



## 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 is examining procurement of construction, professional services, goods, and other services in the public and private sectors. Additionally, the study will research 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 Redevelopment Authority; and
- Hennepin County.

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

### Stakeholder and other Public Involvement

There are a number of ways you can get involved. The research team will collect and analyze public input throughout the study, which will be incorporated in a final report. To get involved:

- Participate in the survey of Minnesota businesses via phone or email (early 2017).
- Participate in a public forum held on August 31, 2016 at the Minneapolis Central Library (Doty Board Room, 3:00 – 4:45 p.m. or 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.). Additional public forums will be scheduled (fall 2017) once preliminary results are released;
- Give us your name and contact information to participate in an in-depth interview or focus group;
- Call the study hotline, provide online comments, or send an email or letter with input; and
- Provide comments on the draft report when distributed to the public (fall 2017).

### Schedule

The Minnesota Department of Administration initiated the disparity study in June 2016. Keen Independent Research will submit preliminary results to each participating agency in fall 2017. Preliminary results will also be available for public review in fall 2017. The study will be completed in December 2017.

### 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](mailto:Disparity.Study@state.mn.us)
- Disparity Study Website: [www.mn.gov/disparity-study](http://www.mn.gov/disparity-study)
- Contact Keen Independent by email: [JointMNDisparityStudy2017@keenindependent.com](mailto:JointMNDisparityStudy2017@keenindependent.com)
- Contact Keen Independent by phone: (612) 888-2017