



City of Austin

Small and Minority Business Resources

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<http://www.austintexas.gov/smbr>

July 7, 2014

Dear Business Owner:

The City of Austin recently commissioned a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), Women Business Enterprise (WBE), Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) and veteran-owned business Disparity Study. This study will examine the participation of MBEs, WBEs and DBEs in public sector contracting and procurement activities over the last several years in a wide variety of areas including construction, consulting services, and other goods and services from business owners like you. Veteran-owned businesses will also be identified in the City's geographic and product markets for this study.

NERA Economic Consulting is the City's consultant to conduct the Disparity Study on our behalf.

In order for the study to be successful, NERA will need your participation and will contact you to gather information regarding your contract(s) and working experience with the City. Your response is needed to validate and supplement information the City has already provided to NERA.

Again, your participation is very important and we appreciate your support.

For more information about our Disparity Study please visit our website to review the Frequently Asked Questions and the kickoff presentation at: <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/disparity-study>.

If you have any questions about the Disparity Study, please contact the City's authorized contact person, Christie Kirkendall with NERA at Christie.Kirkendall@nera.com or call 512-383-4805; or please contact Blender Hill with SMBR at Blender.Hill@austintexas.gov or call 512-974-7677.

Thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,

Veronica Briseño Lara

Director

Small and Minority Business Resources Department