

Special Notice to Bidders
FAA & FTA Approve a Return to DBE Utilization Goals
FHWA Approval is Pending

Effective April 1, 2010, the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities returned to DBE Utilization Goals for projects funded with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) & Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds. Both FAA and FTA approved the return to DBE goals based on recommendations of the Department's completed Disparity Study.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has not yet approved the Department's request to return to DBE Utilization Goals. A waiver to exclude a DBE group from DBE goal setting because that group had achieved parity with other contractors was requested and requires approval of the US Secretary of Transportation. Again, this goal request was based on the finding of the department's completed Disparity Study. The Department expects that this approval will be forthcoming.

Based on this information, the Department will continue to manage its FHWA funded projects with Race Neutral (or 0%) DBE Utilization Goals while setting DBE Utilization Goals on FAA & FTA funded projects until further notice.

Contractors must continue to report creditable DBE participation/payments on the Monthly Summary of Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation Form 25A336 for FHWA funded projects. This will allow the Department to continue to accurately report DBE participation to the FHWA as well as FAA and FTA.

Contractors must also continue to provide opportunities for DBE firms to participate on highway projects as appropriate. A 0% DBE participation goal does not relieve the contractor of the requirement to provide equal opportunity in subcontracting, supplies or other services offered by DBE firms. Any questions about this notice may be directed to Jon Dunham, Manager of the Civil Rights Office, (907) 269-0850, or email jon.dunham@alaska.gov