) Establishing a program to assist new, start-up firms, particularly in fields in which DBE participation has historically been low;
- (8) Ensuring distribution of your DBE directory, through print and electronic means, to the widest feasible universe of potential prime contractors; and
- (9) Assisting DBEs, and other small businesses, to develop their capability to utilize emerging technology and conduct business through electronic media.

The breakout of estimated race-neutral and race-conscious participation can be found in Attachment 5 to this program.

Section 26.51(d-g) Contract Goals

The Commission will arrange solicitations, times for the presentation of bids, quantities, specifications, and delivery schedules in ways that facilitate participation by DBEs and other small businesses and by making contracts more accessible to small businesses, by means such as those provided under § 26.39.

If our approved projection under paragraph (c) of this section estimates that we can meet our entire overall goal for a given year through race-neutral means, we will implement our program without setting contract goals during that year, unless it becomes necessary in order meet our overall goal.

We will establish contract goals only on those DOT-assisted contracts that have subcontracting possibilities. We need not establish a contract goal on every such contract, and the size of contract goals will be adapted to the circumstances of each such contract (e.g., type and location of work, availability of DBEs to perform the particular type of work).

We will express our contract goals as a percentage of the Federal share of a DOT-assisted contract.

Section 26.53 Good Faith Efforts Procedures

Demonstration of good faith efforts (26.53(a) & (c))

The obligation of the bidder/offeror is to make good faith efforts. The bidder/offeror can demonstrate that it has done so either by meeting the contract goal or documenting good faith efforts. Examples of good faith efforts are found in Appendix A to Part 26.

The Commission, with assistance from the Consulting Engineer, is responsible for determining whether a bidder/offeror who has not met the contract goal has documented sufficient good faith efforts to be regarded as Responsible.

We will ensure that all information is complete and accurate and adequately documents the bidder/offeror's good faith efforts before we commit to the performance of the contract by the bidder/offeror.

Information to be submitted (26.53(b))

In our solicitations for DOT/FAA-assisted contracts for which a contract goal has been established, we will require the following:

- (1) Award of the contract will be conditioned on meeting the requirements of this section;
- (2) All bidders or offerors will be required to submit the following information to the recipient, at the time provided in paragraph (b)(3) of this section:
 - (i) The names and addresses of DBE firms that will participate in the contract;
 - (ii) A description of the work that each DBE will perform. To count toward meeting a goal, each DBE firm must be certified in a NAICS code applicable to the kind of work the firm would perform on the contract;
 - (iii) The dollar amount of the participation of each DBE firm participating;
 - (iv) Written documentation of the bidder/offeror's commitment to use a DBE subcontractor whose participation it submits to meet a contract goal; and

- (v) Written confirmation from each listed DBE firm that it is participating in the contract in the kind and amount of work provided in the prime contractor's commitment.
 - (vi) If the contract goal is not met, evidence of good faith efforts (see Appendix A of this part). The documentation of good faith efforts must include copies of each DBE and non-DBE subcontractor quote submitted to the bidder when a non-DBE subcontractor was selected over a DBE for work on the contract; and
- (3) We will require that the bidder/offeror present the information required by paragraph (b)(2) of this section:

No later than 5 days after bid opening as a matter of **responsibility**.

Provided that, in a negotiated procurement, including a design-build procurement, the bidder/offeror may make a contractually binding commitment to meet the goal at the time of bid submission or the presentation of initial proposals but provide the information required by paragraph (b)(2) of this section before the final selection for the contract is made by the recipient.

Administrative reconsideration (26.53(d))

Within 5 business days of being informed by the Commission that it is not responsible because it has not documented sufficient good faith efforts, a bidder/offeror may request administrative reconsideration. Bidder/offerors should make this request in writing to the following reconsideration official: State of Minnesota Department of Transportation, Office of EEO, 395 John Ireland Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155. The reconsideration official will not have played any role in the original determination that the bidder/offeror did not document sufficient good faith efforts.

As part of this reconsideration, the bidder/offeror will have the opportunity to provide written documentation or argument concerning the issue of whether it met the goal or made adequate good faith efforts to do so. The bidder/offeror will have the opportunity to meet in person with our reconsideration official to discuss the issue of whether it met the goal or made adequate good faith efforts to do so. We will send the bidder/offeror a written decision on reconsideration, explaining the basis for finding that the bidder did or did not meet the goal or make adequate good faith efforts to do so. The result of the reconsideration process is not administratively appealable to the Department of Transportation.

Good Faith Efforts procedural requirements (post-solicitation)

The awarded contractor will be required to make available upon request a copy of all DBE subcontracts. The contractor shall ensure that all subcontracts or agreements with DBEs to supply labor or materials include all required contract provisions and mandate that the subcontractor and all lower tier subcontractors perform in accordance with the provisions of Part 26.

Prime contractors will be prohibited from terminating a DBE subcontractor listed in response to a covered solicitation (or an approved substitute DBE firm) without the prior written consent of Commission. This includes, but is not limited to, instances in which a prime contractor seeks to perform work originally designated for a DBE subcontractor with its own forces or those of an affiliate, a non-DBE firm, or another DBE firm.

Such written consent will be provided only if Commission agrees, for reasons stated in the concurrence document, that the prime contractor has good cause to terminate the DBE firm. For purposes of this paragraph, good cause includes the following circumstances:

- (1) The listed DBE subcontractor fails or refuses to execute a written contract;
- (2) The listed DBE subcontractor fails or refuses to perform the work of its subcontract in a way consistent with normal industry standards. Provided however, that good cause does not exist if the failure or refusal of the DBE subcontractor to perform its work on the subcontract results from the bad faith or discriminatory action of the prime contractor;
- (3) The listed DBE subcontractor fails or refuses to meet the prime contractor's reasonable, non-discriminatory bond requirements.
- (4) The listed DBE subcontractor becomes bankrupt, insolvent, or exhibits credit unworthiness;
- (5) The listed DBE subcontractor is ineligible to work on public works projects because of suspension and debarment proceedings pursuant to 2 CFR Parts 180, 215 and 1,200 or applicable state law;
- (6) Commission determined that the listed DBE subcontractor is not a responsible contractor;
- (7) The listed DBE subcontractor voluntarily withdraws from the project and provides Commission written notice of its withdrawal;
- (8) The listed DBE is ineligible to receive DBE credit for the type of work required;
- (9) A DBE owner dies or becomes disabled with the result that the listed DBE contractor is unable to complete its work on the contract;
- (10) Other documented good cause that Commission has determined compels the termination of the DBE subcontractor. Provided, that good cause does not exist if the prime contractor seeks to terminate a DBE it relied upon to obtain the contract so that the prime contractor can self-perform the work for which the DBE contractor was engaged or so that the prime contractor can substitute another DBE or non-DBE contractor after contract award.

Before transmitting to the Commission a request to terminate and/or substitute a DBE subcontractor, the prime contractor must give notice in writing to the DBE subcontractor, with a copy to the Commission, of its intent to request to terminate and/or substitute the DBE, and the reason(s) for the request.

The prime contractor must give the DBE five days to respond to the prime contractor's notice and advise the Commission and the prime contractor of the reasons, if any, why the DBE objects to the proposed termination of its subcontract and why the prime contractor's action should not be approved. If required in a particular case as a matter of public necessity (e.g., safety), a response period shorter than five days may be provided.

In addition to post-award terminations, the provisions of this section apply to pre-award deletions of or substitutions for DBE firms put forward by offerors in negotiated procurements.

Each prime contract will include a provision stating:

The contractor shall utilize the specific DBEs listed in the contractor's [bid/solicitation] response to perform the work and supply the materials for which each is listed unless the contractor obtains prior written consent of Commission as provided in 49 CFR Part 26, §26.53(f). Unless such consent is provided, the contractor shall not be entitled to any payment for work or material unless it is performed or supplied by the listed DBE.

The Commission will require a contractor to make good faith efforts to replace a DBE that is terminated or has otherwise failed to complete its work on a contract with another certified DBE. These good faith efforts shall be directed at finding another DBE to perform at least the same amount of work under the contract as the DBE that was terminated, to the extent needed to meet the contract goal that was established for the procurement. The good faith efforts shall be documented by the contractor. If Commission requests documentation from the contractor under this provision, the contractor shall submit the documentation within 7 days, which may be extended for an additional 7 days if necessary at the request of the contractor. Commission shall provide a written determination to the contractor stating whether or not good faith efforts have been demonstrated.

If the contractor fails or refuses to comply in the time specified, the contracting office/representative of Commission may issue an order stopping all or part of payment/work until satisfactory action has been taken. If the contractor still fails to comply, the contracting officer may issue a termination for default proceeding.

Section 26.55 Counting DBE Participation

We will count DBE participation toward overall and contract goals as provided in 49 CFR 26.55. We will not count the participation of a DBE subcontract toward a contractor's final compliance with its DBE obligations on a contract until the amount being counted has actually been paid to the DBE.

If the firm is not currently certified as a DBE in accordance with the standards of subpart D of this part at the time of the execution of the contract, we will not count the firm's participation toward any DBE goals, except as provided for in 26.87(j).

SUBPART D – CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

Section 26.61 – 26.73 Certification Process

The Commission will rely on the State of Minnesota to develop and implement the certification standards of Subpart D of Part 26 and the certification procedures of Subpart E of Part 26 to determine the eligibility of firms to participate as DBE's in DOT-assisted contracts. To be certified as a DBE, a firm must meet all certification eligibility standards. The State of Minnesota will make certification decisions based on the facts as a whole.

For information about the certification process or to apply for certification, firms should contact:
http://mnucp.org/DBE_Applicants.html

The certification application forms and documentation requirements are found online at:
http://mnucp.org/DBE_Applicants.html

SUBPART E – CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES

Section 26.81 Unified Certification Programs

The Commission is the member of a Unified Certification Program (UCP) administered by the State of Minnesota. The UCP will meet all of the requirements of this section.

SUBPART F – COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

Section 26.109 Information, Confidentiality, Cooperation and intimidation or retaliation

We will safeguard from disclosure to third parties information that may reasonably be regarded as confidential business information, consistent with Federal, state, and local law.

Notwithstanding any provision of Federal or state law, we will not release any information that may reasonably be construed as confidential business information to any third party without the written consent of the firm that submitted the information. This includes applications for DBE certification and supporting information. However, we will transmit this information to DOT in any certification appeal proceeding under § 26.89 of this part or to any other state to which the individual's firm has applied for certification under § 26.85 of this part.

All participants in the Department's DBE program (including, but not limited to, recipients, DBE firms and applicants for DBE certification, complainants and appellants, and contractors using DBE firms to meet contract goals) are required to cooperate fully and promptly with DOT and recipient compliance reviews, certification reviews, investigations, and other requests for information. Failure to do so shall be a ground for appropriate action against the party involved (e.g., with respect to recipients, a finding of noncompliance; with respect to DBE firms, denial of certification or removal of eligibility and/or suspension and debarment; with respect to a complainant or appellant, dismissal of the complaint or appeal; with respect to a contractor which uses DBE firms to meet goals, findings of non-responsibility for future contracts and/or suspension and debarment).

The Commission, contractor, or any other participant in the program will not intimidate, threaten, coerce, or discriminate against any individual or firm for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by this part or because the individual or firm has made a complaint, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this part. If we violate this prohibition, we are in noncompliance with this part.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 Regulations: 49 CFR Part 26 or website link
- Attachment 2 Organizational Chart
- Attachment 3 Bidder's List Collection Form
- Attachment 4 DBE Directory or link to DBE Directory
- Attachment 5 Overall Goal Calculations
- Attachment 6 Demonstration of Good Faith Efforts or Good Faith Effort Plan - Forms 1 & 2
- Attachment 7 DBE Monitoring and Enforcement Mechanisms
- Attachment 8 DBE Certification Application Form
- Attachment 9 State's UCP Agreement
- Attachment 10 Small Business Element Program

ATTACHMENT 1

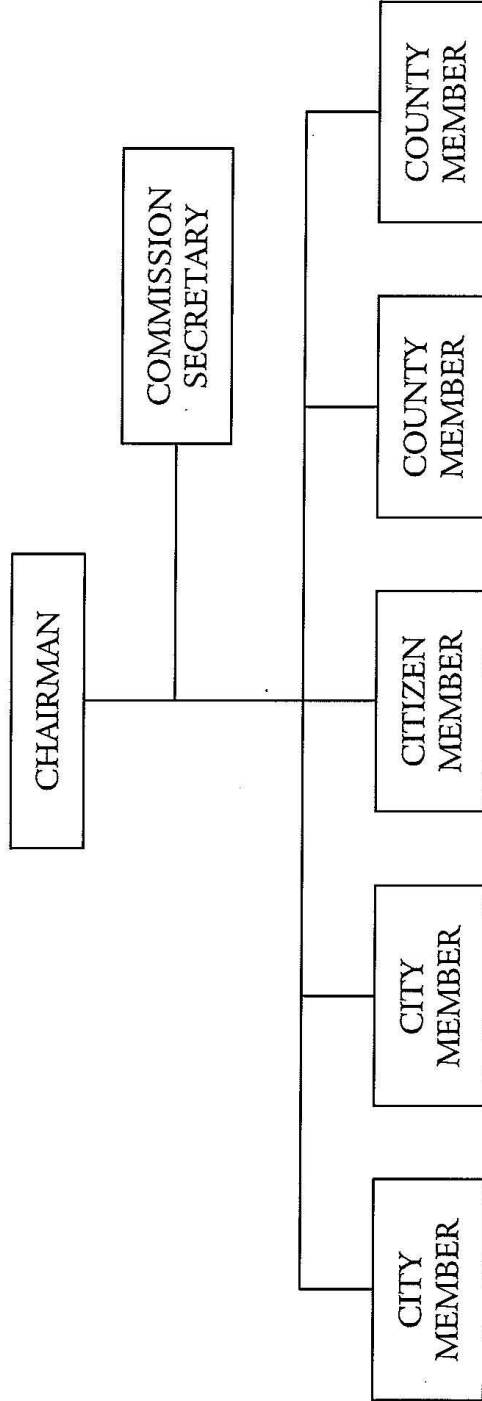
Regulations: 49 CFR Part 26 can be accessed at:

http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title49/49cfr26_main_02.tpl

ATTACHMENT 2

Organizational Chart

INTERNATIONAL FALLS-KOOCHICHIING COUNTY
AIRPORT COMMISSION



ATTACHMENT 3
Bidder's List Collection Form

Firm Name	Firm Address/ Phone #	DBE or Non-DBE Status (verify via State's UCP Directory)	Age of Firm	Annual Gross Receipts
			<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> 1- 3 years <input type="checkbox"/> 4-7 years <input type="checkbox"/> 8-10 years <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 years	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$500K <input type="checkbox"/> \$500K - \$1 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$1-2 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$2-5 million <input type="checkbox"/> Greater than \$5 million
			<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> 1- 3 years <input type="checkbox"/> 4-7 years <input type="checkbox"/> 8-10 years <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 years	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$500K <input type="checkbox"/> \$500K - \$1 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$1-2 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$2-5 million <input type="checkbox"/> Greater than \$5 million
			<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> 1- 3 years <input type="checkbox"/> 4-7 years <input type="checkbox"/> 8-10 years <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 years	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$500K <input type="checkbox"/> \$500K - \$1 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$1-2 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$2-5 million <input type="checkbox"/> Greater than \$5 million
			<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> 1- 3 years <input type="checkbox"/> 4-7 years <input type="checkbox"/> 8-10 years <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 years	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$500K <input type="checkbox"/> \$500K - \$1 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$1-2 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$2-5 million <input type="checkbox"/> Greater than \$5 million
			<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> 1- 3 years <input type="checkbox"/> 4-7 years <input type="checkbox"/> 8-10 years <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 years	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$500K <input type="checkbox"/> \$500K - \$1 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$1-2 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$2-5 million <input type="checkbox"/> Greater than \$5 million
			<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> 1- 3 years <input type="checkbox"/> 4-7 years <input type="checkbox"/> 8-10 years <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 years	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$500K <input type="checkbox"/> \$500K - \$1 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$1-2 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$2-5 million <input type="checkbox"/> Greater than \$5 million

ATTACHMENT 4

State of Minnesota DBE Directory can be found at:

<http://mnucp.metc.state.mn.us/Default.aspx>

ATTACHMENT 5

Section 26.45: Overall DBE Three-Year Goal Methodology

Name of Recipient: The International Falls-Koochiching County Airport Commission – International Falls, Minnesota

Goal Period: FY-2019-2020-2021 – October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2021

DBE Goals for the referenced period are submitted separately.

ATTACHMENT 6

Demonstration of Good Faith Efforts - Forms 1 & 2

[Forms 1 and 2 should be provided as part of the solicitation documents.]

FORM 1: DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) UTILIZATION

The undersigned bidder/offeror has satisfied the requirements of the bid specification in the following manner (please check the appropriate space):

_____ The bidder/offeror is committed to a minimum of _____ % DBE utilization on this contract.

_____ The bidder/offeror (if unable to meet the DBE goal of _____%) is committed to a minimum of _____% DBE utilization on this contract and should submit documentation demonstrating good faith efforts.

Name of bidder/offeror's firm: _____

State Registration No. _____

By _____
(Signature) Title

FORM 2: LETTER OF INTENT

Name of bidder/offeror's firm: _____

Address: _____

Commission: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Name of DBE firm: _____

Address: _____

Commission: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Description of work to be performed by DBE firm:

The bidder/offeror is committed to utilizing the above-named DBE firm for the work described above. The estimated dollar value of this work is \$ _____.

Affirmation

The above-named DBE firm affirms that it will perform the portion of the contract for the estimated dollar value as stated above and that the firm is DBE certified to perform the specific trades.

By _____

Date:

(Signature)

(Title)

If the bidder/offeror does not receive award of the prime contract, any and all representations in this Letter of Intent and Affirmation shall be null and void.

Submit this page for each DBE subcontractor.

ATTACHMENT 7

DBE Monitoring and Enforcement Mechanisms

The Commission has available several remedies to enforce the DBE requirements contained in its contracts, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Breach of contract action, pursuant to the terms of the contract

In addition, the Federal government has available several enforcement mechanisms that it may apply to firms participating in the DBE problem, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Suspension or debarment proceedings pursuant to 49 CFR Part 26
2. Enforcement action pursuant to 49 CFR Part 31
3. Prosecution pursuant to 18 USC 1001.

ATTACHMENT 8

DBE Certification Application Form

Available here: http://mnuccp.org/DBE_Applicants.html

ATTACHMENT 9
State's UCP Agreement

The Airport Commission does not have a copy of the UCP Agreement, but the following table taken from the State of Minnesota's UCP Program shows The Airport as a member.

Non-Certifying Agencies

Non-Certifying Agencies are Agencies that participate only as recipients of the DBE certifying process. Non Certifying Agencies include but are not limited to (partial listing):

Albert Lea Municipal Airport	I -494 Corridor Commission	Productive Alternatives
Alexandria (City of)	International Falls Airport	Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority
Anoka County TMO	Isanti County - Heartland Express Transit Center	Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians
Anoka County Transit-Demand Response	Kandiyohi Area Transit Joint Powers Board	Redwood Falls Municipal Airport
Arrowhead Transit	Lac Qui Parle County Airport	Renville County
Austin (City of)	Le Sueur (City of)	RiverRider Public Transit System
Austin-Mower County Area Transit Joint Powers Board	Lincoln County	Rochester Municipal Airport
Baudette International Airport	Litchfield (City of)	Rock County
Becker County Transit	Little Falls (City of)	Roseau County Committee on Aging
Bemidji Regional Airport	Longville (City of)	Rush City

ATTACHMENT 10

Small Business Element

A. Objective (49 CFR Part 26.39)

Recognizing that the DBE Program goals should be met through a mixture of race conscious and race neutral methods and, that by definition, DBE firms are small businesses, the Commission seeks to implement a small business element into its current DBE policy in accordance with applicable law. The Commission is including this element to facilitate competition by and expand opportunities for small businesses. The Commission is committed to taking all reasonable steps to eliminate obstacles to small businesses that may preclude their participation in procurements as prime contractors or subcontractors. The Commission will meet its objectives using a combination of the following methods and strategies:

1. Set asides: Where feasible, the Commission will establish a percentage of the total value of all prime contract and subcontract awards to be set aside for participation by small businesses on FAA-assisted contracts. A “set-aside” is the reserving of a contract or a portion of a contract exclusively for participation by small businesses. This requires that the Commission and its prime contractors/ consultants set aside a portion of the value of each contract for participation by small businesses. A small business set-aside is open to all small businesses regardless of the owner’s gender, race or geographic location. The project Engineer and DBELO will review FAA-assisted purchases and contracts to assess the small business opportunities, giving consideration to the size and scope of each purchase or contract to establish the set aside percentage. This set aside is in addition to the DBE contract goals which may be required pursuant to applicable law or policy. In the event that a set-aside is not established on an FAA-assisted contract, the project Engineer and small business officer will document why a small business set-aside is inappropriate.
2. Unbundling: The Commission, where feasible, may “unbundle” projects or separate large contracts into smaller contracts which may be more suitable for small business participation. The Commission will conduct contract reviews on each FAA-assisted contract to determine whether portions of the project could be “unbundled” or bid separately. Similarly, the Commission will encourage its prime contractors or prime consultants to unbundle contracts to facilitate participation by small businesses.

B. Definitions

1. Small Business:

A small business is a business that is independently owned and operated, is organized for profit, and is not dominant in its field. Depending on the industry, size standard eligibility is based on the average number of employees for the preceding twelve months or on sales volume averaged over a three-year period. Small businesses must meet the definitions specified in Section 3 of the Small Business Act and the Small Business Administration regulations implementing it (13 CFR Part 121).

2. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise:

A for-profit small business (as defined by the Small Business Administration) —

- That is at least 51 percent owned by one or more individuals who are both socially and economically disadvantaged or, in the case of a corporation, in which 51 percent of the stock is owned by one or more such individuals;
- Whose socially and economically disadvantaged owners do not exceed the personal net worth (PNW) does not exceed the described in 49 CFR Part 26. The current PNW cap is \$1.32 million.
- Whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of the socially and economically disadvantaged individuals who own it; and
- Has been certified as a DBE by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT) in accordance with 49 CFR 26.

For the purposes of the small business element of the Commission’s DBE Program, small businesses which are also owned and controlled by socially disadvantaged individuals will be encouraged to seek DBE certification. Only DBE certified firms will be counted towards DBE race-neutral participation on FAA-assisted contracts.

C. Certification and Verification Procedures

The Commission will accept the following certifications for participation in the small business element of the Commission's DBE Program with applicable stipulations:

1. Minnesota DOT DBE Certification – DBE Certification by the Minnesota DOT which stipulates that a firm has been determined to meet all the requirements in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26. All certification determinations are evidenced by a letter of DBE certification issued by the Minnesota DOT.
2. Minnesota DOT Small Business Enterprise (SBE) – Will require submittal of three years of business tax returns and page 2 of the Minnesota DOT DBE Certification application after contract award.
3. SBA 8(a) Business Development Certification (as described in 13 CFR Parts 121 and 124) - will require submittal of three years of business tax returns.

Special Note: Minority and women-owned business enterprises which are awarded contracts under the small business enterprise set aside will be strongly encouraged to seek DBE certification in order to be counted towards race neutral DBE participation.

D. Implementation Schedule

The Commission will implement this small business element within nine months of the FAA's approval of this document describing the element.

E. Assurances

The Commission makes the following assurances:

1. The DBE Program, including its small business element is not prohibited by state law;
2. Certified DBEs that meet the size criteria established under the DBE Program are presumptively eligible to participate in the small business element of the DBE Program;
3. There are no geographic or local preferences or limitations imposed on FAA-assisted contracts and the DBE Program is open to small businesses regardless of their location;
4. There are no limits on the number of contracts awarded to firms participating in the DBE Program;
5. Reasonable effort will be made to avoid creating barriers to the use of new, emerging, or untried businesses; and
6. Aggressive steps will be taken to encourage those minority and women owned firms participating in the small business element of the DBE Program that are eligible for DBE certification to become certified.