

8. APPROVAL OF TITLE VI PROGRAM

Background

The Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in any program or activity administered by recipients of Federal financial assistance. Discrimination includes the denial of meaningful access for persons with limited proficiency in the English language. As a condition for receiving Federal financial assistance, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) require H-GAC to adopt a Title VI Program every three years. H-GAC's 2021 triennial Title VI Program update documents that the agency is in full compliance with the U.S. Department of Transportation's Title VI nondiscrimination regulations.

Current Situation

H-GAC's 2021 triennial Title VI Program update includes:

- A nondiscrimination policy statement;
- Notice to the public of their rights under the Title VI statute;
- A Public Participation Plan;
- A plan to accommodate persons with limited English communication skills;
- An updated demographic profile of the region;
- A description of Environmental Justice provisions;
- Measures to assess regional equity in the impact of transportation; and
- Procedures for the submission and resolution of Title VI complaints.

Two virtual public meetings were conducted on July 22 to present information on the draft of the Title VI report and receive public comments. A public comment period was open between July 12 and August 11. The public comments received through the process and responses are available at the following [website](#). The TAC recommended the Title VI report and the attached Resolution No. 2021-23 for TPC's approval at the meeting in August. Upon the TPC's approval, the Title VI report will be presented to H-GAC Board of Directors in September, and will be submitted to TxDOT, FHWA, and FTA. The full document can be found on the H-GAC website at: h-gac.com/title-vi-program

Action Requested

TPC approval of Resolution No. 2021-23.



Resolution

NO. 2021-23

APPROVING THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL TITLE VI PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000d *et seq.* (“the Act”) and 49 CFR Part 21, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), the Federal Highways Administration (FHWA), and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin; and

WHEREAS, the Houston-Galveston Area Council intends that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any of the agency’s programs or activities, regardless of funding source; and

WHEREAS, as a recipient of federal funds, the Houston-Galveston Area Council is required to comply with the requirements of the Act and applicable implementing regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Houston-Galveston Area Council is required to update the Title VI Program every three years; and

WHEREAS, the Houston-Galveston Area Council is committed to a policy of non-discrimination in the conduct of its business, including its Title VI responsibilities for the delivery of equitable and accessible transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Council for the Houston-Galveston Area Council has considered and determined to approve the agency’s Title VI non-discrimination program and policies, which includes a Language Assistance Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Council has authority to approve the Houston-Galveston Area Council Title VI Program by resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA THAT:

The Houston-Galveston Area Council Title VI Program is hereby approved.

Agenda Item 08
TPC Meeting Packet - 8/27/21

PASSED AND APPROVED this 27th day of August 2021, at a regularly called meeting of the Transportation Policy Council.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Hon. Kenneth Clark, Chairman
Transportation Policy Council

Hon. Grady Prestage, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council