

Dallas Fort Worth Airport Disparity Study Frequently Asked Questions



The Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport is conducting a Disparity Study to ensure that minority, women, disadvantaged business enterprise (M/W/DBE), airport concession disadvantaged business enterprise (ACDBE) have equal access to contracting opportunities and that the DFW's current programs remain legally defensible and administratively successful.

What is a “Disparity Study”?

A disparity study involves compilation of evidence to determine whether the Airport has a strong basis for implementing race- and gender-conscious contracting remedies for its locally-funded contracts, and narrowly tailoring its D/M/W/ACDBE programs. This includes statistical evidence of disparities, if any, between the availability of M/WBEs and their utilization on DFW locally-funded contracts and related subcontracts and throughout the area economy as a whole.

The study will further examine factors necessary for entrepreneurial success, such as access to business capital, bonding, networks, suppliers, etc. The study also will gather anecdotal evidence of any continuing effects of past or present race and sex discrimination, and the impact of the current M/W/DBE, and ACDBE programs. Finally, the study will review the DFW's current programs and activities and make recommendations for future initiatives and enhancements, including data to assist DFW in setting its project-specific and overall goals

Who is conducting the study?

Colette Holt & Associates (CHA), a nationally recognized expert team on disparity studies and D/M/W/ACDBE programs, in conjunction with local partners Nervi' Strategic Solutions, LLC and MRR & Associates, LLC.

How can business owners and other interested parties be involved?

The participation of business owners and other interested parties such as trade associations, advocacy groups, community organizations, etc. is critical to the study's outcomes in two important ways. The study team will contact businesses to

confirm information on specific contracts and/or to receive additional contract information that is currently not available to the Airport. The study team will also conduct interviews with business owners and stakeholders to collect information regarding discriminatory barriers and DFW's programs.

How will the public meeting, stakeholder listening sessions and business owner interviews be conducted and how do I participate?

CHA will host a public information meeting to introduce the study methodology and process. A bit later in the process, CHA will host stakeholder listening sessions. Third, small group interviews of business owners will be conducted in multi-session meetings. Lastly, CHA will administer an online survey for business owners to fill out.

Participants who are unable to attend the meetings or the interviews but who would like to provide input to the Study are encouraged to submit written statements at the study email: dfw-study@mwbelaw.com.

When will the study be completed?

The study is anticipated to be completed Spring 2019.

Where can I find additional information?

For additional information, visit the study website at dfw.disparity-study.com.

Who do I contact with questions?

You may contact the Study team via dfw-study@mwbelaw.com or you may contact:

Tamela Lee
Vice President Business Diversity and
Development Department
tblee@dfwairport.com
(972) 973 5515.