



OZARKS  
TRANSPORTATION  
ORGANIZATION  
A METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MAY 15, 2017

**MEDIA CONTACT**

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***Attachment: Disadvantaged Business Enterprise FY 2018 Goal***

The U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program is designed to assist small businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, including minorities and women, in participating in contracting opportunities created by USDOT financial assistance programs. The OTO adopted a DBE Plan in FY 2015, since the OTO utilizes USDOT funds.

Every year the OTO, as part of the DBE Plan, updates the DBE goal required on all USDOT assisted contracts made by the OTO. The OTO looks at a formula, outlined in Federal law and adopted in the OTO's DBE Plan, to evaluate the number of contracts that should be awarded each fiscal year to DBEs. The updated FY 2018 DBE Goal is attached, as well as the rationale. The OTO makes every effort to utilize DBEs regardless of an established goal. The percentage of available DBEs in the OTO area is small.

**The public comment period will end on June 14, 2017. After reviewing recommendations and public comments, the OTO Board of Directors will decide whether to formally adopt the changes at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 15, 2017, at noon, at 2208 W. Chesterfield Blvd. Suite 101, Springfield, MO.**

The proposed changes will be available for review at the Ozarks Transportation Organization offices and at [giveyourinput.org](http://giveyourinput.org). Comments may be submitted in writing to Ozarks Transportation Organization, 2208 W. Chesterfield Blvd. Suite 101, Springfield, MO 65807, emailed to [comment@ozarkstransportation.org](mailto:comment@ozarkstransportation.org) or faxed to 417-862-6013. The Amendment packet is also attached in this email press release.

**Ozarks Transportation Organization** is your Springfield-regional Metropolitan Planning Organization, or MPO. The MPO is a body of elected and appointed members who work together with local, state and federal elected officials and policy-makers, serving to make funding and planning decisions for transportation within the Springfield, MO region.

Public input is a cornerstone of our operations. To tell us what you think, please email us at [comment@ozarkstransportation.org](mailto:comment@ozarkstransportation.org). Find us on Facebook, or on Twitter @giveusyourinput; call, or stop by our office at 2208 W. Chesterfield Blvd. Suite 101, Springfield, MO.

*Si usted necesita la ayuda de un traductor del idioma español, por favor comuníquese con la Andy Thomason al teléfono 417-865-3042, cuando menos 48 horas antes de la reunión.*

*Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Andy Thomason at 417-865-3042 at least 2 working days prior to the expiration of the public comment period.*

*If you need relay services please call the following numbers: 711 - Nationwide relay service; 1-800-735-2966 - Missouri TTY service; 1-800-735-0135 - Missouri voice carry-over service.*

*OTO fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For more information or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, see [www.ozarkstransportation.org](http://www.ozarkstransportation.org), or call 417-865-3042.*