



MEMORANDUM

To: Veterans Commission

From: Veronica Briseño Lara, Director, Small and Minority Business
Resources Department (SMBR)

Date: February 17, 2016

Subject: MBE/WBE Disparity Study

The purpose of this memo is to inform you that a final draft of the Minority Business Enterprise and Women Business Enterprise (MBE/WBE) Disparity Study was released to the public on January 8, 2016, and was also presented to the Council Economic Opportunity Committee (EOC) on January 11, 2016. As you are aware, the study included consideration of a veterans program.

The draft study in its entirety is available on the SMBR website and can be accessed by clicking on the following hyperlink: <https://www.austintexas.gov/page/disparity-study>. The professional consultant for the disparity study, National Economic Research Associates, Inc. (NERA), will present an overview of the study data, methods, findings and conclusions to the MBE/WBE and Small Business Advisory Committee on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 in the Boards and Commissions Meeting room at City Hall. Additionally, a stakeholder meeting will be held on Thursday, March 10, 2016, in the City Council chamber. I invite you to attend one or both of these meetings to learn more about the study and/or provide feedback.

For your reference, attached to this memo is the study timeline of upcoming event. The video of NERA's presentation to the EOC on January 8th can be viewed online by clicking on the following hyperlink: <http://www.austintexas.gov/department/city-council/2016/20160111-eoc.htm>.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (512)974-2156 or via email at Veronica.Lara@austintexas.gov.

SAVE THE DATE



THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2016

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Austin City Hall Council Chambers, 301 W. Second St. Austin

Parking garage entry from Guadalupe Street.

Bring parking ticket for validation.

Report Unveiling: Business Disparities in Austin

The Results Are In!

Join the City of Austin's Small & Minority Business Resources Department as we discuss "Business Disparities in the Austin, Texas Market Area," a study of the business environment in the Austin-Round Rock Metropolitan Statistical Area from 2008 to 2013. The study will be used to set the City's goals around contracting with small businesses owned by minorities and women. It will also help us understand the condition of veteran business owners in our community.

National Economic Research Associates, Inc. (NERA), which conducted the study, will present their findings. Attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

RSVP at 512-974-7677 or DisparityStudy@AustinTexas.gov



View the Disparity Study online
www.AustinTexas.gov/Page/Disparity-Study





Disparity Study 2016 Timeline

January

January 8 – Final Disparity Study draft is released

January 11 – Disparity Study is presented to the City Council Economic Opportunity Committee

February

February 25 – City Council considers accepting Disparity Study

March

March 1 – Disparity Study is presented to the MBE/WBE and Small Business Advisory Committee

March 10 – SMBR hosts outreach meeting with stakeholders

March-April

SMBR collects community feedback

May

May 3 – MBE/WBE and Small Business Advisory Committee considers potential MBE/WBE ordinance revisions based on the Disparity Study

May 9 – City Council Economic Opportunity Committee considers potential MBE/WBE ordinance revisions based on the Disparity Study

June

City Council considers potential ordinance revisions based on the Disparity Study