POLICY STATEMENT

The City of Albuquerque – Transit Department (ABQ RIDE) has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26 and, accordingly, establishes annual DBE participation goals. ABQ RIDE has received Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, ABQ RIDE has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26.

It is the policy of ABQ RIDE to ensure that DBEs, as defined in Part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. Specifically, 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 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 marketplace outside the DBE Program; and
- 7. To promote the use of DBEs in all types of federally-assisted contracts and procurement activities.

The ABQ RIDE Principal Planner has been designated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, the ABQ RIDE Principal Planner 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 ABQ RIDE in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

This policy statement shall be disseminated to the City of Albuquerque's Governing Body, to all of the Divisions and Sections of ABQ RIDE, and to DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for us on DOT-assisted contracts in procurement documents issued by ABQ RIDE. This policy statement is also available on the ABQ RIDE website at:

https://www.cabq.gov/transit/opportunities/lets-do-business/disadvantaged-business-enterprise.

Keenon

Leslie Keener, Director

5/16/25

Date