

### **CAMINO REAL REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY**

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM AND POLICY** 

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### CAMINO REAL REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM AND POLICY

#### I. PURPOSE

In accordance with state and federal law, the Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority ("CRRMA") is required to facilitate and assure the participation of disadvantaged and small businesses in the CRRMA's procurement process. The CRRMA is also generally required to procure its goods and services and construction contracts through a competitive bid process. To facilitate compliance with federal and state laws regarding disadvantaged businesses and competitive bid procurement, the CRRMA Board of Directors approved a Board Resolution on April 16, 2009 that adopted the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise ("DBE") Program of the Texas Department of Transportation ("TxDOT") for implementation by the CRRMA. On May 20, 2009, the CRRMA Board of Directors also approved Board Resolutions that established the CRRMA's DBE Policy Statement and this Business Opportunity Program and Policy ("BOPP").

This BOPP incorporates the policies and objectives of state and federal laws, and establishes goals that attempt to monitor and encourage disadvantaged and small businesses to participate in the process and award of CRRMA contracts. This BOPP refers to two (2) separately administered programs: (1) the DBE Program for federally funded programs and projects; and (2) the Small Business Enterprise ("SBE") Program, for non-federally funded programs and projects.

#### II. APPLICABILITY

The policies, procedures and contract clause(s) established under the BOPP apply to CRRMA procurements, bidders and recipients of contracts, and to related subcontracts, to the extent that these provisions are not inconsistent with state or federal law or other rules and regulations.

A. <u>DBE Program</u>: The CRRMA is required, as a condition of receiving federal financial assistance for transportation projects, to provide certain assurances that it will comply with 49 C.F.R. Part 26, which requires the creation of a DBE Program that applies to CRRMA contracts, including roadway construction contracts and related purchases, funded in whole or in part with federal funds received from the United States Department of Transportation ("DOT"), including funds received through the Federal Highway Administration ("FHWA"), or funded in whole or in part with such federal funds received by the CRRMA through TxDOT. To comply with the federal regulations, the CRRMA has adopted the TxDOT DBE Program pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 26.45(c)(4), which TxDOT has represented is a federally-compliant program. The CRRMA adopted said program through Board Resolution of April 16, 2009 and execution of a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") between the CRRMA, TxDOT and the FHWA. Said MOU has an effective date of April 28, 2009 and may be found on the CRRMA's website.

**B.** SBE Program: The CRRMA's SBE Program is created pursuant to §370.183 of the Texas Transportation Code and applies to all CRRMA contracts and procurements that do not involve federal financial assistance (i.e. contracts and procurements funded strictly by state, local or private means, or any combination thereof). Said program is more fully described herein.

### III. DEFINITIONS

The following are definitions of terms used in this BOPP based primarily on definitions found in 49 C.F.R. §26.5:

Aspirational Goal: A level of SBE participation that the CRRMA will strive to achieve, which may be based upon a numeric formula or other milestones.

Availability: The calculated estimate of qualified small business enterprises in a particular trade and/or profession. In defining availability of small business enterprises, a common sense approach with respect to geographical basis, customs that apply to firms and logistics of timely completion of work orders are taken into consideration.

<u>Bidder/Proposer</u>: Any person, firm, partnership, corporation, association or joint venture as herein provided seeking to be awarded a CRRMA contract, award or lease by a competitive process.

Business Enterprise: Any legal entity which is organized to engage in lawful commercial transactions and is actively engaged in such transactions as a means of livelihood, such as a sole proprietorship, partnership or corporation, but not a joint venture except as hereinafter provided.

<u>Commercially Useful Function</u>: A distinct element of the work of a contract for which the DBE/SBE is responsible and actually manages, supervises, and controls, including the materials, equipment, employees, and all other business obligations related to the satisfactory completion of the contracted work.

<u>Contract</u>: An award by the CRRMA whereby the CRRMA expends or commits the expenditure of its funds in return for work, labor, services, supplies, equipment, materials, or any combination of the foregoing.

<u>Contractor</u>: One who participates through a contract or subcontract in a transportation construction project.

**DBE Goal:** A flexible target determined by the CRRMA and/or TxDOT, in accordance with the requirements and formulas set forth in 49 C.F.R. Part 26, and applicable rules promulgated thereunder, based on estimates of the availability of qualified and certified DBEs in the applicable marketplace, and known circumstances and conditions. In no case will a goal be construed as constituting a quota.

<u>Disadvantaged Business</u>: A minority-owned, woman-owned, or otherwise economically disadvantaged small business in general, used in this BOPP to refer to both DBEs and SBEs, as may be more particularly defined by certifying agencies.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise ("DBE"): A for-profit small business enterprise: (a) which is at least 51.0 percent owned by one or more Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Individual(s), as defined herein, or, in the case of any publicly owned business, at least 51.0 percent of the stock of which is owned by one or more Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Individual(s); and (b) whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of the Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Individual(s), as defined herein, who own it; and (c) which receives appropriate certification status through the appropriate federally-designated or approved DBE certification agency. The Texas Unified Certification Program, administered by TxDOT, is the certifying agency for businesses within the state of Texas.

<u>Good Faith Efforts</u>: Efforts to achieve a goal or other requirements that, by their scope, intensity and appropriateness to the objective, can reasonably be expected to fulfill the BOPP.

<u>Joint Venture</u>: An association of two (2) or more persons, partnerships, corporations or any combination thereof, founded to carry on a single business activity, which is limited in scope and duration. The degree to which a joint venture may satisfy the stated DBE goal cannot exceed the proportionate interest of the DBE as a member of the joint venture in the work to be performed by the joint venture. For example, a joint venture for which the DBE contractor is to perform 50.0 percent of the contract work itself shall be deemed equivalent to having DBE participation of 50.0 percent of the work. DBE member(s) of the joint venture must have financial, managerial, or technical skills in the work to be performed by the joint venture.

Minority Business Enterprise ("MBE"): A business enterprise that is owned and controlled by one or more minority person(s). Minority persons include the ethnic categories listed under the definition of "Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Individuals" in this section. The MBE must also satisfy the owned and controlled provisions set forth in the definitions of "Disadvantaged Business Enterprise" and "Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Individuals."

<u>Prime Contractor</u>: Any person, firm, partnership, corporation, association, or joint venture as herein provided which has been awarded an CRRMA contract or agreement.

<u>Professional Services</u>: Those services as defined by Chapter 2254 of the Texas Government Code (Professional Services Procurement Act).

<u>Race-and-Gender Conscious</u>: Describes a measure or program that is focused specifically on assisting only DBEs, including women-owned DBEs.

Race-and-Gender Neutral: Describes a measure or program that is, or can be, used to assist all small businesses.

<u>Small Business Concern</u>: As defined pursuant to Section 3 of the U.S. Small Business Act and relevant regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, except that a small business shall not include any business or group of businesses controlled by the same Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Individual(s) which has annual average gross receipts in excess of the standards established by the Small Business Administration's regulation under 13 C.F.R. Part 121 for a consecutive three-year period. However, no firm is considered small if, including its affiliates, it averages annual gross receipts in excess of \$16.6 million per year over the previous three (3) fiscal years. The definition of "Small Business Concern" applies only to federal DBE certification, and not to the CRRMA state SBE program set forth in this BOPP.

<u>Small Business Enterprise</u>: A business is considered a "Small Business Enterprise" for purposes of the CRRMA BOPP if it meets the definition of "small business concern" as set forth in Section 3 of the U.S. Small Business Act. This provision defines a "small business concern" as any business concern (including those limited to enterprises engaged in the business of production of food and fiber, ranching, and raising of livestock, agriculture, and all other farming and agricultural related industries) which is independently owned and operated and which is not dominant in its field of operation. 13 C.F.R. §121.201 sets forth the "size standards" in either number of employees or average annual receipts, that define the maximum size that a concern, together with all of its affiliates, may be to be eligible for federal small business programs. The Small Business Administration organizes these specific size standards according to North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Codes, as published in the Small Business Administration's "Table of Small Business Size Standards".

Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Individuals: As included in 49 C.F.R. Part 26, individuals who are citizens of the United States (or lawfully admitted permanent residents), and who are Women, Black Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Asian-Pacific Americans or Subcontinent Asian Americans and any other minorities or individuals found to be disadvantaged by the Small Business Administration pursuant to section 8(a) of the Small Business Act, or individuals who have been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice or cultural bias because of their identity as a member of a group without regard to their individual qualities and whose ability to compete in the free enterprise system has been impaired due to diminished capital and credit opportunities as compared to others in the same business area who are not socially disadvantaged. There shall be a rebuttable presumption that individuals in the following groups are socially and economically disadvantaged, and DBE Program officials may also determine, on a case-by-case basis, that individuals who are not members of one of the following groups are socially and economically disadvantaged:

- a. "Women";
- b. "Black Americans," which includes persons having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa;
- c. "Hispanic Americans," which includes persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Dominican, Central or South American or other Spanish or Portuguese culture or origin, regardless of race;

- d. "Native Americans," which includes persons who are American Indians, Eskimos, Aleuts or Native Hawaiians;
- e. "Asian-Pacific Americans," which includes persons whose origins are from Japan, China, Taiwan, Korea, Burma, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Brunei, Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, Macao, Fiji, Tonga, Kirbati, Juvalu, Nauru, Federated States of Micronesia, or Hong Kong;
- f. "Subcontinent Asian Americans," which include persons whose origins are from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Maldives Islands, Nepal, or Sri Lanka; and
- g. Any additional groups whose members are designated as socially and economically disadvantaged by the SBA, at such time as the SBA designation becomes effective.

<u>Subcontractor</u>: Any named person, firm, partnership, corporation, association or joint venture as herein provided identified as providing work, labor, services, supplies, equipment, materials or any combination of the foregoing, under contract with a Prime Contractor on a CRRMA contract.

<u>Vendor</u>: One who participates in contracts with and/or procurements by the CRRMA in a transportation construction project.

<u>Women Business Enterprise (WBE)</u>: A business enterprise that is owned and controlled by one or more females. The WBE must also satisfy the owned and controlled provisions under the definition of "Disadvantaged Business Enterprise" in this section.

## IV. POLICY STATEMENT AND OBJECTIVES OF BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

It is the policy of the CRRMA to ensure that disadvantaged businesses, as defined in 49 C.F.R. Part 26 and under this BOPP, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in CRRMA contracts. It is the policy of the CRRMA never to exclude any person from participation in, deny any person the benefits of, or otherwise discriminate against anyone in connection with the award and performance of any contract on the basis of race, color, sex, or national origin. In administering its BOPP, the CRRMA will not, directly or through contractual or other arrangements, use criteria or methods of administration that have the effect of defeating or substantially impairing accomplishment of the objectives of federal and state law with respect to individuals of a particular race, color, sex, or national origin. In implementing these policies and objectives, the CRRMA will strive to ensure that the DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law. This program also incorporates the DBE Policy Statement adopted by the CRRMA Board of Directors via Board Resolution of May 20, 2009.

#### V.

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION OF BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

- A. <u>Administration</u>: The DBE and SBE programs will be administered through and in accordance with the BOPP. All CRRMA departments, personnel, and/or consultants having or sharing responsibility for awarding CRRMA contracts and/or making procurements, will support and assist in promoting and carrying out this BOPP. Examples of such areas or consultant services, include Administration, Engineering, Information Technology, Maintenance, Contract Management, Legal and Purchasing.
  - 1. <u>BOPP Liaison Officer</u>: The Executive Director shall serve as the BOPP Liaison Officer who will report directly to the CRRMA Chair regarding the implementation, status and compliance with the BOPP. The BOPP Liaison Officer's duties for this BOPP include, but are not limited to, the following:
    - (a) implementing, coordinating, administering and monitoring the BOPP;
    - (b) developing and presenting BOPP reports as may be requested by the Board of Directors;
    - (c) coordinating and conducting outreach efforts with TxDOT, FHWA and other agencies;
    - (d) educating and advising the staff as necessary for effective implementation of the BOPP, and the DBE and SBE programs;
    - (e) developing and maintaining procedures to ensure that Disadvantaged Businesses are afforded an equitable opportunity to compete on all CRRMA contracts by providing assistance and opportunities through workshops and trade fairs, distributing handbooks, conducting pre-bid/pre-proposal conferences, and assuring timely dissemination of bid/contract information;
    - (f) developing, administering and enforcing policies, standards, definitions, criteria and procedures to govern the implementation, interpretation, and application of the BOPP in a manner that is designed to achieve its purposes;
    - (g) assuring that listings or directories of SBEs are developed, maintained and available to persons seeking to do business with the CRRMA;
    - (h) receiving and reviewing inquiries and making recommendations concerning the DBE and/or SBE programs, including concerns about violations and/or abuse of the DBE and/or SBE programs;
    - (i) making recommendations for resolution of any issues or concerns and taking appropriate steps to enforce the BOPP, including deciding and imposing appropriate sanctions for violations and/or abuse of the program;

- (j) considering and evaluating whether efforts for DBE and SBE utilization by contractors satisfy the good faith requirements of the BOPP;
- (k) recommending, in cooperation with staff, appropriate DBE and/or SBE goals and any program changes, which may be appropriate to improve the overall effectiveness of the BOPP;
- (l) ensuring that appropriate provisions of the DBE and/or SBE Program are included in bid proposals and contract specifications;
- (m) periodically reviewing applicable insurance and bonding requirements with a view toward determining, if prudent and feasible, whether established risk/exposure limits may be changed to allow business enterprises, particularly DBEs and SBEs, to bid more competitively on all CRRMA contracts;
- (n) compiling information to determine the level of DBE and/or SBE utilization; and
- (o) reviewing contracting requirements and recommending modification of such requirements where appropriate, that may tend to create barriers for minority, women owned and small businesses.
- 2. <u>Departmental Responsibilities</u>: All CRRMA departments, and consultants, when applicable, will cooperate with the BOPP Liaison Officer in the implementation of the goals and intent of this BOPP. However, certain departments and consultants will have particular responsibilities because of their procurement activity. Examples of such departments and consultant services include Engineering, Information Technology, Maintenance and Purchasing. These responsibilities for this BOPP include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - (a) assisting the BOPP Liaison Officer in gathering information to determine the availability of qualified disadvantaged businesses, as defined in this BOPP;
  - (b) assisting and participating in workshops, trade fairs, outreach seminars, and other similar programs designed to identify and increase the participation of disadvantaged businesses in CRRMA projects;
  - (c) working with the BOPP Liaison and other staff and coordinating with TxDOT, where appropriate, in establishing BOPP goals;
  - (d) maintaining appropriate records to keep track of compliance with the BOPP and to be able to present reports concerning the DBE/SBE programs;
  - (e) ensuring that applicable provisions of the DBE and/or SBE programs are included in bid proposals and specifications and in contracts awarded;

- (f) assisting in evaluating whether there are opportunities to present bid packages and requests for proposal in a manner that provides DBEs and/or SBEs a maximum opportunity for competitive participation; and
- (g) ensuring that purchasing procedures are consistent with the BOPP.
- **B.** <u>Outreach</u>: The CRRMA will participate in outreach programs that are designed to maximize the opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses to contract with the CRRMA. The outreach efforts will include, but not be limited to, one or more of the following:
  - 1. <u>Website</u>: The CRRMA official website (<u>www.crrma.org</u>) will include information about its procurement process and how to do business with the CRRMA.
  - 2. <u>Notice Of Bidding Opportunities</u>: The CRRMA will advertise bidding opportunities in accordance with the CRRMA Procurement Policy. The CRRMA may advertise in newspapers or other publications that target small, minority-owned, and/or woman-owned businesses. The CRRMA will take reasonable steps to include disadvantaged and small businesses on its mailing lists for the receipt of bid documents.
  - 3. <u>Assistance In Bidding Process</u>: Upon request, the CRRMA will assist small, minority-owned, and woman-owned businesses by providing them information regarding bid specifications, contracting opportunities, and prerequisites for bidding on CRRMA contracts.
  - 4. <u>Structure Of Bidding Opportunities</u>: When determined to be feasible, the CRRMA will structure its solicitations for bid proposals so that they include bidding opportunities for businesses of varying sizes and delivery schedules and encourage opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.
  - 5. <u>Simplification Or Reduction Of Bonding Requirements</u>: When determined to be feasible, the CRRMA will simplify or reduce bonding and financing requirements to encourage disadvantaged and small business participation.
  - 6. <u>Directory For Prime Contractors</u>: The CRRMA will utilize and refer contractors to the DBE participant directories developed and maintained by TxDOT, to directories maintained by other agencies, and may prepare and maintain one or more of its own directories of disadvantaged and small businesses. The CRRMA will make the directory(ies) available to its Prime Contractors and known potential Prime Contractors, and encourage such Prime Contractors to subcontract with the disadvantaged and small businesses.
  - 7. <u>Encouragement Of Joint Ventures</u>: The CRRMA may encourage joint ventures between and with businesses that qualify as disadvantaged and small businesses by providing access to it directories.

- 8. <u>Use Of Financial Institutions</u>: The CRRMA will make reasonable efforts to use small, woman-owned or minority-owned financial institutions. The CRRMA will encourage prime contractors to use such institutions.
- 9. <u>TxDOT/FHWA Programs</u>: The CRRMA will use and cooperate with programs administered by TxDOT in its DBE Program.
- 10. Program Monitoring: The CRRMA will keep track of disadvantaged and small business participation in CRRMA contracts, including those with and without specific contract goals. "Participation" by disadvantaged and small businesses for this purpose means that payments have actually been made to the disadvantaged and/or small business. The record will show the commitments and attainments as required by 49 C.F.R. § 27.37. The BOPP Liaison Officer will monitor the CRRMA's progress toward its annual overall goal as may be required by law or the Executive Director. Progress toward the federal DBE Program goal will be calculated in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 26.55.
- 11. <u>Program Inquiries</u>: The BOPP Liaison Officer shall receive any questions about the BOPP, including allegations about possible violation and/or abuse of the BOPP.
- C. <u>Directories and Designations of Disadvantaged Businesses</u>: As part of CRRMA's efforts to identify and ensure participation of disadvantaged and small businesses on CRRMA projects, the CRRMA will rely on listings (directories) of certified small, woman-owned and minority-owned businesses maintained by TxDOT and other entities and governmental units that satisfy the CRRMA's certification requirements, including the Texas Unified Certification Program for Federal DBE Certification, as administered through TxDOT, or any other recognized certification that the CRRMA finds acceptable.

#### D. General Requirements of Contractors/Vendors:

- 1. Good Faith Efforts/Waiver: Contractors/Vendors who propose to perform a contract with the CRRMA using their own work force, and without the use of subcontractors will be required to demonstrate good-faith efforts by submitting information (when requested by the CRRMA) sufficient for the CRRMA to determine the following to effectuate a waiver of applicable BOPP requirements:
  - a. That it is a normal business practice of the contractor/vendor to perform the elements of the contract with its own work forces without the use of subcontractors;
  - b. That the technical nature of the proposed project does not facilitate subcontracting nor any significant supplier opportunities in support of the project; and/or;

- c. That the contractor/vendor in fact has demonstrated its capabilities to perform the elements of the contract with its own work forces without the use of subcontracts.
- **2.** Payment Of Subcontractors In A Timely Manner: Each contract the CRRMA signs with a Prime Contractor/Vendor will also contain provisions with regard to the timely payment of subcontractors as required by 49 C.F.R. § 26.29. The following language is an example of the type of language to be included:

The contractor agrees to pay its subcontractors for satisfactory performance of their contracts no later than thirty (30) days from its receipt of payment from the CRRMA. The contractor shall also promptly return any retainage payments to subcontractors within thirty (30) days after the subcontractor's work is satisfactorily completed. Any delay or postponement of payment from the above referenced time frame may occur only for good cause following written approval of the CRRMA. This clause applies to payments to all subcontractors.

- 3. Reasonable Efforts To Use Local DBE/SBE Financial Institutions: Prime Contractors subject to the CRRMA's DBE program will also be encouraged to make reasonable efforts to identify and use financial institutions owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals in their communities pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §26.27.
- 4. <u>Approval For Replacement of DBE</u>: A contactor must obtain approval from the CRRMA to substitute another firm for a DBE firm listed on an approved commitment and demonstrate written justification for the substitution, for example, that the original firm is unable or unwilling to carry out the terms of the contract.

# VI. SBE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND IMPLEMENTATION

- A. <u>SBE Program</u>: The CRRMA SBE Program applies to CRRMA contracts and procurements that do not involve federal financial assistance. In accordance with § 370.183 of the Texas Transportation Code, the CRRMA's Policies and Procedures Governing the Procurement of Goods and Services, and consistent with general law, the CRRMA will:
  - 1. set goals for the award of contracts to disadvantaged and small businesses and attempt to meet the goals;
  - 2. attempt to identify disadvantaged and small businesses that provide or have the potential to provide supplies, materials, equipment or services to the CRRMA; and

- 3. give disadvantaged and small businesses full access to the CRRMA's contract bidding process, inform the businesses about the process, offer the businesses assistance concerning the process, and identify and remedy barriers to the businesses' participation in the process.
- B. <u>SBE Certification</u>: The CRRMA will require SBEs to be certified. The CRRMA will recognize as certified SBEs certifications for small, minority-owned, women-owned, historically underutilized, and disadvantaged business enterprises. Such certifications may be provided by one or more of the following agencies or entities: TxDOT; the Texas Unified Certification Program for Federal DBE Certification; the Texas Building and Procurement Commission's Historically Underutilized Business ("HUB") Program Certification; or any other recognized certification that the CRRMA finds acceptable.

Firms that desire or are required by the CRRMA to be certified for SBE participation must complete and submit a CRRMA SBE Status Certification Affidavit, which identifies the status certification and the group providing the certification. The MWSBE status certification is effective for as long as it is effective with the certifying entity, unless terminated earlier by the CRRMA.

- C. <u>SBE Goals</u>: The CRRMA will identify overall SBE aspirational goals for its construction, professional services, consulting services and other goods and services procurements. The aspirational goal may generally establish a level of participation that the CRRMA will strive to achieve and may be based upon a numeric formula and/or based on other factors. During the process of developing SBE goals, the CRRMA may review and consider information on the availability of SBEs in the CRRMA's applicable marketplace, as well as any other information and data which the CRRMA believes is pertinent to goal setting.
  - 1. The overall SBE aspirational goal(s) may be established or reaffirmed on an annual basis and will reflect the CRRMA's commitment to facilitate opportunities for the participation of small business enterprises in the CRRMA procurement process and awards.
  - 2. The goals may be expressed as a broad and general aspiration, as a percentage of the total estimated dollar amount of all contracts and subcontracts to be awarded during the applicable fiscal year, or as a specific percentage of the dollar amount on a given contract. The goal may reflect the CRRMA's estimate of overall SBE participation that is attainable given available CRRMA SBE resources and the performance of the CRRMA in its efforts to achieve previous goals under the SBE Program.
  - 3. If contract-specific goals are established, no contract will be executed until the lowest responsible bidder/proposer has achieved or demonstrated an acceptable good-faith effort toward achievement of the SBE goal. If goals are established and are not met, no sanctions will be recommended or imposed provided the successful bidder/proposer can fully demonstrate that he/she made an acceptable good-faith effort, as defined by the CRRMA, to achieve the goals.

- **D.** <u>SBE Contractor/Vendor Obligations</u>: Any contractor or vendor seeking to provide services to the CRRMA under a contract subject to the CRRMA's SBE Program shall agree to the following provisions:
  - 1. It is the policy of the CRRMA Board of Directors that disadvantaged and small businesses will have the maximum practicable opportunity to participate in the awarding of CRRMA contracts and related subcontracts.
  - 2. The bidder, proposer, contractor or vendor agrees to employ good-faith efforts to carry out this policy through award of subcontracts to small or disadvantaged business enterprises to the fullest extent consistent with the efficient performance of the contract, and/or the utilization of CRRMA SBE suppliers where feasible. CRRMA contractors are expected to make a good faith effort to solicit bids for subcontractors/suppliers from available CRRMA SBEs.
  - 3. The bidder, proposer, contractor or vendor specifically agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of the CRRMA's SBE Program, and to include federal requirements when applicable.
  - 4. The contractor/vendor will maintain records, as specified in his/her contract, showing: (1) subcontract/supplier awards, specifically to small business enterprises; (2) specific efforts to identify and award such contracts to small business enterprises; and, (3) submit, when requested, copies of executed contracts to establish actual CRRMA SBE participation and how much DBEs were paid.
  - 5. The contractor/vendor agrees to submit periodic reports of subcontract and/or supplier awards to small business enterprises in such form and manner, and at such time, as the CRRMA shall prescribe and will provide access to books, records and accounts to authorized officials of the CRRMA, state or federal agencies for the purpose of verifying CRRMA SBE participation and good-faith efforts to carry out the CRRMA's SBE policy. All CRRMA contractors may be subject to a post-contract SBE audit. Audit determination(s) may be considered and have a bearing in the evaluation of a contractor's good-faith efforts on future CRRMA contracts.
  - 6. The contractor/vendor will appoint an official or representative knowledgeable as to the CRRMA's DBE and/or SBE programs and policies to administer and coordinate the contractor's efforts to carry out said policies.
  - 7. Where possible and/or practical, all vendors and/or contractors will make good-faith efforts to subcontract and meet the CRRMA SBE goal. Contractors may be required to provide documentation demonstrating that they have made good-faith efforts, as defined by the CRRMA, in attempting to do so by submitting an acceptable SBE Utilization Statement. Bidders are required to satisfy applicable SBE Program requirements prior to the award of contract. Bidders that fail to meet these requirements may be considered non-responsive or in non-compliance.

- 8. Vendors or contractors will report any changes in proposed or actual SBEs, and will make good-faith efforts to replace SBE subcontractors or subconsultants unable to perform on the contract with another SBE.
- 9. Failure or refusal by a bidder, proposer, contractor or vendor to comply with the SBE provisions herein or any applicable provisions of the SBE Program, either during the bidding process or at anytime during the term of the contract, shall constitute a material breach of contract whereupon the contract, at the option of the CRRMA, may be canceled, terminated or suspended in whole or in part; and, the contractor may be debarred from further contracts with the CRRMA as a non-responsible contractor.

#### VII. ENFORCEMENT

- A. <u>Compliance With Program</u>: The BOPP Liaison Officer will monitor compliance by all Prime Contractors with the requirements under these Programs, implement appropriate mechanisms to ensure compliance by all program participants, and verify that the work committed to disadvantaged and small businesses is actually performed by the disadvantaged and/or small business.
- B. <u>Claims of Program Violations</u>: Allegations about violations and/or abuse should be made in writing and identify the person making the allegation. The BOPP Liaison Officer will review the information presented and take whatever steps he or she determines to be appropriate under the circumstances to resolve the issues raised by the allegation. The BOPP Liaison Officer may conduct an investigation of the allegations. The CRRMA cannot assure complete confidentiality in conducting its investigation, which may require the disclosure of information to other governmental agencies or affected third parties. Allegations that are made anonymously or verbally will be reviewed as is deemed appropriate. It may not be possible to investigate an issue if insufficient information is provided.
- C. <u>Notification of TxDOT, DOT and Other Agencies</u>: The CRRMA will notify TxDOT, FHWA, the DOT and other appropriate agencies of any false, fraudulent, or dishonest conduct in connection with the federal DBE Program, so that TxDOT and/or DOT can take the necessary steps to investigate the alleged conduct as provided in 49 C.F.R. § 26.109.

### VIII. COMPLIANCE AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

It is the intent of the CRRMA to comply with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations and to comply with the TxDOT DBE Program, where applicable. This BOPP will not apply to contracts that are subject to overriding state or federal laws, regulations, policies or guidelines, including those regarding small, minority-owned, or woman-owned businesses. In the event that an apparent conflict arises between the language contained in this BOPP and

federal, state or local law or ordinance, the language will be construed so as to comply with the federal, state or local law or ordinance.

Nothing in this BOPP should be construed as requiring a set-aside or mandatory quota. Any questions regarding the CRRMA's BOPP should be directed to the BOPP Liaison Officer.

### IX. EFFECTIVE DATE AND AMENDMENT

This BOPP shall become effective on the date noted below, and shall apply to any contract or procurement executed thereafter. The CRRMA shall approve any amendment, modification, or replacement of this BOPP by Board Resolution, with such instrument including either an explicit repeal of specific sections and provisions of this BOPP, or a replacement of this BOPP with entirely new provisions.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 20<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2009.

CAMINO REAL REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY

Harold W. Hahn, Chair

ATTEST:

Tony Payan, Secretary

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Raymond L. Telles

**Executive Director**