2017 Minnesota Joint Disparity Study

Eight state and local government entities have come together to analyze whether there is a level playing field for minority- and women-owned firms in the local marketplace. The 2017 Minnesota Joint Disparity Study examined procurement of construction, professional services, goods, and other services in the public and private sectors. Additionally, the study researched conditions for veteran-owned businesses and companies owned by persons with disabilities. The following eight governmental entities are participating:

- State of Minnesota, including the Department of Transportation;
- Metropolitan Council;
- Metropolitan Airports Commission;
- Minnesota State;
- Mosquito Control District;
- City of Minneapolis;
- City of Saint Paul, including the Housing and Redevelopment Authority; and
- Hennepin County.

The Minnesota Department of Administration is coordinating this effort and Keen Independent Research is leading the research team.

Schedule

The Minnesota Department of Administration initiated the disparity study in June 2016. Keen Independent Research submitted preliminary results to each participating agency in late 2017. Draft reports are now available for public review. The closing date to receive public comments that will be considered for the final report is February 28. The final report will be completed and provided to the public in March 2018.

Stakeholder and other Public Involvement

To date, thousands of Minnesota business owners and other individuals have provided information as part of this study. The research team is now making draft reports available for public review and comment. To provide comments:

- Obtain a report at www.mn.gov/disparity-study;
- Participate in a public forum (dates/times posted on the study website); and/or
- Provide comments through one of the avenues listed below (public comment period is through Feb. 28).

Learn More or Provide Input

To learn more, you may contact the State, your local participating entity, or Keen Independent.

- Contact the State: Disparity.Study@state.mn.us
- Disparity Study Website: www.mn.gov/disparity-study
- Contact Keen Independent by email: JointMNDisparityStudy2017@keenindependent.com
- Contact Keen Independent by mail: 100 Fillmore St., 5th Floor, Denver, CO 80206
- Contact Keen Independent by phone: (612) 888-2017.