

## Washington State Department of Transportation in Partnership with the Federal Aviation Administration

## Disparity Study Business Owner Interview Sessions Seattle\* Spokane\* Bellingham\* Tri-Cities

Dear Business Owner:

The Washington State Department of Transportation, in partnership with the Federal Aviation Administration, is conducting a Disparity Study regarding FAA grants awarded to Washington State Airports. This study is conducted to ensure that disadvantaged businesses have equal access to contracting opportunities and that the current program remains legally defensible and administratively successful. This study is independent of the WSDOT study that was released early 2017, and the Washington State study that is currently being conducted.

As part of the study process, you are invited to participate in a group interview of business owners. These important sessions will provide an opportunity to relate your experiences with doing business with Washington State airports and the DBE program. Your insight and experiences will help to identify potential program improvements.

The registration link will generate a short survey, which will place you in the appropriate interview group. Sessions will last approximately two hours.

## **REGISTRATION**

All persons requiring reasonable accommodations, including language assistance, should directly contact Colette Holt & Associates, the firm facilitating the sessions, no later than one week prior to the selected session.

We appreciate and look forward to your participation. Your insight and experiences will help us identify potential improvements and support FAA's, WSDOT's and the airports' commitment to fairness and inclusion.

Please contact Colette Holt & Associates at <u>wsdot-faa-study@mwbelaw.com</u> with questions regarding these sessions.

If you have any questions about the Study or this request, you may also contact WSDOT's Assistant Study Project Manager, Michael Carpenter, <a href="mailto:Carpenm@wsdot.wa.gov">Carpenm@wsdot.wa.gov</a> or (360) 522-0848. You may also visit the Study's website for general information: <a href="mailto:http://wsdot-faa.disparity-study.com">http://wsdot-faa.disparity-study.com</a>.

We look forward to your participation.