



**DISADVANTAGE BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PLAN
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION
FISCAL YEARS 2023-2025
DEPARTMENT OF GRANTS
March 2022**

St. Tammany Parish Government DBE Program

POLICY STATEMENT

Section 26.1, 26.23 Objectives/Policy Statement

St. Tammany Parish Government has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. St. Tammany Parish Government has received Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, the Parish has an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26.

It is the policy of St. Tammany Parish Government to ensure that the DBEs as defined in Part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. It is 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 assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE program.

Perry Felarise has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, he 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 St. Tammany Parish Government in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

St. Tammany Parish Government has disseminated this policy statement to the St. Tammany Parish Council and all of the components of our organization. We have distributed this statement to DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for the Parish on DOT-assisted contracts. This distribution is accomplished by using the U.S. Postal Service and interoffice mail. It is also available at public meetings, pre-bid conferences, via internet and included in bid packages.



Gina Hayes, Chief Administrative Officer



Date