

1. WHAT IS A DBE DISPARITY STUDY AND WHY WAS IT NECESSARY?

The federal government requires transportation agencies to implement the federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program if they receive U.S. Department of Transportation funds. As part of its federal DBE program, JWA needed to identify whether there was a disparity between the availability of minority/women-owned businesses in the market area and the Airport's utilization of such businesses.

2. WHO CONDUCTED THE STUDY?

On August 25, 2015, following a competitive bid process, the Orange County Board of Supervisors authorized a contract with MGT of America to conduct a DBE Disparity Study for John Wayne Airport.

3. WHAT FACTORS WERE CONSIDERED IN DETERMINING WHETHER DISPARITY EXISTS?

Disparity is calculated in the form of an index. The disparity index is a ratio of the availability of and the utilization of MBEs/WBEs. The closer the index is to 100, the better the balance between the availability and utilization of small and disadvantaged firms in the defined market area.

4. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT THAT BUSINESS OWNERS PARTICIPATE THE STUDY?

Participation in this study provided business owners with the opportunity to discuss their experiences in doing business with the Airport. Their input helped inform the findings and recommendations of the study and, ultimately, helped shape future outreach practices at the Airport. A robust DBE Disparity Study allows the Airport to identify best practices that will enhance existing contracting practices, improve the existing DBE program and, ideally, stimulate economic growth for local businesses.

5. WHAT WILL JWA DO WITH THE STUDY ONCE IT'S COMPLETE?

The study was completed on September 30, 2016. JWA is committed to its outreach practices to small businesses, trade organizations, and DBEs.

6. WHO SHOULD INTERESTED PARTIES CONTACT TO GET MORE INFORMATION?

For more information about the DBE Disparity Study, please contact:

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