

Gainesville.
Citizen centered
People empowered

Finance Department,
Procurement Division

Memo (Addendum No. 1)

To: Diane Wilson, Interim Finance Director

From: Doug Drymon, Procurement Manager 

Date: November 8, 2019

Re: Addendum to October 29, 2019 Memo concerning Small, Minority and Service-disabled Veteran Business Outreach Efforts

Federal funding in any amount that is received either directly or as a pass-through of another agency (such as FDOT) carries many requirements and restrictions when it comes to how those funds are spent. The Federal Government has a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program which falls under U.S. Department of Transportation. U.S. DOT establishes guidelines for participation of firms owned and operated by, their target group, socially and economically disadvantaged persons. Each state's DOT is the main certifying agency for their state and maintains a Unified Certification Program (UCP) DBE Directory for use by awardees. Awardees are expected to take all necessary and reasonable steps to ensure eligible DBEs have the maximum feasible opportunity to participate.

Use of geographical preference (i.e., City's Local Preference Ordinance) is prohibited except for architectural and engineering services (A&E) and certain disaster or emergency relief contracts. Even quotas or set-asides for DBE's on DOT-assisted contracts are not permitted. The Federal Government's prime objective is "full and open competition". Awardee policies that are counter to that objective risk either losing or having to pay back funding.