Missoula Urban Transportation District (dba Mountain Line) Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Goal and Methodology FFY2025, 2026, 2027

Effective October 1, 2025

INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 26 "Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in Department of Transportation Financial Assistance Programs," the Missoula Urban Transportation District (MUTD) sets forth its Triennial Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Goal and corresponding goal-setting methodology for the three-year Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) goal period of 2025-2027 (October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2027). The purpose of the DBE goal setting process is to ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)-assisted contracts, to create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for those contracts, and to ensure the DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law.

MUTD has established an overall DBE goal of 6.11% for FFY 2025-2027, anticipated to be met fully by race-neutral measures.

BACKGROUND

MUTD is the governing body of Mountain Line, Missoula's community bus service, which provides zero-fare, fixed-route bus, and paratransit service in and around Missoula (population 75,000), as well as service specifically targeted at the University of Montana, which serves over 10,000 students. The agency serves 70 square miles throughout the Missoula Valley, running 12 fixed routes, operating a fleet of 26 battery-electric buses and 5 diesel buses. Within its service territory Mountain Line also offers door-to-door paratransit service operating 17 paratransit vehicles and a shuttle van service for seniors not eligible for paratransit under ADA. The agency has grown to provide an average of 1.25 million rides annually (post-pandemic recovery) on its fixed-route system, and over 200 individually scheduled rides per day on its paratransit service. MUTD has a board-approved mandate to convert fully to a zero-tailpipe-emissions fleet by 2035.

MUTD operations are primarily funded through local property taxes, with support from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). MUTD has also been awarded federal funding to build a new maintenance, operations, administration building, purchase electric buses and charging infrastructure, and implement a workforce development program incorporating a simulator.

MARKETPLACE

MUTD's DBE goal is narrowly tailored to the agency and area marketplace and is a realistic measure of companies that are ready, willing, and able to participate in DOT-assisted contracts. MUTD will use the Montana DOT DBE and Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Directory to identify DBEs across Montana to contact them to ascertain their interest in bidding on upcoming opportunities.

MUTD's market area for goalsetting was determined in collaboration with the Federal Transit Administration Region VII and VIII Civil Rights Officer. The agency set its parameters to include all DBEs and all firms registered in the state of Montana by NAICS code for projects on lines 1-2 and 6-8 in Table 1 (below). For projects on lines 3-5 in Table 1, MUTD more narrowly tailored the

market area to include only those contractors operating in the following counties: Missoula, Mineral, Granite, Ravalli, Sanders and Lake. This narrowing of the marketplace for projects on lines 3-5 was based upon past experience with similarly coded contractors not wanting to bid on projects outside of a comparable radius.

OUTREACH

During this goal setting process, MUTD determined that the number of applicable DBEs certified under the applicable NAICS codes is minimal. Outreach efforts consisted of discussing the benefits of getting certified with a variety of area vendors during RFP solicitation phone calls, compiling a bidder's list based on requests for proposals, attending Montana Department of Transportation outreach events, and posting on the MUTD website. Current Solicitations — Mountain Line

In 2024, MUTD put out an RFP for a marketing communications firm and subsequently awarded the account to Six Pony Hitch, a local agency that certified as a DBE shortly after MUTD retained the firm.

In 2025, outreach efforts included advertising RFPs in the local newspaper as well as a national transit trade magazine.

The DBELO also reviews current billing for ongoing projects sent by vendors to ensure prompt payment. Those projects include architecture and engineering services for a new facility (maintenance, operations, administration building), as well as recently completed projects (a bus rapid transit study and the strategic service plan).

In the coming years, MUTD will build a new maintenance, operations, and administration building that is funded by the FFY21/22 Section 5339 Formula grant. The DBELO will coordinate with the construction manager at risk in compliance with DBE program requirements including solicitation tracking to determine DBE-certified subcontractors, attending pre-bid meetings, conducting routine jobsite visits and reviewing monthly billings.

GOAL SETTING METHODOLOGY

The overall goal must be based on demonstrable evidence of the availability of DBEs relative to all businesses ready, willing and able to participate in MUTD's DOT-assisted contracts. In accordance with 49 CFR 26.45(c)(d), MUTD utilized the following two-step process to develop its overall DBE goal:

- Step One Base Figure: Calculation of a base figure representing the availability of certified DBEs ready, willing, and able to work on MUTD contracts and their contracted service provider's contracts, as well as determining a rational total number of firms available to provide the same services.
- Step Two Adjustments: Adjusting the base figure so the final overall goal represents the
 amount of participation that MUTD might expect in the absence of discrimination or its
 effects. Determination of adjustments is based upon the contracting program and
 knowledge of the local contracting market. This process is intended to provide the
 maximum flexibility for the agency while ensuring that the goal is based on availability of
 ready, willing and able DBEs of all firms in its relevant market.

Following is a list of potentially available contracting opportunities with MUTD, the budget affiliated with each item, and the NAICS code.

Step 1: Development of a Base Figure

MUTD followed one of the prescribed goal-setting methodologies in accordance with 49 CFR 26.45. DBE availability was determined using the Montana Department of Transportation's Directory of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (Transportation, DBE/SBE Directory, 2022). For all firms, MUTD used the most recent U.S. Census Bureau County Business Patterns by NAICS (Bureau, 2025).

For each contracting opportunity, MUTD calculated the number of DBEs and the number of all firms available for each opportunity in Montana, then arrived at a percentage of DBEs to all firms for each category. See Table 1.

Table 1 – Relative Availability

(Math explained: Available DBEs divided by all firms available, multiplied by 100.

Example: 2 DBEs / 35 firms = 0.057 x 100 = 5.71%)

NAICS CODE	PROJECT	NUMBER OF DBES AVAILABLE TO PERFORM THIS WORK	NUMBER OF ALL FIRMS AVAILABLE (INCLUDING DBES	RELATIVE AVAILABILITY
541310	Engineering & Design - Bus Support Equip/Facility	1	129	0.77%
541330	Engineering & Design - Technical Assistance with Design/Installation	8	291	2.74%
541330	Acquisition - Purchase Electrification Equipment Engineering	1	57	1.75%
541330	Acquisition - Purchase Electrification Equipment	9	57	15.78%
238210	Acquisition - Purchase Electrification Equipment Installation	2	105	1.9%
611430	Workforce Development - Bus/OEM Training	1	3	33.3%
611430	Workforce Development - PPE, Tools, Equipment	1	3	33.3%
611420	Workforce Development - Training Simulator	1	3	33.3%
611430	Workforce Development - Training	1	3	33.3%

Next, MUTD determined the weighted base figure for each contracting opportunity. This was done by calculating the value of each contracting opportunity (see Appendix A) as a percentage of the total DOT-funded budget and multiplying that by the relative availability base figure. This calculation gives us the weighted relative availability for each opportunity, which, when added together, gives us our weighted base figure.

For example, in line 1 in Table 2 (below), the contracting opportunity dollar amount for NAICS code 541310 is \$1,931,485. Out of total expected DOT-funded budget of \$3,100,485, the percentage of the contracting opportunity on line 1 is 1,931,485 / 3,100,485 = 0.6228, or 0.62%.

Next, we multiplied this percentage by the relative availability calculated in Table 1. This process gave us the weighted base figure for each contracting opportunity. To continue our example using line 1, MUTD calculated availability x weight (Line $3-0.01574 \times 0.00219$) to equal 0.00003, or 0. 0.003%. See Table 2 for all weighted base figures.

Finally, MUTD added all weighted base figures together to determine our total weighted base figure to inform our DBE agency goal.

Table 2 – Weighted Base Figures

NAICS Code	Project	Availability	X	Weight	Weighted Base Figure
541310	Engineering & Design-Bus Support Equip/Facility	0.00775	X	0.62287	0.00048
541330	Engineering & Design- Technical Assistance w/Design/Installation	0.02749	X	0.04339	0.00119
541330	Acquisition-Purchase Electrification Equipment Engineering	0.01754	X	0.00219	0.00003
541330	Acquisition-Purchase Electrification Equipment Installation	0.01578		0.00219	0.00038
238210	Acquisition-Purchase Electrification Equipment Installation	0.01904	X	0.02615	0.00049
611430	Workforce Development- BUS/OEM Training	0.33333	Х	0.03532	0.01177
611430	Workforce Development- PPE, Tools, Equipment	0.33333	X	0.02580	0.00859
611420	Workforce Development- Training Simulator	0.33333	X	0.11222	0.03740
611430	Workforce Development- Training	0.33333	Х	0.00258	0.00085
	TOTOAL WEIGHTED BASE FIGURE				0.06118

The FTA methodology worksheet rounds up all weighted base figures and expresses them as a percentage. Therefore, MUTD's weighted base figure is 0.06118, or 6.11%.

Step 2: Adjustments

During Step 2, MUTD examined evidence in its jurisdiction to determine what adjustment, if any, is needed to the base figure to arrive at the overall DBE participation goal. MUTD considered the following Step 2 adjustments:

• Current capacity of DBEs to perform work, as measured by the volume of work DBEs have performed in recent years:

- Historically, MUTD's DBE goal has been 0% and most recently, was calculated at 5% in the FFY2023-2025 Goal and Methodology report posted on MUTD's website, as has past participation. Given this, MUTD did not consider an adjustment for past participation, to avoid an unfairly low expected number.
- Evidence from disparity studies:
 - The Montana DOT conducted a disparity study in 2022 that MUTD will take into consideration for upcoming DBE goal adjustments.
- Information related to employment, self-employment, education, training and unions:
 - MUTD consulted the current Montana DOT DBE goal methodology for assistance in this area. MDT relies on a 2022 disparity study and finds:
 - "The 2022 Disparity Study conducted analysis related to marketplace conditions in Montana and found that there are barriers that certain minority groups and women face related to entry and advancement and business ownership in the Montana construction and engineering industries. Specifically, Native Americans working in the Montana construction industry were less likely than non-minorities to own construction businesses and women working in the Montana engineering industry were less likely than men to own engineering companies. Keen Independent estimated the availability of minority- and women-owned firms but for the effects of race- and gender-based discrimination and determined there could be a possible upward adjustment to the base figure Keen Independent's adjustment analysis was based on road construction and did not factor in work types used on FTA-funded contracts. As a result, MDT chose not to make a step 2 adjustment based on this data." (Transportation, Federal Fiscal Year 2024 2026 Montana Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration DBE Goal Methodology, n.d., p. 5.)
- Because MUTD's contracts encompass work outside of road construction, the agency is following the lead of MDT and is also choosing not to make a step 2 adjustment based on this data.
- Any disparities in the ability of DBEs to get financing, bonding and insurance, +- and other relevant factors:
 - MUTD again followed MDT's lead in this category and is choosing not to make a step 2 adjustment based on this data.
 - Referencing MDT's current methodology, the agency found:
 - "The 2022 MDT Disparity Study conducted analyses related to marketplace conditions in Montana and found that there are barriers that certain minority groups and women face related to human capital, financial capital and business ownership in Montana. Specifically, Native American working in the Montana construction industry were less likely than non-minorities to own construction businesses and Hispanic American were less likely than non-minorities to own a professional service business. Based on information related to barriers in business ownership, BBC [the study facilitator] estimated the base figure could be adjusted upward. BBC's adjustment analysis was based on road construction and did not factor in work types used on FTA-funded contracts. As a result, MDT chose not to make a step 2 adjustment based on this data." (Transportation, Federal Fiscal Year 2024 2026 Montana Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration DBE Goal Methodology, n.d., p. 5.)

Race Conscious / Race Neutral Evaluation

49 CFR 26.51 requires that the maximum feasible portion of MUTD's DBE goal is met through race neutral means. As such, MUTD is proposing to meet the goal of 1.98% using solely race neutral methods for FFYs 2025 through 2027.

In accordance with 49 CFR 26.47(d), MUTD will continue to monitor DBE participation and if the trends make it unlikely that the overall goal will be achieved through race neutral means, race conscious measures may be added for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Race-Neutral Initiatives

MUTD will attend training throughout the year provided by MDT to enhance its knowledge of the DBE program and improve collaboration between providers and DBE firms. MUTD will also extend offers of training and information about the DBE program in our local community.

In addition, MUTD relies on MDT for training to DBE firms. MDT offers training and consults with minority, women, and general contractor groups regarding availability of disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged businesses.

Submission and Publication of Goal

On August 1, 2025, MUTD published its draft DBE goal and methodology (2025-2027) on its public website.

Works Cited

Bureau, U. C. (2022). Explore Census Data. Retrieved from https://data.census.gov/cedsci/

Transportation, M. D. (2025). *DBE/SBE Directory*. Retrieved from https://app.mdt.mt.gov/dbe/dbe/list

Transportation, M. D. (n.d.). Federal Fiscal Year 2024 - 2026 Montana Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration DBE Goal Methodology. Retrieved from https://www.mdt.mt.gov/other/webdata/external/CivilRights/DBE/MDT-FTA-DBE-Goal-for-FFYs-2024-2026.pdf

Appendix A – Upcoming DOT-Funded Projects for FFYs 2025-2027

NAICS CODES			% OF TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS (WEIGHT)
541310	Engineering & Design - Bus Support Equipment/Facility	\$1,931,223	0.62%
541330	Engineering & Design - Technical Assistance with Design/Installation	\$134,556	0.04%
33531/541330	Acquisition - Purchase Electrification Equipment Engineering	\$6,800	0.21%
33531/541330	Acquisition - Purchase Electrification Equipment	\$401,370	0.12%
238210	Acquisition - Purchase Electrification Equipment Installation	\$81,080	0.02%
611430	Workforce Development - Bus/OEM Training	\$109,516	0.03%
611430	Workforce Development - PPE, Tools, Equipment	\$80,000	0.02%
611420	Workforce Development - Training Simulator	\$347,940	0.11%
611430	Workforce Development - Training	\$8,000	0.25%
	TOTAL FEDERAL-ASSISTED CONTRACT FUNDS	\$3,100,485	



Missoulian 2291 W. Broadway Missoula, Montana 59808 (406) 523-5200

State of Florida, County of Broward, ss:

Edmar Corachia, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That (s)he is a duly authorized signatory of Column Software, PBC, duly authorized agent of Missoulian, a newspaper of general circulation published that is a "legal newspaper" as that is published daily in the City of Missoula, in the County of Missoula, State of Montana, and has charge of the Advertisements thereof.

If this certification is for the State of Montana, I hereby certify that I have read sec. 18-7-204 and 18-7-205, MCA, and subsequent revisions, and declare that the price or rate charged the State of Montana for the publication for which claim is made in printed copy in the amount of \$117.99, is not in excess of the minimum rate charged any other advertiser for publication of advertisement, set in the same size type and published for the same number of insertions, further certify that this claim is correct and just in all respects, and that payment or credit has not been received.

PUBLICATION DATES: May. 24 2025, May. 31 2025, June. 7 2025

NOTICE ID: VIiJMPo5uHWGWxsCqmT1

PUBLISHER ID: COL-MT-401224

NOTICE NAME: Financial Advisory Services RFP

Publication Fee: \$117.99
Edmar Corachia

(Signed)_



VERIFICATION

State of Florida County of Broward

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: 06/11/2025

& Smith

Notary Public

Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

INVITATION TO BID -

Missoula Urban Transportation District (MUTD) is requesting proposals from qualified firms to provide municipal financial advisory services. Responses to the RFP will be accepted via email or at MUTD's offices located at 1221 Shakespeare St, Missoula, MT, until 5:00 PM Mountain Time on June 16, 2024. The RFP can be found at https://

The RFP can be found at https:// mountainline.com/doing-business/current-solicitations/

For questions, please contact Frank Kuhl, Procurement and Contracts Specialist, fkuhl@ mountainline.com

May 24, 31 June 7, 2025 COL-MT-401224 MNAXLP



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State of Florida, County of Orange, ss:

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PUBLICATION DATES: May. 31 2025, June. 7 2025, June. 14

2025

NOTICE ID: EYdUlmiiwvLZjSHU0azt

PUBLISHER ID: COL-MT-401247

NOTICE NAME: RFP Commissioning Agent

Publication Fee: \$117.99
Edmar Corachia

(Signed)



JESSICA GORDON-THOMPSON Notary Public - State of Florida Commission # HH301658 Expires on August 17, 2026

VERIFICATION

State of Florida County of Orange

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: 06/17/2025

Notary Public

Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

RFP for Commissioning Agent Missoula Urban Transportation District is requesting proposals from qualified firms to provide commissioning services related to Mountain Line's new facility. Responses to the RFP will be accepted via email to Frank Kuhl. Procurement Specialist at fkuhl@mountainline.com, or mail to MUTD's offices located at 1221 Shakespeare St, Missoula, MT, 59803 until 5:00 pm MDT, on June 16, 2025. The RFP can be found at https://mountainline.com/doing-business/current-so-licitations/

May 31 June 7, 14, 2025 COL-MT-401247 MNAXLP





Comprehensive Operational Analysis From City of Beaumont, CA

The City of Beaumont seeks proposals from qualified consultants to conduct a Comprehensive Operational Analysis of its transit services, including a Microtransit Feasibility Assessment and a Bus Stop Improvement Plan. A non-mandatory pre-proposal...



B.G. Transit Demand-Response Service Provider

The City of Bowling Green is seeking proposals for the continued operation and management of its demand response, curb-to-curb, origin-to-destination public transportation system B.G. Transit. All Respondents are notified that disadvantaged...



Request for Proposals Commuter Bus Vehicles From The Woodlands Township

The Township is seeking responses from qualified Transit Vehicle Manufacturers for twenty-five (25) heavy duty, 45-foot diesel

RFP for Commissioning Agent

From Missoula Urban Transportation District (Mountain Line)

Missoula Urban Transportation District is seeking proposals for commissioning services related to new facility. Email responses to Frank Kuhl, fkuhl@mountainline.com. Or by mail to1221 Shakespeare St, Missoula, MT. Deadline is 5 pm MDT on 6/...





Comprehensive Operational Analysis

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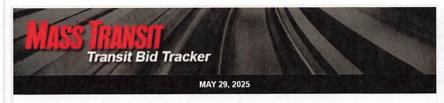


Request for Proposals Commuter Bus Vehicles

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RFP for Commissioning Agent
From Missoula Urban Transportation District (Mountain Line)

Missoula Urban Transportation District is seeking proposals for commissioning services related to new facility. Email responses to Frank Kuhl, fkuhl@mountainline.com. Or by mail to1221 Shakespeare St, Missoula,MT. Deadline is 5 pm MDT on 6/...





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From City of Bowling Green

The City of Bowling Green is seeking proposals for the continued operation and management of its demand response, curb-to-curb, origin-to-destination public transportation system B.G. Transit. All Respondents are notified that disadvantaged...



Request for Proposals Commuter Bus Vehicles From The Woodlands Township

The Township is seeking responses from qualified Transit Vehicle Manufacturers for twenty-five (25) heavy duty, 45-foot diesel commuter buses, Contract No C-2025-0234 for the Woodlands Express commuter bus service. The Township will hold a ...



RFQ for Planning & Design Services for Hydrogen Infrastructure & Facility Master Plan

From The City of Fresno

FRESNO AREA

From The City of Fresno

Fresno Area Express (FAX) seeks a consultant to provide a

RFP for Commissioning Agent
From Missoula Urban Transportation District (Mountain Line)

Missoula Urban Transportation District is seeking proposals for commissioning services related to new facility. Email responses to Frank Kuhl, fkuhl@mountainline.com. Or by mail to1221 Shakespeare St, Missoula, MT. Deadline is 5 pm MDT on 6/...



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PUBLICATION DATES: June. 17 2025, June. 24 2025, July. 1 2025

NOTICE ID: lyxrPBEMTbw1SbltEWGX

PUBLISHER ID: COL-MT-401304 NOTICE NAME: RFP Bond Counsel

Publication Fee: \$111.78

Edmar Corachia

(Signed)_

VERIFICATION

State of Florida County of Orange



PAMELA BAEZ Notary Public - State of Florida

Commission # HH 186700 Expires on October 14, 2025

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: 07/03/2025

Notary Public

Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

INVITATION TO BID - RFP
Bond Counsel
Missoula Urban Transportation District is requesting proposals from qualified firms to
provide bond counsel services.
Responses to the RFP will be
accepted via email or at 1221
Shakespeare St, Missoula,
MT, 59802 until 5:00 p.m. MDT
on July 3, 2025. The RFP can
be found at https://mountainline.com/doing-business/current-solicitations/
Contact Frank Kuhl, Procurement and Contracts Specialist,
fkuhl@mountainline.com.

June 17, 24 July 1, 2025 COL-

MT-401304 MNAXLP





Montana Department of Transportatio

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Certification Presented To

SIX PONY HITCH LLC

This acknowledges and recognizes that SIX PONY HITCH LLC is certified by the Montana Department of Transportation as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and is hereby certified to provide service(s) in the following areas:

541430 - Graphic Design Services

541613 - Marketing Consulting Services

This certification is valid beginning Thursday, November 7, 2024. This certification must be updated annually by submission of an Annual Update Affidavit. Any time there is a change in ownership or control of the firm, notification must be made immediately to the Montana Department of Transportation.

Annual Renewal Date: November 28, 2025

Issue Date: Thursday, November 7, 2024

Certification No: 5560

JShepherd

DBE Program Specialist