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## **Missouri Department of Transportation Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Availability Study**

MoDOT is conducting research to update its overall annual goal for disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) participation in its federally-funded highway contracts. Keen Independent Research is performing the 2019 DBE Availability Study for MoDOT. The study includes:

- A state-wide survey of firms that perform highway-related work.
- Analysis of prime contractors and subcontractors on past MoDOT and local public agency projects (including DBEs and non-DBEs).
- In-depth interviews and public meetings about conditions for Missouri highway-related contractors and consultants (DBEs and other firms).
- Review of past disparity and availability studies in Missouri.

### **Study Team**

Keen Independent Research is an economic consulting firm that specializes in small business and DBE research. David Keen is leading this assignment. He has directed more than 100 similar studies for state DOTs and other agencies. The study team includes Holland & Knight and the telephone survey firm Customer Research International (CRI). Parson + Associates and Frankel Public Relations in Missouri will interview business owners across the state.

### **Schedule**

The DBE Availability Study started in late 2018 and will be completed by summer 2019.

### **External Stakeholder Group**

An External Stakeholder Group has been assembled to provide ongoing input.

### **How to Provide Input**

- Visit <http://www.keenindependent.com/modot2019availabilitystudy/>
- Call the study hotline: (816) 281-6841
- Email the study team: [modot2019availability@keenindependent.com](mailto:modot2019availability@keenindependent.com).
- Participate in a public meeting (see study website for dates and locations).
- Mail information to David Keen, Principal, Keen Independent Research LLC  
701 N. 1<sup>st</sup> St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Phoenix, AZ 85004.
- Provide comments to MoDOT at [DBEStudy@modot.mo.gov](mailto:DBEStudy@modot.mo.gov) or (573) 526-2978.