

Oregon Department of Transportation 2022 Disparity Study



Presented by:

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Associated General Contractors of American
Oregon Columbia Chapter /

Oregon Department of Transportation

Annual Meeting

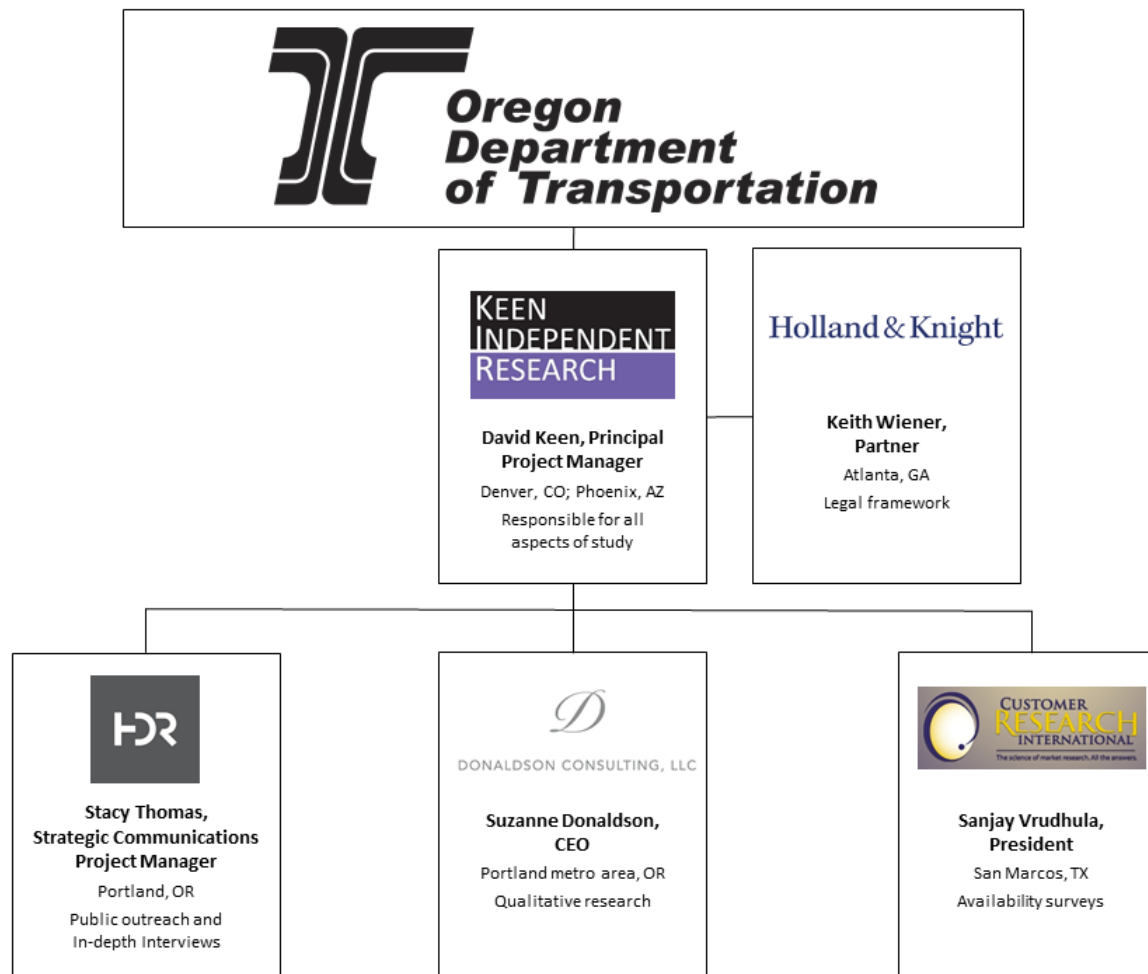
March 4, 2022

**KEEN
INDEPENDENT
RESEARCH**

Topics

1. Disparity Study Team
2. Context for 2022 Disparity Study
3. USDOT requirements for state DOT operation of Federal DBE Program and why study is necessary
4. Timeline
5. Input from the public

1. Disparity study team



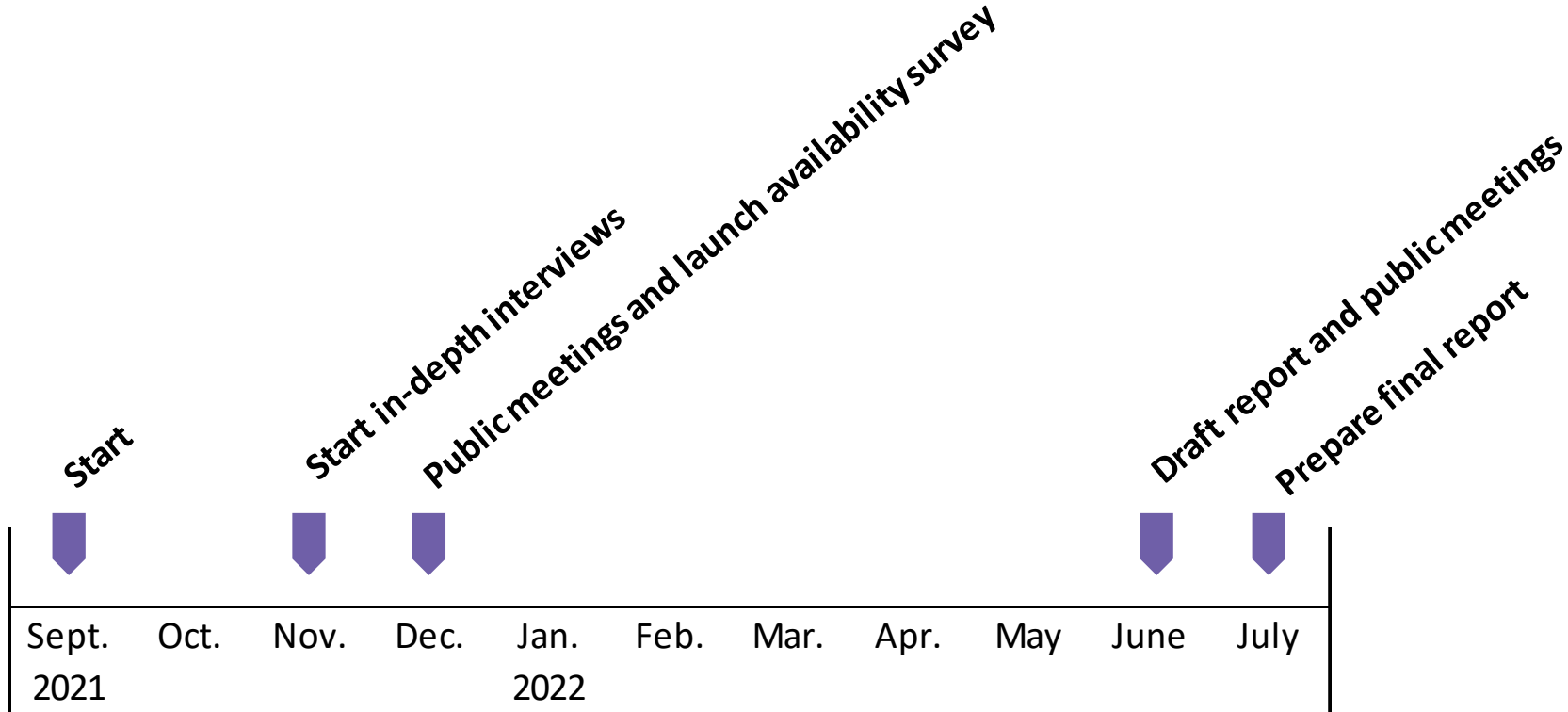
2. Context for 2022 Disparity Study

- New focus on equity across United States and at USDOT
- Overall DEI efforts across State of Oregon government and at ODOT
- Study will focus on contract equity, but examine other issues as well (e.g., employment, housing, access to capital, bonding)
- When examining contract equity, the study team will look beyond ODOT FHWA-funded contracts to include state-funded transportation contracts and local agency contracts
- Recommendations will include those inside and outside DBE Program

3. Why conduct a disparity study?

- ODOT must implement the Federal DBE Program, per 49 CFR Part 26
- Disparity study provides information to help ODOT:
 - Set overall goal for DBE participation on FHWA-funded contracts
 - Consider whether ODOT can achieve overall DBE goal solely through neutral means
 - If ODOT needs to continue DBE contract goals, assess the specific race/ethnic/gender groups eligible for that program component
- USDOT instructed agencies to conduct disparity studies after 2005 Ninth Circuit decision in *Western States Paving v. Washington State DOT*
- Also, outside review of ODOT practices and other policies is useful

4. Timeline



5. Input from the public

- Experiences starting, growing and sustaining a business in Oregon
- Access to capital
- Bonding
- Informal networks
- Attempting to work on public agency and private sector contracts
- Prime contract opportunities compared with subcontract opportunities
- The Federal DBE Program
- Issues you recommend the study examine

How to provide input

Keen Independent study team

- Study website: www.keenindependent.com/ODOTDisparityStudy2022
- Study email: ODOTDisparityStudy2022@keenindependent.com
- Study hotline: 503-765-6663
- Mail: Annette Humm Keen, Principal, Keen Independent Research
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