



Purpose

The purpose is to notify Bidders and Contractors, as well as WSDOT staff, of the upcoming statewide implementation of the Small and Veteran Business Enterprise (SVBE) Program on all State-funded Contracts.

- This is the next step in WSDOT's efforts to meet the Governor's Results Washington Diverse Business Participation Goals and increase Minority, Small, Veteran, and Women's Business Enterprise (MSVWBE) participation, outlined in WSDOT's- [State Funded Contracts - Diversity Roadmap - April 2019](#) and initial rules were developed early 2020 and was amended in October 2021.
- The SVBE Program will be required on all State-funded Design-Bid Build projects advertised on or after April 4th, 2022.
- The SVBE Program was incorporated into the State-Funded Design-Build templates on January 3, 2022 and is required for any State-funded project with a Request for Qualifications published after that date.

Guidance

The voluntary MSVWBE program is being replaced with an enforceable Small and Veteran Owned Business Enterprise (SVBE) Program and voluntary Minority and Women's Business Enterprise (MWBE) Program on all State-funded projects. The SVBE program has condition of award SVBE goals and voluntary goals for MWBE.

MSVWBE specifications will be replaced with new specifications as the remaining voluntary provisions for Minority and Women are integrated into the new specifications entitled, "Small and Veteran-Owned Business Enterprises (SVBE) and Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (MWBE) Participation ".

Background

Why is the change being made?

In 2018, WSDOT established the Diversity Roadmap and has been implementing the strategic measures outlined in that document to increase MSVWBE participation. These voluntary measures include improved contract language, voluntary goals, inclusion plans, technical assistance, Capacity Building Mentorship program, enhanced community engagement, and others. While these efforts successfully improved connections between prime contractors and disadvantaged subcontractors, they did not result in the desired increase in MSVWBE participation. The next step on the Diversity Roadmap is to implement race-neutral measures. This includes the enforceable SVBE Program.



The Small and Veteran-Owned Business Enterprise program rules were developed in 2020. In May 2021, WSDOT began piloting this program on select projects. As a result of these pilots, some revisions were made and now WSDOT is working to roll out the SVBE program statewide.

Resources

General Special Provisions:

Preparation of Proposal: 1-02.6.OPT1.GR1

Delivery of Proposal: 1-02.9.OPT2.GR1

Requirements for Nondiscrimination: 1-07.11.OPT6.FR1

Design Build Templates:

Internally available at Design-Build Program – Home (SharePoint)

Externally available by contacting Designbuild@wsdot.wa.gov.

Forms:

- Small and Veteran-Owned Business Plan (WSDOT form 226-018) dated 11/2021
- SVBE Subcontractor Written Confirmation (WSDOT form 226-017) dated 4/2021
- MSVWBE On-Site Review for Construction Subcontractor/Suppliers/Manufacturers (WSDOT form 226-013) dated 11/2018.

Manuals:

Construction Manual updates available in late spring.

Implementation Plan

Training will be posted on the Office of Equal Opportunity website at: <https://wsdot.wa.gov/business-wsdot/equal-opportunity-contracting/diverse-business-programs> when available.

GSP will be available on March 14, 2022, for projects advertised on or after April 4, 2022. Inclusion of GSPs will be mandatory and will be used in all Projects where the Contract Total is over \$250,000 and utilizes 100% State Funds.

The Design-Build templates were published January 3, 2022 and will be incorporated into all Design-Build contracts advertised after that date.



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

State Construction Office
Multimodal Development & Delivery

**Small and Veteran Business Enterprise
Program Implementation**

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Date: 3/14/2022

Additional Information

N/A

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