Regional Transportation Authority – Chicago, Illinois
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)
Goal Methodology
Federal Fiscal Years 2017-2019

I. Introduction

The Regional Transportation Authority-Chicago, Illinois (RTA) submits its three-year Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) overall goal for Federal Fiscal Years (FFYs) 2017-2019. Our methodology is in accordance with U.S. Department of Transportation Regulations at 49 C.F.R. § 26.45, the US Department of Transportation's General Counsel's *Tips for Goal-Setting* (USDOT Tips),[1] the appellate court's decision in *Northern Contracting v. Illinois Department of Transportation*,[2] and the approach recommended by the National Academy of Sciences that is now the standard for designing legally defensible disparity studies for transportation agencies.[3] This goal is based on projected contracting opportunities funded in whole or in part by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). In addition, the goal is based on an Availability Study completed in October 2016 for the RTA and conducted by Colette Holt & Associates, an attorney and national expert on the DBE program with extensive experience in designing defensible DBE goals.

The regulations require that the overall goal be prepared using a two-step process. RTA must first determine a base figure for the relative availability of certified and non-certified minority and woman-owned business enterprises in the relevant market area (step 1). Next, RTA must examine all relevant evidence to determine what adjustment to the base figure, if any, is needed in order to arrive at an overall goal (step 2). The final adjusted figure is RTA's overall goal, and represents the proportion of federal transportation funding it expects to allocate to DBEs during the subsequent three FFYs. Once the adjusted overall goal is determined, RTA must estimate what portion of the goal will be met by race-neutral measures, and if necessary, what portion of the goal will be met by race-conscious contract goals.[4]

RTA's proposed overall goal for the time period covered by FFYs 2017-2019 (October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2019) is 11.38%. Of the overall goal, 0.0% will be achieved through race-neutral measures and 11.38% will be achieved through race-conscious measures.

RTA expects to award approximately $1,849,200 over this time period.

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[1] United States Department of Transportation, "Tips for Goal Setting in the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program", http://www.osdbu.dot.gov/DBEProgram/tips.cfm.
[2] 473 F.3d 715 (2007).
[3] *"Guidelines for Conducting a Disparity and Availability Study for the Federal DBE Program,"* Transportation Research Board of the National Academy of Sciences, NCHRP Report, Issue No. 644, 2010.
[4] 49 CFR §§26.51(f)(1), and §26.51(d).

Table 1
RTA FTA-Assisted Projects FFYs 2017-2019

RTA PROJECT	FTA-FUNDED AMOUNT
Interagency Signage Expansion: Fabrication & Installation	$290,000
Older Adult Travel Trainer Program	$400,000
Green Transit Plan – Metra Wayside Energy Storage Study	$105,000
Green Transit Plan – Metra Alternative Fuel Locomotive Study	$220,000
Green Transit Plan – CTA Wayside Energy Storage Study	$205,000
Total	$1,220,000

Of these funds, RTA expects that $138,836 will be expended with DBEs.

II. Overall DBE Goal Setting Methodology for Federal Fiscal Years 2017-2019

RTA's overall goal was set based on the two-step process described in 49 C.F.R. §26.45. This process ensures that the goal derived by RTA as based on the availability of ready, willing, and able DBEs in RTA's relevant market area.

A. Step One Base Figure Calculation

1. Determination of RTA's Geographic and Industry Markets

The first element in estimating DBE availability was to determine empirically the relevant geographic and industry market areas for RTA's federally-assisted contracts. The study therefore examined RTA's total spends for federal fiscal years 2010 through 2015 on federally-assisted contracts. This totalled $1,329,047, for 5 prime contracts. Table 2 presents the distribution of the number of contracts and the amount of contract dollars across all industry sectors. The study determined that RTA's industry market is made up of 8 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) industry codes.

Table 2
Industry Percentage Distribution of All Contracts by Dollars Paid, All Sectors

NAICS	NAICS Code Description	PCT Total Contract Dollars	Cumulative PCT Total Contract Dollars
511210	Software Publishers	41.83%	41.83%
541613	Marketing Consulting Services	36.95%	78.79%
541611	Administrative Management and General Management Consulting Services	11.53%	90.31%
541511	Custom Computer Programming Services	3.95%	94.26%
541910	Marketing Research and Public Opinion Polling	2.26%	96.52%
541512	Computer Systems Design Services	1.93%	98.44%
541840	Media Representatives	1.35%	99.80%
323111	Commercial printing (except screen and books)	0.20%	100.00%

The study next determined the locations of firms in these NAICS codes to establish the industries in which RTA purchases. The generally accepted approach is to identify the firm locations that account for at least 75 percent of contract and subcontract dollar payments in the contract data file. However, given the small number of contracts during the study period, using this rubric would have produced results that might not be narrowly tailored for future goal setting. The study therefore used RTA's service area as its market area. Location was determined by ZIP code as listed in the file and aggregated into counties as the geographic unit.

2. Determination of RTA's Utilization of DBEs

The Study next determined the dollar value of RTA's utilization of DBEs in its market area constrained by geography and industry sector, as measured by payments to prime firms and associated subcontractors and disaggregated by race and gender. Table 3 presents the distribution of contract dollars by industry sectors by race and gender for federally-funded contracts.

Table 3
Distribution of Contracts Dollars by Race and Gender-Federal Funds

NAICS	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Native American	White Women	Non-DBE
323111	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
511210	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
541511	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
541512	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
541611	0.09%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	99.91%
541613	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.15%	98.85%
541840	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
541910	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Total	2.47%	1.35%	0.00%	0.00%	2.35%	93.82%

3. Determination of DBE Availability in RTA's Market Areas

The Study next determined the aggregated availability of DBEs, weighted by RTA's spending in its geographic and industry markets, to be 15.68%. Table 4 presents the weighted availability data for various racial and gender categories for federally-funded contracts.

Table 4
Aggregated Weighted Availability – Federal Funds

NAICS	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Native American	White Women	DBE	Non-DBE	Total
TOTAL	3.86%	1.82%	2.80%	0.00%	7.20%	15.68%	84.32%	100.00%

B. Step Two, Consideration of Adjustments to the Step One Base Figure

Step 2 requires RTA to examine all evidence in its jurisdiction to determine what adjustment, if any, is needed to the base figure to arrive at the overall goal. Included among the types of evidence that must be considered are the current capacity of DBEs to perform work on RTA's federally-assisted contracts, as measured by the volume of work DBEs have performed in recent years, and evidence from the availability/disparity study, to the extent not already accounted for in the base figure. RTA may also consider available evidence from related fields that affect the opportunities for DBEs to form, grow and compete. These include, but are not limited to, statistical disparities in the ability of DBEs to get the financing, bonding and insurance required to participate in the Program, and data on employment, self-employment, education, training and union apprenticeship programs, to the extent relevant to the opportunities for DBEs to perform in the Program. The regulations caution that any adjustment to the base figure to account for the continuing effects of past discrimination or the effects of an ongoing DBE program must be based

on "demonstrable evidence that is logically and directly related to the effect for which the adjustment is sought." § 26.45(d)(3). Each of these categories is discussed separately below.

1. Past DBE utilization

RTA considered the current capacity of certified DBEs to perform on its FTA-assisted contracts, measured by the volume of work certified DBEs have received in recent years. Most of the contracts awarded from FFY 2012 through 2016 were in industries similar to those we expect to award in the future, such as engineering, installation, planning, training and marketing services. Moreover, most of the contracts awarded during this period will continue through FFY 2019. Therefore, it is appropriate to use past participation as a guide to a possible adjustment, as provided in 49 C.F.R. § 26.45(d)(1)(i). The median DBE participation for FFYs 2012 through 2015 is 7.08%.

Table 5
DBE Utilization for FFYs 2014-2016

FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR	OVERALL DBE UTILIZATION	RACE-NEUTRAL UTILIZATION	RACE-CONSCIOUS UTILIZATION
2012	6.30%	0%	6.30%
2013	7.86%	0%	7.86%
2014	3.0%	0%	3.0%
2015	34.8%	0%	34.8%

2. Additional Step 2 Evidence

While the study's evidence of economy-wide disparities[5] might be used to make a step two adjustment, in our view, this does not provide evidence that is sufficiently directly related to an adjustment to reflect the level of participation that would be expected "but for" discrimination. Further, the law in the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals is that affirmative action goals should reflect the "plausible lower bound estimate" of availability.

3. Base Figure Adjustment

RTA reviewed its expected available contracting opportunities for FFYs 2017 through 2019 and determined that federally-funded contracts for the upcoming triennial period are substantially similar to the recent past. Therefore, past participation is an appropriate adjustment factor. RTA therefore averaged the median past participation with the step 1 base figure estimate for an overall, annual goal of 11.38%.

[5] The study examined disparities in business receipts and in business formation and earnings. Minority and women-owned firms are significantly less profitable than similar nonminority or women-owned firms, and minorities and women earn substantially and significantly less from their labor than do their similarly situated nonminority male counterparts in RTA's market area. Barriers to equal access to business and human capital were also identified.

Baseline DBE Availability:	15.68%
Median Past DBE Participation:	7.08%
Average:	**11.38%**

III. Projection of Race-Neutral versus Race-Conscious Goal Attainment

To estimate the portions of the goal to be met through race-neutral and race-conscious measures, RTA evaluated past race-neutral certified DBE participation as defined in § 26.51(a).

A. Race-Neutral versus Race-Conscious Projection

As detailed in Table 5, RTA has achieved the great majority of its DBE participation through the use of race-conscious contract goals. Based upon the average of the race-neutral participation achieved from FFY 2014 through 2016, we project that we will achieve 0.00% DBE participation through race-neutral measures and 11.38% through race-conscious contract goals.

B. Efforts to increase race-neutral participation

RTA will meet the maximum feasible portion of its overall goal by using race-neutral means of facilitating DBE participation. To facilitate race-neutral participation, the RTA consistently conducts outreach to DBEs to provide information regarding opportunities to participate in RTA projects and procurements. One of the RTA's significant outreach initiatives is the annual Transportation Symposium & Business Exchange (the "Transportation Symposium"). This networking and informational event has been held for the past nineteen years. The purpose of this event, in part, is to inform vendors of upcoming business opportunities at each of the participating agencies. An informational procurement workshop is held prior to the start of the networking portion of the Transportation Symposium to provide attendees with information. The Transportation Symposium provides participants an opportunity to meet and have a one-on-one business exchange with RTA procurement and DBE staff, as well as staff from each participating agency. Also, companies that have large dollar contracts with the RTA and the other sponsor agencies are invited to participate as exhibitors to explore DBE and sub-contracting partnerships. The Symposium serves as an extensive outreach effort, and the RTA firmly believes such involvement increases DBE participation achieved through both race neutral and race conscious means by increasing awareness of the RTA and its procurements. The attendance at this event has averaged approximately 400 registered participants. This year's event was held on November 15, 2016.

Representatives from the RTA also participate on committees of minority and female organizations and attend numerous events and programs to provide information about the RTA and to assist in identifying and utilizing DBEs, such as:

- Annual Chicago Business Opportunity Fair/Chicago Minority Supplier Development Council
- Annual Entrepreneurial Woman's Conference/Women's Business Development Council (WBDC)

- Annual Chicago Cosmopolitan Chamber of Commerce business fair
- Annual Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Conference
- Illinois Transit and Transportation Roundtable: RTA is a strategic partner in the economic growth and development of small, minority, female-owned and disadvantaged businesses.
- Annual Conference of Minority Transportation Officials - National Meeting and Training Conference

In addition, RTA staff is available to meet with DBEs and other small firms to assist them with how to do business with the agency, such as preparing bids and proposals to comply with the RTA's procurement requirements and processes. We also search the IL UCP and the RTA's Vendor Profile database to identify DBE prime firms and DBE subcontractors; answer questions of DBEs and provide DBE information to bidders/proposers during pre-proposal conferences; send solicitation information to DBEs based upon contacts obtained during outreach events; and participate in events to facilitate the development, growth, and sustainability of DBEs in contracting opportunities.

IV. Proof of Publication

The initial goal submittal Notice was posted on October 17, 2016 to the RTA's Official Internet Webpage. The proposed overall goal and its rationale were available for inspection on the RTA's website and during normal business hours at the RTA's offices for a 30-day comment period. The Notice contained the building and electronic mail addresses where comments could be sent.

V. Public Consultation

The RTA consulted with Colette Holt & Associates to determine the availability of stakeholder organizations in the RTA's service area. These stakeholder organizations would have an interest in participating in a scheduled exchange regarding preparation of the goal setting methodology. Fourteen organizations were identified: African American Contractors Association, Black Contractors United, Chatham Business Association, Federation of Women Contractors, Hispanic-American Construction Industry Association, Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Chicago Minority Business Development Council, Chicago Urban League, Chicago Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, Cosmopolitan Chamber of Commerce, Latin American Chamber of Commerce, Women's Business Development Center, and Women Construction Owners & Executives.

Each of the organizations was invited to a consultative meeting to provide comments and input into the goal setting methodology. The comments from the consultative meetings are attached.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this matter, please contact LaToya Redd at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Exhibit A: Copy of Post on Official RTA Internet Webpage re: the DBE Goal

Exhibit B: List of Stakeholder Groups Consulted Regarding the DBE Goal

Exhibit C: Copy of Meaningful Consultation Notices to Stakeholders

Exhibit D: Comments from Stakeholders

cc: Nadine M. Lacombe, General Counsel

Regional Transportation Authority

Exhibit A
Public Notice

October 10, 2016

This is to inform the public that the Regional Transportation Authority ("RTA") has established an 11.38% Disadvantaged Business Enterprise ("DBE") Program goal for Federal Fiscal Years 2017-2019 for its federally-funded expenditures.

The public has 30 days to inspect a description of the RTA's DBE goal setting methodology. The goal may be accessed at www.rtachicago.com, or during normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at 175 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1650, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

The Federal Transit Administration and the Regional Transportation Authority will accept comments on the goal for 30 days from the date of this notice. Inquires may be directed to the RTA at the above address or reddl@rtachicago.org.

BY *LaToya Redd*
LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

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Exhibit B
Stakeholder Groups Consulted Regarding the DBE Goal

African American Contractors Association (AACA) P.O. Box 19670 Chicago, IL 60619 Contact: Omar Shareef, Founder Phone: (312) 915-5960 E-mail: aacanatlassoc@gmail.com	Federation of Women Contractors (FWC) 216 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite #625 Chicago, IL 60606 Contact: Beth Doria, Executive Director Phone: (312) 360-1122 Fax: (312) 360-0239 E-mail: Fwcchicago@aol.com
Black Contractors United (BCU) 400 W. 76th St., Suite 200 Chicago, IL 60620 Contact: Belinda Henderson Phone: (773) 483-4000 Fax: (773) 483-4150 E-mail: belinda_bcu@att.net	Hispanic-American Construction Industry Association (HACIA) 901 West Jackson Blvd., Suite 205 Chicago, IL 60607 Contact: Jorge Perez Phone: (312) 666-5910 ext. 22 Fax: (312) 666-5692 E-mail: jperez@haciaworks.org
Chatham Business Association (CBA) 8441 S. Cottage Grove Ave. Chicago, IL 60619 Contact: Melinda Kelly Phone: (773) 994-5006 Fax: (773) 994-9871 E-mail: melkelcba@sbcglobal.net	Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (IHCC) 855 W. Adams, Suite 100 Chicago, IL 60607 Contact: Omar Duque Phone: (312) 425-9500 Fax: (312) 425-9510 E-mail: oduque@ihccbusiness.net
Chicago Minority Business Development Council, Inc. (CMBDC) 105 W. Adams Chicago, IL 60603 Contact: Shelia C. Hill Morgan Phone: (312) 755-8880 Fax: (312) 755-8890 E-mail: shillmorgan@chicagomsdc.org	Latin American Chamber of Commerce (LACC) 3512 W. Fullerton Avenue Chicago, IL 60647 Contact: D. Lorenzo Padron Phone: (773) 252-5211 Fax: (773) 252-7065 E-mail: D.LorenzoPadron@LACCUSA.com

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Chicago Chinatown Chamber of Commerce 2169B S. China Place Chicago, IL 60616 Contact: Sharyne Moy Tu, Executive Director Phone: 312-326-5320 sharyne@chicagochinatown.org	Chicago Urban League (CUL) 4510 S. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 60653 Contact: Andrew Wells Phone: (773) 285-5800 Fax: (773) 285-7772 E-mail: awells@thechicagourbanleague.org
Chicago Transit Authority Contact: Mary Person, Director, Diversity Programs Phone: (312) 681.2612 Cell: (312) 914.1282 Email: mperson@transitchicago.com	Women Construction Owners & Executives (WCOE) 308 Circle Avenue Forest Park, IL 60130 Contact: Mary Kay Minaghan Phone: (708) 366-1250 Fax: (708) 366-5418 E-mail: mkm@mkmservices.com
Cosmopolitan Chamber of Commerce 30 E. Adams St. Suite 1050 Chicago, IL 60603 Contact: Carnice Carey, Executive Director Phone: 312-499-0611 E-mail: ccarey@cosmochamber.org	Women's Business Development Center (WBDC) 8 S. Michigan Ave., 4th Floor Chicago, IL 60603 Contact: Freida Curry Phone: (312) 853-3477 Fax: (312) 853-0145 E-mail: fcurry@wbdc.org

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Exhibit C
Meaningful Consultation Notice

See Attached

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October 5, 2016

Andrew Wells
Chicago Urban League (CUL)
4510 S. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, IL 60653

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear Andrew Wells:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Sincerely,

L. Redd

LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

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Regional Transportation Authority

October 5, 2016

Belinda Henderson
Black Contractors United (BCU)
400 W. 76th St., Suite 200
Chicago, IL 60620

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear Belinda Henderson:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Sincerely,

L. Redd

LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

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October 5, 2016

Shelia C. Hill Morgan
Chicago Minority Business Development Council,
Inc. (CMBDC)
105 W. Adams
Chicago, IL 60603

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear Shelia C. Hill Morgan:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Sincerely,

L. Redd

LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

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Regional Transportation Authority

October 5, 2016

Omar Duque
Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (IHCC)
855 W. Adams, Suite 100
Chicago, IL 60607

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear Omar Duque:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Sincerely,

L. Redd

LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

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Regional Transportation Authority

October 5, 2016

Omar Shareef, Founder
African American Contractors Association (AACA)
P.O. Box 19670
Chicago, IL 60619

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear Omar Shareef:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Sincerely,

L. Redd

LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

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Regional Transportation Authority

October 5, 2016

Melinda Kelly
Chatham Business Association (CBA)
8441 S. Cottage Grove Ave.
Chicago, IL 60619

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear Melinda Kelly:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

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Sincerely,

L. Redd

LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

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Regional Transportation Authority

October 5, 2016

Mary Kay Minaghan
Women Construction Owners & Executives
(WCOE)
308 Circle Avenue
Forest Park, IL 60130

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear Mary Kay Minaghan:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Sincerely,

L. Redd

LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

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Regional Transportation Authority

October 5, 2016

Sharyne Moy Tu, Executive Director
Chicago Chinatown Chamber of Commerce
2169B S. China Place
Chicago, IL 60616

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear Sharyne Moy Tu:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Sincerely,

L. Redd

LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

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Regional Transportation Authority

October 5, 2016

Kenya Spann
Chicago Urban League (CUL)
4510 S. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, IL 60653

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear Kenya Spann:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Sincerely,

L. Redd

LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

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Regional Transportation Authority

October 5, 2016

Jorge Perez
Hispanic-American Construction Industry Association (HACIA)
901 West Jackson Blvd., Suite 205
Chicago, IL 60607

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear Jorge Perez:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Sincerely,

L. Redd

LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

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Regional Transportation Authority

October 5, 2016

Mary Person, Director, Diversity Programs
Chicago Transit Authority
567 W. Lake St.
Chicago, IL 60661

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear Mary Person:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Sincerely,

L. Redd

LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

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Regional Transportation Authority

October 5, 2016

Freida Curry
Women's Business Development Center (WBDC)
8 S. Michigan Ave., 4th Floor
Chicago, IL 60603

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear Freida Curry:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Sincerely,

L. Redd

LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

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Regional Transportation Authority

October 5, 2016

D. Lorenzo Padron
Latin American Chamber of Commerce
(LACC)
3515 W. Fullerton Avenue
Chicago, IL 60647

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear D. Lorenzo Padron:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Sincerely,

L. Redd

LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

cta
Metra
pace

Regional Transportation Authority

October 5, 2016

Carnice Carey, Executive Director
Cosmopolitan Chamber of Commerce
30 E. Adams St., Suite 1050
Chicago, IL 60603

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear Carnice Carey:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Sincerely,

L. Redd

LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

cta
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Regional Transportation Authority

October 5, 2016

Beth Doria
Federation of Women Contractors (FWC)
5650 S. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear Beth Doria:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Sincerely,

L. Redd

LaToya Redd
Regulatory Compliance Officer

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Regional Transportation Authority

October 5, 2016

Mary Kay Minaghan
Women Construction Owners & Executives
(WCOE)
308 Circle Avenue
Forest Park, IL 60130

Re: Triennial FTA DBE Goal for FFYs 2017 through 2019

Dear Mary Kay Minaghan:

The Regional Transportation Authority is pleased to announce that you are cordially invited to attend our Open House regarding the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal submission to the FTA. Please join us on October 20, 2016 from 9:00 am at our offices, 175 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60604, to learn about our plans for the next three years and provide feedback and comments.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at reddl@rtachicago.org or (312) 913-3212.

Sincerely,

L. Redd

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Regional Transportation Authority

Exhibit D
Public Comments

The following comments were received in regards to the RTA's DBE Goal:

1. Recommends a representative from the RTA join the Government Procurement Compliance forum that meets once a month to discuss critical issues to standardize procedures throughout all government entities including form submissions, good faith efforts waivers and etc. Also, strongly supports the RTA's 2017-2019 DBE goal submission and encourages the RTA to keep up the good work. **Commenter:** Beth Doria, Executive Director, Federation of Women Contractors

2. Goals are required on RTA contracts. There is deeply entrenched racism still in Chicago and the Chicago metropolitan area. There is a need for a DBE program for that reason. Through the years, there has been a little bit more acceptance of smaller DBE contractors working as prime consultants. **Commenter:** Anonymous

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