

AGENDA ITEM 10-B
INFORMATION ITEM

TO: CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN AND THE VRE OPERATIONS BOARD

FROM: DALE ZEHNER

DATE: JUNE 15, 2007

RE: FY 2008 DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) GOAL

As a FTA grantee and in accordance with USDOT regulations, VRE, along with PRTC and NVTC, must have a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program. This program is designed to provide contracting opportunities to small businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals. PRTC implements and manages this program on behalf of all three agencies.

The regulations require that an overall annual goal for DBE participation in federally assisted contracts be established and implemented. For FY 2007, the goal was 7% for FTA-assisted contracts. The proposed FY 2008 goal is 7.5% for federally assisted projects. The goal is based on an assessment of the FTA projected expenditures for FY 2008, a review of U.S. Census and other sources concerning the availability of DBE companies, and consideration of all three agencies' historical utilization of DBE companies.

On June 7, PRTC approved publishing for comment the proposed FY 2008 DBE goal and provisionally adopting it barring any negative public comment. The goal, once adopted, will be posted on the PRTC and VRE websites and included in relevant procurement documents. This DBE goal is for the Federal fiscal year which begins October 1, 2007.