



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Stephen C. Brich, P.E.
Commissioner

1221 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

June 17, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: VDOT Industry Partners, DBE Community, Contractors, Design-Builders, Vendors, and Consultants

CC: Virginia Unified Certification Program (UCP) Members, Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (DSBSD), Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA), and Participating Localities

FROM: Queen Crittendon, Division Administrator, Civil Rights Division ^{Initial} *al*
Kerry Bates, P.E., State Construction Engineer ^{Initial} *KAB*
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SUBJECT: DBE Program Reinstatement Technical Guidance – Design-Bid-Build and Design-Build Contracts

Background

On June 15, 2026, Commissioner Brich issued a memorandum announcing that VDOT will reinstate its DBE program effective July 1, 2026. As indicated in the Commissioner's memorandum, the Civil Rights, Construction, and Alternative Project Delivery Divisions are providing technical guidance on the steps Contractors and Design-Builders are to take in response to the reinstatement of the DBE program.

A current list of all certified DBEs, which is continually updated, can be found in the Certification Directory posted on the DSBSD website (<https://directory.sbsd.virginia.gov/#/executiveExport>).

If a contract has reached final acceptance on or before July 1, 2026, no further action is required.

For federally eligible design-bid-build projects and federally eligible design-build projects in progress on July 1, 2026, follow the applicable guidance below.

I. Federally Eligible Design-Bid-Build Contracts

A. Contracts executed prior to October 3, 2025

The Contractor shall resume compliance with the Special Provision for DBE Requirements included in the contract. The DBE goal listed at the time of contract execution will not be modified by VDOT. However, if there is a shortfall in meeting the goal for DBE participation at the close out of the contract, VDOT will conduct an analysis as set forth in the contract, considering all relevant circumstances including the full effect of the suspension of the contractual DBE goal and DBE recertification on the Contractor's ability and efforts to meet the goal. The Contractor shall submit a Vendor Payment Compliance Report (Form C-63) listing all DBE vendors on the project and the payments made to the DBE vendors prior to October 3, 2025. The Contractor shall verify the current certification status of all its DBE vendors on the project on or after July 1, 2026, using the Certification Directory Listing posted on DSBSD website (<https://directory.sbsd.virginia.gov/#/executiveExport>). When verification is completed, follow the guidelines below.

1. If **all** the DBE vendors listed on the most recent Form C-111 are recertified:
 - a. The Contractor shall submit an updated Form C-63 showing the payments to all vendors between October 3, 2025 and June 30, 2026.
 - b. Starting July 1, 2026, the Contractor shall submit the vendor payment information via the CRL electronic submission process or using the Form C-63 in accordance with the submission schedule prescribed in the contract.
 - c. The Contractor will receive DBE credit for all work performed by the recertified vendors beginning July 1, 2026.
2. If **some** or **none** of the DBE vendors listed on the most recent Form C-111 are recertified:
 - a. The Contractor shall submit an updated Form C-63 showing the payments to all vendors and identifying which, if any, vendors that are recertified as DBEs as of July 1, 2026.
 - b. Starting July 1, 2026, the Contractor shall submit the vendor payment information via the CRL electronic submission process or the Form C-63 in accordance with the submission schedule prescribed in the contract.
 - c. If a vendor obtains DBE certification at a later date, the Contractor shall submit a Form C-63 showing the payments to that vendor. The Contractor will receive DBE credit for all work performed by the vendor after the date on which the vendor was recertified as a DBE.

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VDOT encourages contractors to meet the DBE goal on the project. Despite such efforts, some may not meet the DBE goal because of the suspension of DBE goals and the impacts of DBE recertification. As noted above, if there is a shortfall in meeting the goal for DBE participation at final acceptance, VDOT will conduct an analysis as set forth in the contract, considering all relevant circumstances including the full effect of the suspension of the contractual DBE goal and DBE recertification on the contractor’s ability and efforts to meet the goal.

VDOT Civil Rights Division District Staff will resume Commercially Useful Function (CUF) evaluations of work performed by DBE vendors when the DBE program is reinstated on July 1, 2026.

B. Contracts advertised between October 3, 2025 and June 30, 2026

These contracts either do not contain a DBE goal or have a DBE goal of 0% and will not have a DBE goal added to them. The Contractor shall continue to follow the provisions contained in the Interim DBE Requirements Special Provision, including the submission of the Form C-63, which is or will be included in the contract.

Although these contracts do not have a DBE goal, VDOT strongly encourages contractors to use DBE vendors.

C. Contracts advertised after June 30, 2026

VDOT will evaluate contract proposals for DBE participation goals and will establish contract goals in the coming months, as appropriate. Contractors bidding on these contracts must comply with the terms of the Special Provision for DBE Requirements incorporated into the contract.

II. Federally Eligible Design-Build Contracts

A. Contracts executed prior to October 3, 2025

The Design-Builder shall resume compliance with the Special Provision for DBE Requirements included in the contract. The DBE goal listed at the time of contract execution will not be modified by VDOT. However, if there is a shortfall in meeting the goal for DBE participation at the close out of the contract, VDOT will conduct an analysis as set forth in the contract, considering all relevant circumstances including the full effect of the suspension of the contractual DBE goal and DBE recertification on the Design-Builder’s ability and efforts to meet the goal. The Design-Builder shall submit a Form C-63 listing all DBE vendors on the project and the payments made to the DBE vendors prior to October 3, 2025. The Design-Builder shall verify the current certification status of all DBE vendors on the project on or after July 1, 2026, using the Certification Directory Listing posted on DSBSD website (<https://directory.sbsd.virginia.gov/#/executiveExport>). Once verification is completed, follow the guidelines below.

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1. If **all** the DBE vendors listed on the most recent Form C-111 are recertified:
 - a. The Design-Builder shall submit an updated Form C-63 showing the payments to all vendors between October 3, 2025 and June 30, 2026.
 - b. Starting July 1, 2026, the Design-Builder shall submit the vendor payment information via the CRL electronic submission process or using Form C-63 in accordance with the submission schedule prescribed in the contract.
 - c. The Design-Builder will receive DBE credit for all work performed by the recertified vendors beginning July 1, 2026.
2. If **some** or **none** of the DBE vendors listed on the most recent Form C-111 are recertified:
 - a. The Design-Builder shall submit an updated Form C-63 showing the payments to all vendors and identifying which, if any, vendors that are certified as DBEs as of July 1, 2026.
 - b. Starting July 1, 2026, the Design-Builder shall submit the vendor payment information via the CRL electronic submission process or using Form C-63 in accordance with the submission schedule prescribed in the contract.
 - c. If a vendor obtains DBE certification at a later date, the Design-Builder shall submit Form C-63 showing the payments to that vendor. The Design-Builder will receive DBE credit for all work performed by the vendor after the date on which the vendor was recertified as a DBE.

VDOT encourages Design-Builders to meet the DBE goal on the project. Despite such efforts, some may not meet the DBE goal because of the suspension of DBE goals and the impacts of DBE recertification. As noted above, if there is a shortfall in meeting the goal for DBE participation at final acceptance, VDOT will conduct an analysis as set forth in the contract, considering all relevant circumstances including the full effect of the suspension of the contractual DBE goal and DBE recertification on the Design-Builder's ability and efforts to meet the goal.

VDOT Civil Rights Division District Staff will resume Commercially Useful Function (CUF) evaluations of work performed by DBE vendors when the DBE program is reinstated on July 1, 2026.

B. Contracts with RFQs issued, RFPs issued, or contracts executed between October 3, 2025 and June 30, 2026

These contracts do not contain a DBE goal or have a DBE goal of 0% and will not have a DBE goal added to them. Design-Builders should continue to follow the provisions

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contained in the Interim DBE Requirements Special Provision contained in their contract or RFP, including the submission of Form C-63.

Although these contracts do not have a DBE goal, VDOT strongly encourages Design-Builders to use DBE vendors.

C. RFQs issued after June 30, 2026

VDOT will evaluate RFQs for DBE participation goals and will establish contract goals in the coming months, as appropriate. Design-Builders submitting their qualifications and proposals on those contracts must comply with the terms of the Special Provision for DBE Requirements incorporated into the RFP and contract.

Questions may be directed to the Civil Rights Division at CRLMS@vdot.virginia.gov.