

LAKETRAN DBE PROGRAM

POLICY STATEMENT

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

Geauga Transit is operated by Laketran. Where the Policy Statement refers to Laketran, will also apply to Geauga Transit unless otherwise specified.

It is the policy of Laketran to ensure that Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, as defined in 49 CFR 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 this part's 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 conducted by recipients.
- 7. To assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the marketplace outside the DBE program; and
- 8. To provide appropriate flexibility to recipients of Federal financial assistance in establishing and providing opportunities for DBEs.

Andrea Aaby has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, Andrea Aaby 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 Laketran in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

Laketran has disseminated this policy statement to the Laketran Board of Trustees 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 publishing an ad in the local newspaper and posting it on our website.

Benjamin Capelle, CEO

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