



## What:

United States Department of Transportation  
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program  
Complaint Listening Session

## Who:

The Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises and the Washington State Department of Transportation Office of Equity and Civil Rights are hosting a joint listening session to hear from the community about the recent complaint against the DBE Program.

## When:

Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2024, from 9 - 10:30 am

## Where:

Virtual on GoToWebinar – [Register Now](#)

## Description:

OMWBE and WSDOT are hosting a listening session to discuss the recently filed [USDOT DBE Program Complaint](#). This complaint challenges the use of race and gender-conscious goals in the DBE program. This complaint was made in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Kentucky, Frankfort Division. While this complaint did not originate from any Washington state entities, WSDOT and OMWBE are tracking it closely, as it could have national implications.

We know the DBE community has a lot of concern regarding this case and its implications for equity in public contracting. During the listening session a brief overview of the complaint will be given and then participants will be able to share thoughts or concerns about this issue to help WSDOT and OMWBE better understand all the concerns and comments.

This case is outside our jurisdiction, and the court has not yet taken action. Until WSDOT or USDOT is directed otherwise by court order, there will be no change in how we implement the DBE program, including enforceable goals.

For more information, please contact:

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