

**2021-2024 Southern Alleghenies Rural Planning Organization (RPO)  
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)  
RPO Self-Certification Resolution**

**Title VI / Environmental Justice Requirements**

The Southern Alleghenies RPO assures full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Executive Order 12898 regarding Environmental Justice. To this end, the Southern Alleghenies RPO adopted its Public Participation Plan (PPP) on March 2, 2016. The Southern Alleghenies PPP details the methods and practices the RPO will employ to engage and solicit feedback from all populations, including those considered to be underserved. Since the PPP's adoption, the Southern Alleghenies RPO has ensured adherence to the policies and practices set forth by the PPP in all planning and public involvement activities. The 2021-2024 Southern Alleghenies RPO TIP employed the aforementioned outreach activities as well. The outreach process for the 2021-2024 Southern Alleghenies TIP can be viewed in the TIP's Public Involvement Summary.

**Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Requirements**

The Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission (SAP&DC) has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). The SAP&DC has received Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, the SAP&DC has signed an assurance that it will comply with regulations.

It is the policy of the SAP&DC to ensure that DBEs have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. It is also the Commission's 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.

A member of the SAP&DC staff has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, the staff member 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 the SAP&DC in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

SAP&DC has disseminated this policy statement to the SAP&DC Board of Directors and all of the components of our organization. This statement has been distributed to DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for the Commission on DOT-assisted contracts. SAP&DC provides this policy statement as an attachment to all contracts for services.

### **Americans with Disability Act (ADA) Requirements**

The Southern Alleghenies RPO ensures that all requirements are met to satisfy the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. Any agency office(s) that provides staff services or assistance to the Southern Alleghenies RPO is ADA-compliant. Additionally, all committee or subcommittee meetings, and public meetings are held in ADA-compliant buildings. Meeting advertisements suggest those requiring special assistance of any kind should call the RPO's Transportation Program Manager.

### **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Financial Constraint and Capacity Requirements**

The Southern Alleghenies RPO's 2019-2022 TIP was adopted in June 2018 and has been modified several times since the original adoption. The RPO and PennDOT utilize approved Procedures for TIP Revisions, which specify the revisions that must be formally approved by the Southern Alleghenies RPO, and revisions that can be completed by administrative action of the project sponsor. For each amendment that required formal action by the RPO, and for administrative actions made by the project sponsors, a fiscal constraint chart was prepared illustrating the transfer of funds and verifying that annual funding was financially constrained. Similar processes and procedures were approved and will be utilized to administer the 2021-2024 TIP.