



# News from the Ohio Turnpike

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**For Immediate Release:**

## **Ohio Turnpike seeks input at public hearings for MBE/DBE disparity study**

**BEREA (May 6, 2015)** – The Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission and the Ohio Department of Transportation are jointly conducting an independent disparity study that will assist with administration of programs for socially and economically disadvantaged, minority-owned, and woman-owned businesses.

The Commission and ODOT invite the public to participate in public hearings to receive information about the study and learn how the community can actively participate. At the hearings, study leaders also will share information about the project and provide opportunities for the contracting community to engage directly with the project team.

During each meeting, the study team will describe the disparity study including its purpose and methodology. Following the presentation, attendees will have the opportunity to submit verbal testimony about their experiences doing work in the local transportation-related contracting industry and to ask questions.

**There will be two joint Commission and ODOT public hearings on May 13 and 14:**

WEDNESDAY, May 13, 2015, 5:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m., City of Maumee Council Chambers, 400 Conant Street, Maumee, Ohio, 43537

THURSDAY, May 14, 2015, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM Eastgate Regional Council of Governments, 100 E. Federal Street, Suite 1000, Youngstown, Ohio, 44503

“Participation in the study is encouraged and we look forward to an independent review of current programs and gathering insights about how we might improve contracting opportunities for local businesses, many of which are minority- or woman-owned,” said Tommie Jo Marsilio, OTIC Director of Contracts Administration.

The study team is composed of five firms - BBC Research & Consulting, Exstare Federal Services Group, LLC, Holland & Knight LLP, Supplier Diversity Research, and Customer Research International.

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