

2020 Title VI Goals and Accomplishments



Pima Association of Governments

August 1, 2020

Introduction

Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1994 Executive Order on Environmental Justice require that any federally funded planning, programming and project implementation activities be free of discrimination. Further guidance from the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration incorporates the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations in addition to Title VI and Environmental Justice requirements into regional transportation plans. Today, federal transportation legislation such as the FAST Act (www.fhwa.dot.gov) recognizes these non-discrimination requirements as applying to both the planning, as well as to the individual project implementation phase. Additionally, Title VI compliance needs to include both data collection and analytic methods to assess impacts to protected groups and their level of public involvement.

Pima Association of Governments (PAG) is committed to complying with the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all federally funded programs and activities. PAG operates without regard to race, color, national origin, age, gender, disability, income status, or level of English proficiency and will make every effort to address and eliminate such discrimination, if found to exist. PAG meetings are held in accessible locations, and materials are provided in accessible formats or in languages other than English upon request within a reasonable advance notice period.

The following document highlights PAG's accomplishments in Title VI compliance during the previous year and the organization's goals in the year to come.

Accomplishments

- Every agenda for every public meeting includes a note on the bottom informing members of the public how to request accommodations for disability or translation services. In addition, a Title VI notice to the public is placed near the entrance of every public meeting.
- Spanish translations of PAG materials have been provided when necessary for PAG functions or for community outreach.
- Of special note is the extensive Spanish-language outreach that occurred as part of PAG's Census outreach campaign. This outreach included numerous brochures, billboards, banner ads, and television and radio commercials, each in both English and Spanish. In the months leading up to and following the April 1 Census Day, PAG sent over a dozen distinct emails to the PAG constant contact list, totaling over 2,500 words, each one with a corresponding Spanish translation.

- PAG Title VI staff provided training for other PAG employees on the duties and responsibilities of the organization as it relates to non-discrimination, environmental justice, and implementation of the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) plan.
- PAG Title VI staff updated the LEP roster, which identifies staff members who speak languages other than English.
- No Title VI complaints, either against PAG or against one of its member agencies, were received by PAG within the last year.

Goals

- Provide training to PAG staff on Title VI roles and responsibilities.
- Update the LEP roster by including new hires and updating information on existing team members.
- Aid community members who request help with filing of Title VI complaints and investigate and process any new Title VI complaints efficiently.
- Based on training from FHWA and ADOT, design and implement improved procedures for demographic data collection at public meetings, and on contract bidders and awardees. Review the collected data at the end of the year to provide a baseline for 2021 goals.