

**Suffolk County Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)
Overall Goal and Goal Setting Methodology
for
Federal Transit Administration Assisted Contracts
FFY 2026-2028**

Amount of Goal

The Suffolk County Department of Public Works/Transportation Division's overall DBE participation goal for FFY 2026-2028 is **10.77%** of the Federal financial assistance we will expend in FTA/ USDOT-assisted contracts, exclusive of FTA funds to be used for the purchase of transit vehicles.

The Division expects to let \$5,280,000 in FTA/ USDOT-assisted contracts in FFYs 2026-2028. Accordingly, we have set a goal of \$568,656 to be expended with DBEs during these fiscal years.

FFY 2026-2028 FTA Funded Projects

The Division expects to let the following FTA/ USDOT-assisted projects in FFYs 2026-2028:

- Bus shelter installations
- Consulting services for in-plant inspection and FTA Post-Delivery Buy America audits for transit and paratransit buses
- Right of Way Acquisition Services, including appraisal services, land surveying, environmental assessment, title services
- Construction and related services for Cross Sound Ferry Terminal
- Planning services for NYS Route 110 Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridor
- Purchase of Mobile and Portable Radios

These projects were determined to encompass the following NAICS Codes:

236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction
237310	Highway, street, and bridge construction
238110	Poured Concrete Foundation and Structure Contractors
423690	Citizens' band (CB) radios merchant wholesalers
531320	Real estate appraisal services
541191	Title search companies, real estate
541320	City planning services
541370	Surveying and Mapping (except Geophysical) Services
541614	Process, Physical Distribution, and Logistics Consulting Services
541620	Environmental Consulting Services

Base Figure Calculation

To calculate its base figure for DBE participation, the Division has used the NYS Unified Certification Program (UCP) DBE directory and 2022 Census Bureau County Business Patterns data to determine the number of “willing and able” DBEs in our market. The market was defined as Suffolk and Nassau Counties, where it is expected that the substantial majority of the contractors and subcontractors with which the County will do business are located and the area in which the County will spend the majority of its contracting dollars. Suffolk County and Nassau County are located adjacent to each other on Long Island and have a combined population of over 2.9 million. Though the counties of Queens and Brooklyn are located on the west end of the island’s land mass, they are more considered to be outer boroughs of New York City rather than parts of Long Island.

In calculating the base figure, first all reasonably anticipated FTA-assisted contracting opportunities were identified and quantified:

	NAICS Code	Description of Work	Amount of DOT funds on project:	% of total DOT funds (weight)
1)	236220	<i>Commercial and Institutional Building Construction</i>	\$1,920,000.00	36.4%
2)	237310	<i>Highway, street, and bridge construction</i>	\$1,439,200.00	27.3%
3)	238110	<i>Poured Concrete Foundation and Structure Contractors</i>	\$160,800.00	3.0%
4)	423690	<i>Citizens' band (CB) radios merchant wholesalers</i>	\$880,000.00	16.7%
5)	531320	<i>Real estate appraisal services</i>	\$100,000.00	1.9%
6)	541191	<i>Title search companies, real estate</i>	\$20,000.00	0.4%
7)	541320	<i>City planning services</i>	\$400,000.00	7.6%
8)	541370	<i>Surveying and Mapping (except Geophysical) Services</i>	\$30,000.00	0.6%
9)	541614	<i>Process, Physical Distribution, and Logistics Consulting Services</i>	\$80,000.00	1.5%
10)	541620	<i>Environmental Consulting Services</i>	\$250,000.00	4.7%
		Total FTA-Assisted Contract Funds	\$5,280,000	100.0%

Next, DBE firms belonging to the above mentioned NAICS codes were identified through the NYS Unified Certification Program directory for all counties in the NYMTC region. Then the total amount of firms belonging to the above mentioned NAICS codes in those counties, as found in the 2022 Census Bureau’s County Business Patterns, were identified. The number of “willing and able” DBEs in our market was then divided by total number of businesses in the market. This gave us the relative availability of DBE firms in our market by NAICS code:

	NAICS Code	Description of Work	Number of DBEs available to perform this work	Number of all firms available (including DBEs)	Relative Availability
1)	236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	36	418	0.0%
2)	237310	Highway, street, and bridge construction	44	74	59.5%
3)	238110	Poured Concrete Foundation and Structure Contractors	23	202	11.4%
4)	423690	Citizens' band (CB) radios merchant wholesalers	1	243	0.4%
5)	531320	Real estate appraisal services	0	133	0.0%
6)	541191	Title search companies, real estate	0	178	0.0%
7)	541320	City planning services	4	109	3.7%
8)	541370	Surveying and Mapping (except Geophysical) Services	7	90	7.8%
9)	541614	Process, Physical Distribution, and Logistics Consulting Services	4	94	4.3%
10)	541620	Environmental Consulting Services	15	114	13.2%

Finally, a weighted base figure was determined, taking into account the overall portion of funds and the availability of DBEs represented by each NAICS code:

	NAICS Code	Description of Work	Weight	x	Availability of DBEs	Weighted Base Figure
1)	236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	36.4%	x	0.0%	0.0%
2)	237310	Highway, street, and bridge construction	27.3%	x	59.5%	16.21%
3)	238110	Poured Concrete Foundation and Structure Contractors	3.0%	x	11.4%	0.35%
4)	423690	Citizens' band (CB) radios merchant wholesalers	16.7%	x	0.4%	0.07%
5)	531320	Real estate appraisal services	1.9%	x	0.0%	0.0%
6)	541191	Title search companies, real estate	0.4%	x	0.0%	0.0%
7)	541320	City planning services	7.6%	x	3.7%	0.28%
8)	541370	Surveying and Mapping (except Geophysical) Services	0.6%	x	7.8%	0.04%
9)	541614	Process, Physical Distribution, and Logistics Consulting Services	1.5%	x	4.3%	0.06%
10)	541620	Environmental Consulting Services	4.7%	x	13.2%	0.62%

					Total	17.6%
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Adjustment of Base Figure

The second step in calculating the Division’s overall DBE goal is to adjust the base figure, taking into consideration relevant and reliable data in order to make the goal as precise as possible. The Division will use actual past DBE participation in similar contracting opportunities in order to better gauge the availability of DBEs to compete for contracts.

During the past three-year period, the DBE participation in FTA funded contracts was as follows:

- 2022 – 0%
- 2023 – 0%
- 2024 – 4.63%

Averaging the median of past participation of the past three years (0%) with our weighted base figure (17.6%) yields an adjusted figure of 8.8%.

A Disparity Study completed in December 2023 analyzed the utilization of DBEs in both Suffolk County and Nassau County. It was found that there was a statistically significant disparity between the utilization of DBEs and the availability of DBEs in the areas of construction, professional services, and goods. Relevant tables from the Disparity Study can be found as an appendix to this report.

The following table shows the disparity between DBE utilization and DBE availability in these areas. The utilization and availability for construction incorporates both prime contractors and subcontractors; sufficient data on professional services and goods subcontractors was not made available to the study.

	<i>DBE Utilization</i>	<i>DBE Availability</i>	<i>Disparity</i>	<i>% of funds in FFY 2026-28 program</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Construction</i>	40.5%	56.8%	16.3%	66.7%	10.87%
<i>Professional Services</i>	13.2%	54.7%	41.5%	16.7%	6.93%
<i>Goods</i>	14.3%	41.5%	27.2%	16.7%	4.54%
				<i>Weighted disparity percentage</i>	22.35%

After taking into account the amount of funds to be spent on each area in the FFY 2026-2028 program, a weighted disparity percentage of 22.35% was calculated. The adjusted figure of 8.8% was increased by 22.35% to 10.77% to account for the findings of the disparity study.

The Division believes that the goal of 10.77% truly and accurately reflects the participation that would be expected absent the effects of discrimination.

Estimated Race-Neutral And Race-Conscious Participation

To calculate its FFY 2026-28 Race Neutral/Race Conscious Split, the Division takes into account its race neutral attainment for FFY 2022-24:

$$\text{Race Neutral Attainment by \% (.19\%)} \\ \underline{\hspace{10em}} = \mathbf{.043\% \text{ Relative Race Neutral Attainment}}$$

Overall DBE Achievement by % (4.45%)

$$\text{Relative Race Neutral Attainment (.043\%)} \times \text{Proposed Overall Goal (10.77\%)} = \\ \mathbf{.46\% \text{ Absolute Race Neutral Attainment}}$$

$$\text{Proposed Overall Goal (10.77\%)} - \text{Absolute Race Neutral Attainment (.46\%)} = \\ \mathbf{10.3\% \text{ Race Conscious Split}}$$

Using this formula produces an 89.7% race conscious goal. However, 49 CFR 26.51 requires that the Division meet the maximum feasible portion of our overall goal by using race-neutral means of facilitating race-neutral DBE participation. The Division will employ a number of race neutral measures to facilitate DBE participation, including:

- Coordinating with the Suffolk County Office of Central Procurement to:
 - Arrange solicitations, times for the presentation of bids, quantities, specifications, and delivery schedules in ways that facilitate participation by DBEs and other small businesses and by making contracts more accessible to small businesses.
 - Remove bonding requirements from all solicitations except those that require it by FTA regulation, which pertain only to construction contracts and facility improvement contracts. All other contracts, such as those for equipment, rolling stock, maintenance, or other non-construction services, shall not contain bonding requirements so as to assist DBEs and other small businesses overcome limitations such as the inability to obtain bonding or financing.

- Include information on contracting procedures and specific contract opportunities on the Suffolk County Transit website page for Bids and Proposals.
- Ensuring distribution of the UCP directory to the widest feasible universe of potential prime contractors by providing a link to the New York State Unified Certification Program directory on the Suffolk County Transit website page for Bids and Proposals.
- Assisting DBEs and other small businesses through the Suffolk County Community College Entrepreneurial Assistance Center by:
 - Providing technical assistance to small businesses and DBEs
 - Offering supportive services programs to develop and improve immediate and long-term business management, record keeping, and financial and accounting capability for DBEs and other small businesses.
 - Providing programs to assist new, start-up firms
 - Assisting DBEs, and other small businesses, to develop their capability to utilize emerging technology and conduct business through electronic media.

Utilizing these race neutral methods, it is projected that 15% of DBE participation will be met through race-neutral measures.

Contract goals will be used to meet any portion of the overall goal that the Division does not project being able to meet using race-neutral means. Contract goals are established so that, over the period to which the overall goal applies, they will cumulatively result in meeting any portion of our overall goal that is not projected to be met through the use of race-neutral means.

Contract goals shall only be established on those USDOT/FTA-assisted contracts having subcontracting possibilities. A contract goal need not be established on every such contract, and where established, the size of contract goals will be adapted to the circumstances of each such contract (e.g., type and location of work, availability of DBEs to perform the particular type of work). Such contract goals shall be expressed as a percentage of the total amount of the USDOT/FTA-assisted contract. Once the Division's DBE goal of 10.77% is met, we will discontinue establishing a DBE goal on federally-funded or federally-assisted procurements for the remainder of that federal fiscal year.

Public Participation Process

Prior to submitting the goal to the FTA, Suffolk County shall conduct an outreach effort inviting minority, women-owned and general contractor groups and community organizations, as well as registered DBE firms in the local region to provide information concerning the availability of disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged businesses, the effects of discrimination on opportunities for DBEs, and the County's efforts to establish a level playing field for the participation of DBEs.

Virtual public meeting sessions concerning the FFY 2026-28 DBE goal shall be held from 2:30-3:30pm and 6:00-7:00pm on March 26, 2025. Notices for this meeting shall be posted in the County newspapers of record, the general circulation paper Newsday, and on the front page of the Suffolk County Transit website. An online public comment period will be made available until April 11, 2025. Direct emails shall be sent to the DBE firms in Suffolk and Nassau Counties listed on the NYS UCP who belong to the NAICS codes of projects to be let by Suffolk County Transit in the 2026-2028 time period. The emails shall invite the firms to the public meetings and a copy of the proposed DBE goal and methodology shall be attached. Firms shall be invited to provide input on the goal by email or phone if they are unable to attend the meetings, as well as find out more information as to how they can participate in the County's federally funded procurements. Emails shall also be sent to local minority and women's business groups and chambers of commerce.

Should the County receive any substantial feedback on the goal, it will revise this document prior to submission to FTA.

The proposed goal will remain on the Suffolk County Transit website for the duration of the triennial period after it has been reviewed and concurred by the FTA.

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Appendix A – Tables from December 2023 Disparity Study

SUFFOLK COUNTY DISPARITY STUDY

FINAL REPORT | DECEMBER 2023



MASON TILLMAN
ASSOCIATES, LTD

Executive Summary

Nassau and Suffolk counties commissioned Mason Tillman Associates of Oakland, California, to perform an Availability and Disparity Study. The Study analyzed both counties' utilization of minority and women-owned business enterprises (MWBEs) and service-disabled veteran-owned businesses (SDVOBs) in compliance with the United States Supreme Court's 1989 ruling in *City of Richmond v. J.A. Croson*. In addition, the Study identified MWBEs and SDVOBs in the market area that are ready, willing, and able to do business with both counties and assessed policies related to maximizing MWBE and SDVOB participation.

In this study of two adjoining New York counties, disparity reports were prepared for each county. The study reports shared three chapters—the legal review, regression analysis, and the anecdotal analysis. The remaining chapters were prepared specifically for each county. These included the procurement practices and procedures analysis, utilization analysis, market area analysis, availability analysis, disparity analysis, and recommendations.

For Suffolk County, the industries studied were construction, professional services, goods, and personal services during the study period of January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2019.

For Nassau County, the industries studied were construction, personal services, and goods and services during the study period of October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2019.

Local subconsultants Inspire Enterprise, Hofstra University, Invtonly Management, and The Amblynn Group assisted Mason Tillman in the performance of the Availability and Disparity Study. Lionel Chitty, the Executive Director at Nassau County Office of Minority Affairs, and Vanessa Baird Streeter, the Deputy County Executive of Suffolk County, managed the studies. Mr. Chitty, Ms. Streeter, and their respective teams were instrumental in facilitating Mason Tillman's access to the procurement and contract data needed to perform the study. Under their leadership, Mason Tillman was able to complete the study in a timely manner.



**Table 3:18: Construction Prime Contract Utilization, All Contracts
October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2019**

Ethnicity	Number of Contracts	Percent of Contracts	Amount of Dollars	Percent of Dollars
Black Americans	3	0.49%	\$121,751	0.03%
Asian Americans	55	8.90%	\$4,830,658	1.00%
Hispanic Americans	4	0.65%	\$496,410	0.10%
Native Americans	0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
Caucasian Females	84	13.59%	\$31,779,007	6.56%
Non-minority Males	472	76.38%	\$446,978,825	92.31%
TOTAL	618	100.00%	\$484,206,651	100.00%
Ethnicity and Gender	Number of Contracts	Percent of Contracts	Amount of Dollars	Percent of Dollars
Black American Females	0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
Black American Males	3	0.49%	\$121,751	0.03%
Asian American Females	37	5.99%	\$4,027,220	0.83%
Asian American Males	18	2.91%	\$803,438	0.17%
Hispanic American Females	1	0.16%	\$82,845	0.02%
Hispanic American Males	3	0.49%	\$413,565	0.09%
Native American Females	0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
Native American Males	0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
Caucasian Females	84	13.59%	\$31,779,007	6.56%
Non-minority Males	472	76.38%	\$446,978,825	92.31%
TOTAL	618	100.00%	\$484,206,651	100.00%
Minority and Women	Number of Contracts	Percent of Contracts	Amount of Dollars	Percent of Dollars
Minority Business Enterprises	62	10.03%	\$5,448,819	1.13%
Woman Business Enterprises	122	19.74%	\$35,889,072	7.41%



**Table 4.2: Construction Subcontractor Utilization
October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2019**

Ethnicity	Number of Contracts	Percent of Contracts	Amount of Dollars	Percent of Dollars
Black Americans	2	1.61%	\$70,876	0.19%
Asian Americans	3	2.42%	\$811,700	2.14%
Hispanic Americans	6	4.84%	\$3,783,987	9.98%
Native Americans	0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
Caucasian Females	60	48.39%	\$13,190,093	34.80%
Non-minority Males	53	42.74%	\$20,049,701	52.89%
TOTAL	124	100.00%	\$37,906,356	100.00%
Ethnicity and Gender	Number of Contracts	Percent of Contracts	Amount of Dollars	Percent of Dollars
Black American Females	0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
Black American Males	2	1.61%	\$70,876	0.19%
Asian American Females	1	0.81%	\$192,000	0.51%
Asian American Males	2	1.61%	\$619,700	1.63%
Hispanic American Females	1	0.81%	\$31,272	0.08%
Hispanic American Males	5	4.03%	\$3,752,715	9.90%
Native American Females	0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
Native American Males	0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
Caucasian Females	60	48.39%	\$13,190,093	34.80%
Non-minority Males	53	42.74%	\$20,049,701	52.89%
TOTAL	124	100.00%	\$37,906,356	100.00%
Minority and Women	Number of Contracts	Percent of Contracts	Amount of Dollars	Percent of Dollars
Minority Business Enterprises	11	8.87%	\$4,666,563	12.31%
Woman Business Enterprises	62	50.00%	\$13,413,365	35.39%



**Table 6.8: Available Construction Prime Contractors
October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2019**

Ethnicity	Percent of Businesses
Black Americans	9.45%
Asian Americans	14.60%
Hispanic Americans	11.31%
Native Americans	0.32%
Caucasian Females	21.76%
Non-minority Males	42.57%
TOTAL	100.00%
Ethnicity and Gender	Percent of Businesses
Black American Females	1.96%
Black American Males	7.48%
Asian American Females	2.34%
Asian American Males	12.26%
Hispanic American Females	3.24%
Hispanic American Males	8.07%
Native American Females	0.16%
Native American Males	0.16%
Caucasian Females	21.76%
Non-minority Males	42.57%
TOTAL	100.00%
Minority and Females	Percent of Businesses
Minority Business Enterprises	35.67%
Woman Business Enterprises	29.46%



**Table 6.13: Available Construction Subcontractors
October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2019**

Ethnicity	Percent of Businesses
Black Americans	9.53%
Asian Americans	12.43%
Hispanic Americans	9.60%
Native Americans	0.30%
Caucasian Females	24.39%
Non-minority Males	43.75%
TOTAL	100.00%
Ethnicity and Gender	Percent of Businesses
Black American Females	2.09%
Black American Males	7.44%
Asian American Females	2.49%
Asian American Males	9.94%
Hispanic American Females	2.80%
Hispanic American Males	6.80%
Native American Females	0.17%
Native American Males	0.13%
Caucasian Females	24.39%
Non-minority Males	43.75%
TOTAL	100.00%
Minority and Females	Percent of Businesses
Minority Business Enterprises	31.86%
Woman Business Enterprises	31.93%



**Table 3.19: Professional Services Contract Utilization, All Contracts
October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2019**

Ethnicity	Number of Contracts	Percent of Contracts	Amount of Dollars	Percent of Dollars
Black Americans	9	0.42%	\$1,837,481	0.34%
Asian Americans	39	1.84%	\$5,108,372	0.95%
Hispanic Americans	51	2.40%	\$1,494,566	0.28%
Native Americans	0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
Caucasian Females	181	8.52%	\$17,294,324	3.21%
Non-minority Males	1,844	86.82%	\$512,274,285	95.22%
TOTAL	2,124	100.00%	\$538,009,028	100.00%
Ethnicity and Gender	Number of Contracts	Percent of Contracts	Amount of Dollars	Percent of Dollars
Black American Females	5	0.24%	\$200,918	0.04%
Black American Males	4	0.19%	\$1,636,563	0.30%
Asian American Females	3	0.14%	\$118,700	0.02%
Asian American Males	36	1.69%	\$4,989,672	0.93%
Hispanic American Females	28	1.32%	\$836,192	0.16%
Hispanic American Males	23	1.08%	\$658,374	0.12%
Native American Females	0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
Native American Males	0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
Caucasian Females	181	8.52%	\$17,294,324	3.21%
Non-minority Males	1,844	86.82%	\$512,274,285	95.22%
TOTAL	2,124	100.00%	\$538,009,028	100.00%
Minority and Women	Number of Contracts	Percent of Contracts	Amount of Dollars	Percent of Dollars
Minority Business Enterprises	99	4.66%	\$8,440,419	1.57%
Woman Business Enterprises	217	10.22%	\$18,450,134	3.43%



**Table 6.9: Available Professional Services Prime Contractors
October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2019**

Ethnicity	Percent of Businesses
Black Americans	10.98%
Asian Americans	10.55%
Hispanic Americans	7.33%
Native Americans	0.43%
Caucasian Females	25.41%
Non-minority Males	45.30%
TOTAL	100.00%
Ethnicity and Gender	Percent of Businesses
Black American Females	3.93%
Black American Males	7.05%
Asian American Females	2.92%
Asian American Males	7.62%
Hispanic American Females	2.30%
Hispanic American Males	5.03%
Native American Females	0.29%
Native American Males	0.14%
Caucasian Females	25.41%
Non-minority Males	45.30%
TOTAL	100.00%
Minority and Females	Percent of Businesses
Minority Business Enterprises	29.29%
Woman Business Enterprises	34.85%



**Table 3.20: Goods Prime Contract Utilization, All Contracts
October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2019**

Ethnicity	Number of Contracts	Percent of Contracts	Amount of Dollars	Percent of Dollars
Black Americans	15	0.45%	\$217,636	0.14%
Asian Americans	60	1.80%	\$6,175,268	4.01%
Hispanic Americans	26	0.78%	\$600,467	0.39%
Native Americans	1	0.03%	\$15,431	0.01%
Caucasian Females	377	11.29%	\$10,145,691	6.58%
Non-minority Males	2,861	85.66%	\$137,009,359	88.87%
TOTAL	3,340	100.00%	\$154,163,852	100.00%
Ethnicity and Gender	Number of Contracts	Percent of Contracts	Amount of Dollars	Percent of Dollars
Black American Females	3	0.09%	\$33,398	0.02%
Black American Males	12	0.36%	\$184,238	0.12%
Asian American Females	15	0.45%	\$3,706,543	2.40%
Asian American Males	45	1.35%	\$2,468,725	1.60%
Hispanic American Females	0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
Hispanic American Males	26	0.78%	\$600,467	0.39%
Native American Females	0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
Native American Males	1	0.03%	\$15,431	0.01%
Caucasian Females	377	11.29%	\$10,145,691	6.58%
Non-minority Males	2,861	85.66%	\$137,009,359	88.87%
TOTAL	3,340	100.00%	\$154,163,852	100.00%
Minority and Women	Number of Contracts	Percent of Contracts	Amount of Dollars	Percent of Dollars
Minority Business Enterprises	102	3.05%	\$7,008,802	4.55%
Woman Business Enterprises	395	11.83%	\$13,885,632	9.01%



**Table 6.10: Available Goods Prime Contractors
October 15, 2015 to September 30, 2019**

Ethnicity	Percent of Businesses
Black Americans	5.32%
Asian Americans	5.76%
Hispanic Americans	5.67%
Native Americans	0.31%
Caucasian Females	24.41%
Non-minority Males	58.53%
TOTAL	100.00%
Ethnicity and Gender	Percent of Businesses
Black American Females	2.04%
Black American Males	3.28%
Asian American Females	1.46%
Asian American Males	4.30%
Hispanic American Females	2.04%
Hispanic American Males	3.63%
Native American Females	0.13%
Native American Males	0.18%
Caucasian Females	24.41%
Non-minority Males	58.53%
TOTAL	100.00%
Minority and Females	Percent of Businesses
Minority Business Enterprises	17.06%
Woman Business Enterprises	30.08%

