



2423 East Robinson Avenue, Springdale, Arkansas 72764

October 1, 2024

Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Policy Statement

Ozark Regional Transit Authority

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) published a final rule (49CFR part 26.1) on the DBE program on April 9, 2024, and provided guidance to help Tier 2 recipients comply with the new requirements. Tier 2 recipients are FTA grant recipients that award \$670,000 or less in federal transit funds annually. They are subject to a subset of the DBE program provisions, including reporting requirements and the small business element. Ozark Regional Transit Authority (ORT) is an FTA grant recipient that awards less than \$670,000 in contracting opportunities and is therefore categorized as a Tier 2 recipient.

Notwithstanding, it is the goal of ORT to ensure that DBEs as defined in 49CFR part 26 have an equal opportunity to received and participate in FTA/DOT assisted contracting opportunities. It is also ORT's goal to:

- Ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of FTA/DOT assisted contracts.
- Ensure DBE's can compete fairly for FTA/DOT assisted contracts.
- Ensure that only firms that fully meet 49CFR part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBE's.

This statement has been circulated with ORT's staff and is to be posted on the ORT website at www.ozark.org for public viewing prior to the October 9, 2024 deadline.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel Gardner", is written over a horizontal line.

Joel Gardner

Executive Director

Ozark Regional Transit Authority