

# Survey of Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Certification Programs and Exploring Opportunities for Reciprocity

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# Objective

Determine whether Metro and selected government agencies could increase reciprocity of SBE certifications, simplify the certification process, and increase SBE participation.



# Results

- **Reciprocity exists among CUCP members on Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) firms**
- **No uniform requirements and standards for SBE certification**
- **No reciprocity program exists to accept SBE certification by other agencies**
- **Reciprocity may be done with agencies that have similar standards as Metro**



# Recommendations

- **Contact BART to attempt to negotiate SBE certification reciprocity.**
- **Work with the City and County of Los Angeles to attempt to harmonize their SBE Programs and develop SBE certification reciprocity.**
- **Consider leading a Regional SBE Certification Summit to discuss reciprocity among other agencies.**
- **Continue to be a lead certifying agency, make Metro's SBE Program known to other agencies, and encourage others to accept Metro's SBE certifications.**
- **Work with the California Department of General Services (DGS) small business certification program, determine whether Metro can accept DGS certifications without compromising Metro's own SBE certification standards (e.g.: accept subject to verification).**

