

LWCAMPO NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Laredo & Webb County Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (LWCAMPO), as a recipient of Federal financial assistance and under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes, ensures that no person shall on the grounds of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any Department programs and activities.

Statutory/Regulations Authorities
42 U.S.C. § et seq., 78 stat. 252
49 C.F.R Part 21
28 C.F.R Part 50.3

OVERVIEW OF TITLE VI REGULATION REQUIREMENTS

All programs funded in whole or in part from federal financial assistance are subject to Title VI regulation requirements, i.e. MPO (direct recipient of federal financial assistance) & to its sub-recipients (e.g., contractors, consultants, local governments, etc.).

- Further extended by Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987
- Further defined by Executive Order 12898 & Executive Order 13166

KEY TERMS:

Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987

Extended Title VI Regulation Requirements to all programs within an agency that receives federal assistance regardless of the funding source for individual programs.

Executive Order 12898

Environmental Justice (EJ) – Federal action that identifies & addresses disproportionately high & adverse human health & environmental effects of programs or activities on minority & low-income populations, with the goal of achieving environmental protection for all communities.

Executive Order 13166

Improving access to services for persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP)

Executive Order 13985

Equity – Seeks to advance equity through various efforts, including, but not limited to, coordinating across the Federal government, identifying methods to assess equity, allocating Federal resources to advance fairness & opportunity.

Justice40 Initiative

Includes investments that can benefit disadvantaged communities across one or more of the following seven areas: climate change, clean energy & energy efficiency, clean transit, affordable & sustainable housing, training & workforce development, remediation & reduction of legacy pollution, & the development of critical clean water & wastewater infrastructure.

WHAT DOES TITLE VI AUTHORIZE?

Title VI authorizes and directs federal agencies to enact “rules, regulations, or orders of general applicability” to achieve the statute’s objectives.

WHERE CAN I FIND THE TITLE VI IMPLEMENTATION REGULATIONS FOR USDOT & FHWA?

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) implemented its Title VI program in 49 C.F.R. Part 21 whilst the Federal Highway Administration’s (FHWA) implementing regulations can be found in 23 C.F.R. Part 200.

WHAT IS LWCAMPO STAFF’S RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE VI & RELATED STATUSES?

As staff of the Laredo & Webb County Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (LWCAMPO), it is everyone’s responsibility to prevent, minimize, & eradicate any form of discrimination across the MPO’s provisions, services, and/or activities.

WHAT ARE THE PROHIBITED FORM OF DISCRIMINATIONS?

- ◆ The denial of services, financial aid, or other benefits provided under a program;
- ◆ Distinctions in the quality, quantity, or manner in which a benefit is provided;
- ◆ Segregation or separation of persons in any part of the program;
- ◆ Restriction in the enjoyment of any advantages, privileges, or other benefits provided to others;
- ◆ Differing standards or requirements for participation;
- ◆ Methods of administration that directly or indirectly, or through contractual relationships would defeat or impair the accomplishment of effective nondiscrimination; (and/or)
- ◆ Discrimination in any activities or services related to a highway, infrastructure or facility built or repaired in whole or in part with federal funds.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE TITLE VI NONDISCRIMINATION PLAN?

The purpose of this plan is to inform the public on the Title VI regulations & requirements applicable to the MPO, as well as outline the method(s) of administration to ensure compliance across LWCAMPO’s plans, programs & activities.

WHAT DOES THE TITLE VI NONDISCRIMINATION PLAN CONSIST OF?

- **Title VI Complaint Procedures** — provides guidance, timeline, & contact information in regard to processing complaints alleging discrimination in the MPO’s provisions, services, or activities.
- **Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan** — addresses the responsibilities and outlines implementation procedures to meet the needs of individuals with limited English proficiency skills
- **Infrastructure Investment And Jobs Act (IIJA / also known as Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL))** — provides updated federal regulations & requirements in regard to the transportation planning process, e.g. Executive Order 13985 & Justice40 Initiative.
- **Data Collection & Analysis** – provides the methodology, e.g. tools & techniques, the MPO utilizes to fulfill the requirements outlined by federal legislation to identify public outreach strategies, & facilitate public participation activities