CORPUS CHRISTI REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program

POLICY STATEMENT

I. Objectives/Policy Statement (49 CFR §26.1, §26.23)

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

It is the policy of the CCRTA to ensure that DBEs, as defined in 49 CFR Part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. It is also CCRTA's policy:

- 1. To ensure non-discrimination in the award and administration of DOT assisted contracts;
- 2. To create a level playing field on which DBEs, and small businesses can compete fairly for DOTassisted 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 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.

The responsibility for carrying out CCRTA's commitment to this program is delegated by the CCRTA Board of Directors to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The CEO relies upon the assistance of the DBE Liaison Officer in the day-to-day implementation of this program. Implementation of the DBE program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by CCRTA in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

CCRTA will disseminate this policy statement to its Board of Directors, the Executive Management Team, all components of its organization, and all DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for CCRTA on DOT-assisted contracts. CCRTA's Policy Statement will be published on the Authority's website at https://www.ccrta.org/news-opportunities/dbe-program/ and will be distributed electronically or in paper format upon request.

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<u>December 6, 2023</u> Date