

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration Arizona Division

November 14, 2024

4000 N. Central Ave, Suite 1500 Phoenix, Arizona 85012-3500 (602) 379-3646 (602) 382-8998 (FAX) http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/azdiv

In Reply Refer to: CIVL 15 ADOT's FY2025 Title VI Implementation Plan Approval Letter

Jennifer Toth, Director Arizona Department of Transportation 206 South 17th Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85007 Via Email: jtoth@azdot.gov

Dear Ms. Toth:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Arizona Division Office has completed its review of the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) FY2025 Title VI Implementation Plan that was submitted on October 1, 2024. As required by 23 CFR § 200.9(b)(11), ADOT is required to submit a Title VI Implementation Plan to FHWA for review by October 1st annually. Based upon our analysis, it appears that ADOT's FY2025 Title VI Implementation Plan meets the requirements that are set forth in 23 CFR § 200.9.

I wanted to let you know that ADOT's External Civil Rights Program Office (CRO) staff was very responsive and helpful in completing the review of this significant document. Their cooperation is very much appreciated. The FHWA Arizona Division Office looks forward to providing oversight and partnering with ADOT External CRO staff in implementing ADOT's FY2025 Title VI Implementation Plan to ensure continued Title VI compliance. Please contact Tremaine Wilson, FHWA Civil Rights/Realty Specialist, by email at tremaine.wilson@dot.gov or by phone at (602) 382-8970 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Karlai

Karla S. Petty Division Administrator

ecc: Teresa Welborn, ADOT Florentina Samartinean, ADOT Lucy Schrader, ADOT Page **2** of **2** November 14, 2024

Danielle Valentine, ADOT Joanna Lucero, ADOT Anthony Sarhan, FHWA Arizona Alan Hansen, FHWA Arizona Greta Halle, FHWA Arizona

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION EXTERNAL CIVIL RIGHTS PROGRAMS

TITLE VI NONDISCRIMINATION PROGRAM



Jennifer Toth ADOT Director

Teresa Welborn Deputy Director/ Chief Operating Officer

Florentina Samartinean Employee and Business Development, Administrator

> Lucy Schrader External Civil Rights Program Manager

If information is needed in another language, please contact ADOT's External Civil Rights Programs at (602) 712-8946. Si se necesita información en Español, por favor comuníquese con los Programas Externos de Derechos Civiles de ADOT al (602) 712-8946.

October 1, 2024

This Title VI Implementation Plan (IP) includes ADA and other protected classes outside of Title VI as protections within ADOT's Title VI Nondiscrimination Program, however the plan is designed to serve as standard operating procedures on how the ADOT External Civil Rights Programs ensures Title VI compliance and oversight throughout ADOT's FHWA funded programs and activities in accordance with 23 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 200.9. This document will be updated annually to reflect changes in law, administration, regulations, and/or policy. This document is intended to provide guidance to department personnel and other interested entities and is not intended to, does not and may not be relied upon to create any right or benefit enforceable by law by a party against the department.

For individuals with disabilities, this document will be made available upon request in alternate formats. To obtain a copy in an alternate format, please contact us through the methods listed below:

ADOT MD 154A, 1801 W. Jefferson St., Suite. 101 Phoenix, AZ 85007 Phone: (602) 712-8946 Email: <u>civilrightsoffice@azdot.gov</u>

Danielle Valentine Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Coordinator Krystal Smith ADA Nondiscrimination Program Coordinator

A digital copy of this Plan can be found at:

https://azdot.gov/business/civil-rightsexternal-eeo-contractor-compliance/title-vi-nondiscrimination-prog ram/title-vi

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ADOT) OVERVIEW

The ADOT is a multimodal transportation agency serving one of the fastest-growing areas of the country. ADOT is responsible for planning, building and operating a complex highway system; building and maintaining bridges; and operating the Grand Canyon National Park Airport, the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) and the Enforcement and Compliance Division (ECD) for oversight of commercial vehicles.

ADOT is funded by the people who drive or own private and commercial vehicles, purchase fuel, or use transportation services. Individuals and businesses invest money through fuel taxes, motor carrier fees, vehicle title, registration, and license fees to build and operate the state's transportation systems. In addition, ADOT is also annually awarded federal funds by the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) including the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) to help support ADOT's agencies and programs, and their continued growth.

ADOT, with the support of USDOT, is proud to have created a transportation system that creates job opportunities through the planning, building, and maintenance of its projects and other innovative ideas. These projects, in turn, generate economic development and attract a varied workforce to join our community. ADOT consistently strives to successfully deliver a range of transportation projects through the efficient use of funds and the annual proposed budgets.

As a recipient of federal funds through USDOT, ADOT is held to a standard of nondiscrimination as further described in this document. These guidelines, identified as Title VI Nondiscrimination Implementation Program Plan (Title VI Plan), were developed in accordance with federal compliance guidelines. Furthermore, as part of the implementation process, this Title VI Plan is shared with internal ADOT department directors and external agency administrators as part of the implementation process.

To request further information, please contact the Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Coordinator, Danielle Valentine, at (602) 712-8946 or Dvalentine@azdot.gov.

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1. INTRODUCTION

A. Policy Overview and Objectives

In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act 1964 (Title VI) the ADOT assures through its policies and procedures 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 ADOT or ADOT sponsored program or activity. In addition to Title VI, ADOT's Title VI Nondiscrimination Program (Title VI Program) extends protections under the following Nondiscrimination statutes: Section 162 (a) of the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1973 (23 USC 324) (sex), Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (age), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973/Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (disability), Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982 (49 U.S.C. 47123) (creed), Executive Order (EO) 12898 (Environmental Justice), and EO 13166 (Limited English Proficiency). While ADOT receives funds from various sources, there is no distinction between the sources of funding. Questions about ADOT's Title VI Program may be directed to:

Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Attention: Danielle Valentine Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Coordinator MD 154A, 1801 W. Jefferson St., Suite: 101 Phoenix, AZ 85007 Email: DValentine@azdot.gov Phone: (602)712-8946 Website:

https://azdot.gov/business/civil-rightsexternal-eeo-contractor-compliance/title-vi-nondiscrimination-prog ram/title-vi

ADOT Title VI Program objectives:

- 1. To be transparent with the public on ADOT's standard operating procedures to ensure nondiscrimination in all ADOT programs and activities.
- 2. To assign and clarify roles, responsibilities, and procedures for ensuring compliance with Title VI and all related nondiscrimination statutes.
- 3. To ensure that all participants and beneficiaries affected by ADOT's programs, projects, and activities receive the services, benefits, and opportunities to which they are entitled without regard to race, color, national origin, income status, or limited English proficiency (LEP).
- 4. To bring awareness to all ADOT employees, including consultants and contractors performing work on behalf of ADOT of their roles and responsibilities to ensure nondiscrimination in all ADOT programs, services, and activities, regardless of funding source.
- 5. To establish procedures for identifying and eliminating discrimination when found to exist.
- 6. To establish ADOT processes for conducting Title VI internal program area reviews and subrecipient reviews to determine effectiveness of the area's compliance activities at all levels.
- 7. To establish ADOT compliance and enforcement procedures to address deficiencies or when noncompliance is determined for internal program areas and subrecipients.
- 8. To describe the procedures for processing complaints by persons who believe that they have been subjected to discrimination under Title VI in any ADOT service, program, or activity, to include programs administered by ADOT subrecipients.

B. Standard DOT Title VI Assurances

ADOT's Director is required to sign Standard USDOT Title VI Assurances in accordance with USDOT order 1050.2A. A copy of ADOT's signed Standard Assurances may be found by clicking the link below:

https://azdot.gov/business/civil-rightsexternal-eeo-contractor-compliance/title-vi-nondiscrimination-program/title-vi

C. Policy Statement

TITLE VI AND THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), as policy, assures nondiscrimination compliance on the grounds of race, color, national origin and disability as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Title II of the ADA, Executive Order (EO) 12898 (Environmental Justice), EO 13166 (Limited English Proficiency), and the Code of Federal Regulations 49 § 21, and Code of Federal Regulations 23 § 200.

No person will be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any ADOT program or activity. Every effort will be made to ensure nondiscrimination in all of its programs, services, and activities, whether federally funded or not. ADOT's subrecipients, grant recipients, contractors and entities authorized to conduct business on behalf of the agency must also comply with this policy.

The External Civil Rights Programs and ADOT program areas will work closely to implement their mutual Title VI and ADA nondiscrimination program responsibilities. Furthermore, each program area will work to discern and limit the adverse effects of its programs and activities on the health, safety or economics of minority and low income populations. Each program area will take full responsibility for preventing discrimination and ensuring nondiscrimination compliance in all ADOT programs and activities.

The Director signs assurances and delegates full authority to the ADA/Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Coordinators and the External Civil Rights Programs to oversee and implement ADA and Title VI regulations.

Jennifer Toth Arizona Department of Transportation - Director

10/01/2024

Date

D. Delegation of Authority

TITLE VI AND THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

SUMMARY: Through this notice, the Director delegates all compliance authority for the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)'s Title VI Nondiscrimination Program and the External ADA Program to the ADA/Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Coordinators. The ADA/Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Coordinators report to the Civil Rights Manager who reports to the Employee and Business Development Administrator.

DATE: Effective upon signature

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Title VI/ADA Nondiscrimination Program Coordinators, Danielle Valentine and Krystal Smith at MD 154A, 1801 W. Jefferson St., Ste 101., Phoenix, AZ 85007 (602)712-8946, civilrightsoffice@azdot.gov.

Section A. Authority Delegated

- 1. The External Civil Rights Programs Manager is hereby delegated authority and assigned responsibility for directing and managing all aspects of the Title VI and ADA Nondiscrimination programs including providing direction and oversight for Civil Rights administrative services, setting departmental administrative policy, and effectively managing program staff.
- 2. In addition to what is described above, the External Civil Rights Programs Manager is hereby delegated authority to carry out the following responsibilities:
 - a. Provide guidance to leadership and management regarding all Title VI and ADA responsibilities. This includes identifying facility-related priorities, developing plans, and providing directives for improving nondiscrimination conditions for ADOT employees, customers, and stakeholders.
 - b. Provide ADOT departments and field office staff with Title VI and ADA program responsibilities. This includes Title VI liaison responsibilities for employees designated or identified by ADOT Leadership. Liaisons are utilized for the delivery and oversight of Title VI and ADA Program duties.
 - c. The External Civil Rights Programs Manager has full authority to review policies and/or programs developed, administered and/or managed by ADOT to detect possible conflicts with the Title VI and ADA program federal requirements. The External Civil Rights Programs Manager will perform any such additional duties as may be assigned to by the Employee and Business Development Administrator by applicable law(s) or regulation(s).

Section B. Authority to Re-delegate

1. The External Civil Rights Programs Manager may re-delegate any of the authority delegated under Section A (above).

Section C. Authority Excepted

1. The authority delegated in this document does not include the authority to sue or be sued or issue a waiver of federal law or regulations.

Section D. Statutory/Regulation Authorities

During the performance of duties, the ADA/Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Coordinator complies with the following nondiscrimination statutes and authorities, including but not limited to:

- 1. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq., 78 stat. 252) and 49 CFR § 21;
- The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. § 4601);
- 3. Federal Aid Highway Act of 1973 (23 U.S.C. § 324 et seq.);
- 4. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 794 et seq.) and 49 CFR § 27;
- 5. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C § 6101 et seq.);
- 6. Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982 (49 U.S.C. § 471, Section 47123), as amended;
- 7. The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (PL 100-209);
- 8. Title II and III of the ADA (42 U.S.C. §§ 12131-12189); 49 C.F.R. § 37 and § 38;
- 9. The Federal Aviation Administration's Nondiscrimination Statue (49 U.S.C § 47123);
- 10. FMCSA Title VI/Nondiscrimination Regulation 49 C.F.R. § 303;
- 11. EO 12898 Environmental Justice (EJ);
- 12. EO 13166 (70 Fed. Reg. et 74087 to 74100) Limited English Proficiency (LEP);
- 13. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1987 et seq.).

Jennifer Toth Arizona Department of Transportation - Director

10/01/2024

Date

2. ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING

A. Staffing

ADOT Director

The Director is responsible for supervising and administering the overall activities of the department, its divisions and employees. As such, the Director signs all necessary nondiscrimination assurances to aid in ensuring all civil rights requirements are met. Duties or powers are delegated to carry out the efficient operation of the department.

Employee and Business Development Administrator

The Employee and Business Development Administrator reports to the ADOT Director through the ADOT Deputy Director. The Administrator's program oversight includes the following: TitleVI/Nondiscrimination, Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity (AA/EEO) Contractor Compliance, EJ, and the External ADA/Section 504 Programs. To comply with Code of Federal Regulations 49 part 21 and other regulatory statutes, the day-to-day Title VI roles and responsibilities are delegated to the External Civil Rights Programs Manager.

External Civil Rights Programs Manager

The External Civil Rights Programs Manager reports to the Employee and Business Development Administrator. The External Civil Rights Programs Manager oversees program oversight of the following: Title VI/Nondiscrimination, AA/EEO Contractor Compliance, EJ, and the External ADA/504 Program. To comply with Code of Federal Regulations 49 part 21 and other regulatory statutes, the day-to-day Title VI roles and responsibilities are delegated to the ADA/Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Coordinator.

ADA/Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Coordinators

The ADA/Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Coordinators report to the External Civil Rights Programs Manager. The ADA/Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Coordinator's oversight includes both the day-to-day implementation of the Title VI Program as well as the External ADA Program implementation. The ADA/Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Coordinator is the department expert whose responsibilities include:

- 1. Delegated authority to have a direct line of communication to the ADOT Director.
- 2. Providing guidance and technical assistance on Title VI matters with overall program responsibility for preparing required reports regarding Title VI compliance and initiating activities including developing procedures, monitoring and:
 - a. Promptly resolving deficiencies and documenting remedial action within a reasonable period of time not to exceed 90 days.
 - b. Collecting statistical data (race, color, national origin and low-income status) of participants in and beneficiaries of ADOT programs.
 - c. Identifying and eliminating discrimination when found to exist.
- 3. Ensuring the Title VI Assurances are signed by the current ADOT Director.
- 4. Complying with ADOT's procedures to investigate Title VI complaints filed with ADOT against its subrecipients; investigate and address complaints filed against ADOT under non-FHWA funded programs.
- 5. Forwarding all FHWA-related discrimination Title VI complaints filed with ADOT against ADOT or its subrecipients to the FHWA Arizona Division Office.
- 6. Conducting Title VI reviews of program areas: Planning and Programming, Procurement and Contract Services, Communications and Community Relations, Environmental Planning (EP),

Right-of-Way (ROW), Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO), Engineering Consultant Section (ECS), Contracts and Specifications, Construction Contract Administration, Research, Local Public Agency Section (LPA), Business Engagement and Compliance (BECO), Project Management Group (PMG), and Alternative Delivery/Major Projects.

- 7. Regularly reviewing ADOT program directives in coordination with State Program officials, and where applicable, including Title VI and related requirements. ADOT's ADA/Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Coordinator meets this requirement through review of quarterly Liaison reports, which require reporting any proposed program directives. When it is determined that directives have Title VI implications, the ADA/Title VI Program Nondiscrimination Coordinator works with the program area liaison and program area management to develop recommendations to ensure compliance is achieved.
- 8. Conducting and coordinating Title VI training for ADOT.
- 9. Preparing and submitting an annual Title VI Implementation Plan and Title VI report of accomplishments for the past year and goals for next year to FHWA.
- 10. Updating the Title VI Program plans as necessary and submitting to USDOT authorities such as FHWA, FAA, FTA, FMCSA, and NHTSA.
- 11. Developing Title VI information for distribution to the general public in other languages, as needed.
- 12. Monitoring public participation and awareness of Title VI policies and procedures for their effectiveness in reaching the public.
- 13. Developing and overseeing implementation of ADOT's LEP Plan.
- 14. Monitoring the review of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents to ensure compliance with EJ, LEP, and Title VI.

Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Manager

The Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Manager reports to the ADA/Title VI Nondiscrimination Coordinator. The Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Manager works to assist the ADA/Title VI Nondiscrimination Coordinator in their review and responsibilities over all aspects of the Title VI Program. In particular, the Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Manager has the delegated responsibility of ADOT's Title VI program and oversees the Civil Rights Specialists to ensure the day to day compliance with ADOT's Implementation Plan. The Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Manager's duties include, but will not be limited to:

- 1. Providing guidance on Title VI matters for subrecipients and overall program responsibility for preparing required reports regarding Title VI compliance and initiating monitoring activities including developing procedures, monitoring and:
 - a. Promptly resolving deficiencies and documenting remedial action within 90 days.
 - b. Ensuring subrecipients develop procedures for the collection of statistical data (race, color, national origin and low-income status) of participants in and beneficiaries of federal aid programs.
 - c. Implementing and overseeing subrecipient Title VI plans and programs to ensure compliance.
 - d. Identifying and eliminating discrimination when found to exist.
- 2. Ensuring the Title VI Assurances are signed by all subrecipients.
- 3. Complying with ADOT's procedures to investigate and address non-FHWA funded program Title VI complaints filed with ADOT against its subrecipients.
- 4. Assist in the updates to the Title VI program plans as necessary for USDOT authorities such as: FHWA, FAA, FTA, FMCSA, and NHTSA.

- 5. Assist in conducting Title VI reviews and training of program areas: Planning and Programming, Procurement and Contract Services, Communications and Community Relations, Environmental Planning (EP), Right-of-Way (ROW), Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO), Engineering Consultant Section (ECS), Contracts and Specifications, and Construction Contract Administration, Research, Local Public Agencies Section (LPA), Business Engagement Compliance (BECO), and Project Management Group (PMG), Alternative Delivery/Major Projects.
- 6. Assist in conducting subrecipient annual reviews based on a high risk/low risk assessment.
- 7. Assist in conducting Title VI training and technical assistance for subrecipients.
- 8. Complying with federal standards to ensure proper implementation of subrecipients' LEP plans.
- 9. Providing technical assistance, resources and best practices for aiding subrecipient compliance including providing data collection resources, training, and workgroups.
- 10. Comply with ADOT's responsibilities under EJ and other Title VI Nondiscrimination compliance programs.
- 11. Compliance and oversight of Title VI, EJ and LEP requirements under ADOT's FHWA NEPA Category Exclusions Assignment (23 U.S.C. 326) and (23 U.S.C. 327) Assignment which includes all Environmental Impact Statements (EIS), Environmental Assessments (EA) and Categorical Exclusions (CE).
- 12. Compliance and oversight of Title VI, EJ and LEP requirements for all NEPA projects under all other DOT authorities such as FAA, FTA, FMCSA, and NHTSA.
- 13. EJ, Title VI and LEP compliance oversight for all project-related Public Involvement activities and materials.
- 14. Participates in project meetings as a member of ADOT project teams.
- 15. Attends ADOT public meetings or hearings to ensure EJ, Title VI and LEP compliance.
- 16. Creates and conducts EJ training to internal program areas and provides technical assistance on a case by case basis.
- 17. Collects demographic information and conducts EJ, Title VI and LEP analysis on all ADOT projects and activities in order to review proposed impacts on low-income and or minority communities, potential Title VI disparate impacts and assesses national origin, engagement and services provided.
- 18. Provides guidance on integrating EJ principles into all ADOT programs, as needed.

Civil Rights Specialists

The Civil Rights Specialists are responsible for the day-to-day implementation of ADOT's Implementation Plan and for ensuring compliance with the provisions of Title VI and other nondiscrimination authorities, including EO's for EJ and LEP. The Civil Rights Specialists' duties include, but will not be limited to the following:

- 1. Assist in and prepare the annual Title VI Accomplishment Report.
- 2. Assist in and prepare the Title VI Implementation Plan.
- 3. Coordinate activities related to the effective and efficient implementation of ADOT's Title VI Program.
- Assist in the development of procedures and processes for preventing discrimination and addressing and resolving complaints of discrimination promptly under non-FHWA funded programs.
- 5. Provide Title VI technical assistance, guidance, and training to ADOT staff, subrecipients, state officials, cities, counties, consultants, contractors, suppliers, universities, colleges, planning agencies, and other recipients of federal aid highway funds.

- 6. Develop procedures for collecting statistical data on race, color, and national origin for participants and beneficiaries of the state highway program.
- 7. Develop and publish Title VI information for dissemination to the general public and where appropriate ensure that the information is available in languages other than English.
- 8. Conduct Title VI annual reviews of all appropriate internal program areas, subrecipients, consultants, contractors, and other recipients of ADOT funds.
- 9. Develop and oversee processes for obtaining public input, particularly in minority and traditionally underserved areas.
- 10. Participate in the identification of Title VI impacts and mitigation measures of proposed projects.
- 11. Attend ADOT public meetings or hearings.
- 12. Assist in the review of NEPA documents to identify and address social, economic and environmental effects and impacts.
- 13. Review Title VI Plans for ADOT FHWA subrecipients to include Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's), Councils of Governments (COG's) and Certification Acceptance Agencies (CA's).
- 14. Review contractual procedures for consultants and contractors to ensure equity, consistency and that required Titel VI contract provisions are included.
- 15. Provide Title VI, LEP and EJ technical assistance on ADOT multidisciplinary project teams.

Title VI Liaison Program and Roles

To ensure compliance with Title VI throughout ADOT, The Title VI Program has established a Title VI Liaison Program. The program's purpose is to ensure all ADOT policies, directives, and practices are compliant with federal statutes, agency guidelines and regulations for FHWA Title VI. ADOT Title VI Liaisons have been established within the following program areas:

- Community Relations
- Engineering Consultants Section
- Contracts and Specifications
- Environmental Planning (EP)
- Planning and Programming
- Research Center
- Construction

- Procurement
- Local Public Agency
- Right-of-Way (ROW)
- Alt Delivery/Major Projects
- Business Engagement & Compliance
- Transportation System Management and Operations

The Liaison Program consists of one or more Liaisons for each program area. The Liaisons' role is to work with the Title VI Program Manager and Civil Rights Specialists to ensure their respective areas, programs, and subrecipients comply with Title VI processes as stated within the Implementation Plan. The Liaison also serves as the point of contact between the Title VI Program and ADOT program areas when Title VI internal program area reviews are initiated. The Liaisons also assist their program area with Title VI technical guidance and best practices. The Liaisons meet on a quarterly basis to receive Title VI training on all components within ADOT's Nondiscrimination Program.

Quarterly Title VI Liaison Report Contents

The following are the general Title VI activities reported to the Title VI Program by all Liaisons:

- 1. On a project-by-project basis a description of the service area demographics, including the sources of data collected e.g. U.S. Census or EJ Screen etc.;
- 2. How Title VI information was disseminated to the public;
- 3. Efforts made to minimize and mitigate discrimination;

- 4. Include DOT Four-Factor Analyses conducted, including sources of data collected e.g. U.S. Census or EJ Screen etc.;
- 5. The number of requests for LEP services and those provided;
- 6. A description of any discrimination related complaints received;
- 7. Any proposed changes to policies or directives;
- 8. Title VI training attended by program area staff or requests for training by the Title VI Program.

The quarterly data submitted by Liaisons assists the Title VI Program in the development of ADOT's Annual Goals and Accomplishment Report submitted to FHWA. Some Liaisons provide supplemental documents to their Quarterly Report with demographic data collection specific to the participants in and beneficiaries of their programs to be analyzed by the Title VI Program. Specific demographic data collected and analyzed from each program is discussed under **Program Areas, Data Collection, Reporting, Analysis** located in section four of this Implementation Plan.

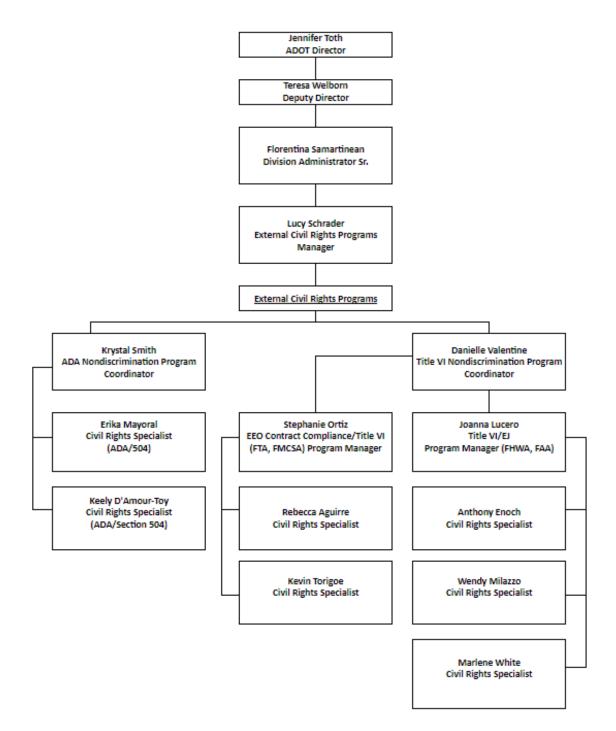
On a quarterly basis the Title VI Program reviews and evaluates the data reported to identify potential disparate patterns. Demographic data collected and analyzed from quarterly reports is also a factor used in a high/low risk assessment to prioritize and identify program areas for comprehensive on-site compliance reviews.

B. ADOT Organization Chart

https://azdot.gov/about/inside-adot/organization-chart

C. External Civil Rights Programs Organization Chart

ADOT's External Civil Rights Programs is under ADOT Employee and Business Development (EBD). Florentina Samartinean is the Division Administrator for EBD.



3. DISSEMINATION OF TITLE VI INFORMATION

ADOT's website is designed to ensure Title VI information is readily accessible to the public. The website informs the public of their rights under Title VI and provides information on how to file a discrimination complaint. Title VI information available on ADOT's website includes:

A. Title VI Implementation Plan

ADOT's Title VI Implementation Plan is available on ADOT's website: <u>https://azdot.gov/business/civil-rightsexternal-eeo-contractor-compliance/title-vi-nondiscrimination-prog</u> <u>ram/title-vi</u>

B. ADOT's Nondiscrimination Notice to the Public/Posters and Brochures

ADOT posters, brochures, and self-identification survey cards are made accessible at every public hearing and meeting. These Title VI program posters and brochures are available in English and Spanish, and other languages, as needed. ADOT's Nondiscrimination Notice to the Public posters are visibly posted in areas accessible to the Public in all ADOT buildings, statewide.

ADOT's Nondiscrimination Notice to the Public and Title VI brochures are also available on ADOT's website:

https://azdot.gov/business/civil-rightsexternal-eeo-contractor-compliance/title-vi-nondiscrimination-prog ram/title-vi

C. ADOT's Public Involvement Plan

The ADOT Public Involvement Plan (PIP) serves as a central resource for ADOT's public involvement practices and procedures to support transportation project planning, programming and delivery, as well as operations and maintenance activities. The PIP outlines the Department's public involvement guidelines to ensure compliance with federal and state laws and regulations. The PIP also demonstrates how ADOT engages people of all races, cultures, and minority and low-income populations in the transportation decision-making process. The PIP is intended for use by ADOT staff, ADOT consultants, and any other entities conducting public involvement on behalf of ADOT. ADOT's PIP continues to evolve in alignment with innovative and effective best practices and/or new statutes governing public involvement, and is evaluated annually by ADOT Communications for compliance with federal requirements and best practices. ADOT's current PIP is available on ADOT's website:

https://www.azdot.gov/planning/transportation-planning/public-involvement-plan

D. Title VI/ADA Discrimination Complaint Form and Procedures (English and Spanish)

ADOT's Title VI/ADA Discrimination Complaint form and Procedures are available on ADOT's website: <u>https://azdot.gov/business/civil-rightsexternal-eeo-contractor-compliance/title-vi-nondiscrimination-prog</u> <u>ram/filing</u>

E. ADOT's LEP Plan

ADOT's LEP Plan sets forth the compliance standards on how to identify language needs for those with limited English proficiency, and provides staff resources on how to provide services to persons who are LEP in order to ensure meaningful access to all areas of ADOT's programs, services, and activities. LEP is a term used to describe individuals who do not speak English as their primary language and who have a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English. ADOT's LEP Plan is designed to comply with Title VI and LEP which prohibits recipients of federal financial assistance from discrimination based on national origin.

ADOT's LEP Plan can be found on page 40 and a copy is available on ADOT's website: <u>https://azdot.gov/sites/default/files/2024-02/limited-english-proficiency-plan.pdf</u>

4. PROGRAM AREAS, DATA COLLECTION, REPORTING, AND ANALYSIS

ADOT's comprehensive transportation program strives to examine diverse, integrated transportation options for moving people and goods to create jobs and deliver economic and quality-of-life benefits for Arizona residents and businesses. ADOT is required by federal regulation to collect statistical data on the race, color, national origin, and disability of participants in and of beneficiaries of its programs. The Title VI Program staff works with Title VI Liaisons/program area staff on collecting and analyzing demographic data. Demographic data collection efforts specific to each program area are collected through the Quarterly Reports and Civil Rights Meeting Summaries, which are then compiled and reported on an annual basis in ADOT's Goals and Accomplishment Report. Demographic data collection and analysis also aids in any future procedural updates to the Implementation Plan and assists in identifying the areas to be reviewed to ensure compliance with nondiscrimination in the delivery of ADOT's programs, services and activities. The following includes demographic data collection, reporting, analysis by ADOT program areas.

Public Involvement

The cornerstone of Title VI compliance in all ADOT programs is outreach and public involvement. ADOT has a PIP that is designed to provide early, continuous and extensive outreach to all communities to ensure that project selection or impacts do not subject populations to disparate, adverse effects based on race, color, income level, or national origin (LEP). The Title VI Program staff periodically attend ADOT public meetings and hearings to ensure Title VI dissemination and that public involvement activities are conducted in compliance with ADOT's PIP and LEP Plan.

Various program areas within ADOT convene public meetings or events in which the public is invited to participate. The following are procedures applicable to all ADOT program areas to ensure Title VI compliance in public involvement.

All ADOT program areas that convene a public meeting or hearing must submit to the Title VI Program a Civil Rights Meeting Summary within two weeks of the hosted event.

Civil Rights Meeting Summary Contents:

- 1. Name/Purpose of Meeting
- 2. Date/Location and Summary of Meeting
- 3. Number of attendees
- 4. Accommodation requests for LEP and ADA
- Self-identification cards return with breakdown of race for attendees/meeting participants
- 6. Provide copies of meeting notices advertised
- 7. Complaints received

- 8. Identification of EJ populations
- 9. Demographic data collected and sources
- Photo of the Title VI display and sign-in sheet (Title VI brochures, Nondiscrimination Poster, self-identification cards)
- 11. Evidence of usage of virtual voluntary Title VI self-identification cards
- 12. Evidence of ADOT's Nondiscrimination Notice to the Public embedded into presentations as a slide

After receipt of a Civil Rights Meeting Summary, Title VI program staff reviews the document using following criteria:

Civil Rights Meeting Summary Review Contents:

1. Data is used to compare meeting attendee demographics with the demography of the state or

project area.

- 2. Compliance efforts with ADOT's PIP;
- 3. Project flyers and other public facing collateral contain ADOT's Title VI nondiscrimination language.
- 4. Review LEP efforts for compliance with ADOT's LEP Plan.
- 5. Review media outlets and networks used to ensure access to traditionally underserved populations and LEP persons.
- 6. Review the accessibility of meeting locations and meeting times for potential barriers to participation.
- 7. Confirm demographic data collection resources such as, U.S. Census, school districts, forms or surveys, GIS systems, etc.
- 8. Data reported through self-identification cards or staff racial estimation is representative of the demography of the state and/or areas affected
- 9. If applicable; ensure the required Title VI, EJ and LEP in-person meeting requirements were included for any virtual public meeting.

Once the Civil Rights Meeting Summary is reviewed, the Title VI Program provides a report back to the program area.

The Civil Rights Meeting Summary Report May Include:

- 1. Recommendations
- 2. Best practices related to public involvement activities (in-person or virtual)
- 3. Methods to increase participation of those populations traditionally underserved

A. Planning

Multimodal Planning Division

All highway and transit projects in the state, funded under Titles 23 and 49 the Federal Transit Act, must be included in a federally approved Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Projects in the STIP must be consistent with the statewide long-range transportation plan and metropolitan transportation improvement programs (TIPs). The program must reflect expected funding and priorities for programming, including transportation enhancements. Further information regarding the STIP can be found at:

https://azdot.gov/planning/transportation-programming/state-transportation-improvement-programstip

The Department undertakes long-range planning efforts to ensure Arizona's highway system can compete in the global marketplace, keep pace with population growth, and support our quality of life. The Board-approved Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), available at: https://azdot.gov/planning/transportation-programs/state-long-range-transportation-plan

The LRTP establishes transportation investment priorities for ADOT based on the needs of the transportation system and anticipated future revenues. These priorities are ultimately reflected in ADOT's Five-Year Transportation Facilities Construction Program (ADOT's Five-Year Program), which is prepared and revised annually. The ADOT's Five-Year Program can be found at:

https://azdot.gov/planning/transportation-programming/five-year-program

ADOT's Five-Year Program is a lineup of projects that is revised annually. It serves as a blueprint for future projects and designates how much local, state and federal funding is allocated for transportation projects. The Five-Year Program covers the construction budget for highways, transit, airports and highway support facilities. The program focuses on multimodal forms of transportation. Funding for the Five-Year Program is generated by the users of transportation services, such as through the gasoline and diesel fuel taxes and the Arizona vehicle license tax. An extensive state-wide public involvement process is conducted for both the STIP and Five-Year Program to include public review, collection of comments and public hearings. All public involvement is done in compliance with Title VI requirements as stipulated in ADOT's PIP, LEP Plan and as previously discussed under Public Involvement.

As part of the Statewide Planning Process for outreach, Transportation Planning Specialists work with Title VI Program and Community Relations staff to develop public outreach plans. In this partnership for outreach efforts for the STIP and Five-Year Program, Title VI Program staff analyze proposed outreach efforts using demographic maps that include income levels, racial makeup and LEP data from the U.S. Census at tract level. Title VI Program staff analyze this demographic data to evaluate outreach planned and to provide feedback to the Planning Specialists, with any potential disparities existing. This feedback is then considered by Planning Specialists in the planning of future outreach activities. Additionally, demographic data (race) is collected through self-identification cards at public meetings by Community Relations and is reported via meeting summaries to the Title VI Program within two weeks after a public meeting. Title VI Program staff conducts a disparate impact analysis based on race by comparing the population demographics of the impacted project area by state, county, city, town, tract, or block against participants at the public meetings. If the demographic data assessed by the Title VI Program appears to have potential disparate impacts based on race, the Title VI Program works with Community Relations to identify possible additional outreach efforts that may be needed to ensure continued compliance with the Title VI Program Plan and to avoid potential inequities.

Further information regarding community and stakeholder involvement in the planning and programming phase can be found at:

https://azdot.gov/planning/transportation-programming

Further information regarding public and key stakeholder outreach for the Long Range Transportation Plan can be found at:

https://azdot.gov/planning/transportation-programs/state-long-range-transportation-plan/documents-st ate-long-rang

Construction

The Construction Group provides support to help districts with managing construction projects. Including, providing construction administrative services to supplement the workforce with temporary technicians, construction administrative services and material testing assistance; conducting independent review of workmanship, materials and documentation; providing training for construction and lab technicians; maintaining instructional guides for construction methods and procedures; providing the services of a registered landscape architect; and processing monthly pay estimates, quantity documentation and subcontractor approvals.

The Construction and Materials Group submits quarterly reports to the Title VI Program of all construction activities. Title VI Program staff overlays construction activity locations on a demographic map that identifies the race of the population in the project area. Further, Title VI Program staff analyzes the data provided for potential disparate impacts based on race to assess equity of pedestrian access or

traffic control compared to the demographics of the project area. Also, mitigation commitments made during environmental studies for construction are provided to the Construction and Materials Group by the EP program area. These environmental mitigation requirements are reported on a quarterly basis to the Title VI Program by the Construction and Materials Group. Title VI Program staff reviews mitigation commitments reported by the Construction group to ensure that they are executed, specifically when impacts may affect minority populations.

Further program information can be found at: <u>https://azdot.gov/business/engineering-and-construction</u>

Research Center

Projects administered by the Research Center focus on research that can be applied to improve ADOT processes and products. Projects are funded by the FHWA Federal Aid Division State Planning and Research, Subpart B (SPR-B) Program. Projects are managed by Research Center staff and conducted in partnership with public and private sectors and university investigators under contract with ADOT. Research results are documented in reports that must adhere to the Research Center's Style Guide.

The reports are archived in both the Arizona State Library and the FHWA Library, and can be found at: https://asla.ent.sirsi.net/

https://highways.dot.gov/research/resources/research-library/federal-highway-administration-research-library

Title VI Program staff review the Scope of Work for any study that may require public participation. The Research Center reports to the Title VI Program any LEP Four-Factor Analyses conducted for studies. LEP Four-Factor Analyses are reviewed by Title VI Program staff in order to ensure results are accurate and that alternative communication messages are provided as per the results of the analyses. When applicable, the Research Center may utilize surveys for studies, and in these instances demographic data (race) is requested from survey respondents. This is followed by an analysis for disparate impacts based on race of respondents and to ensure equitable participation access has been afforded to all potential research participants. Research has not conducted a study that has utilized surveys since 2018. Further program information can be found at:

https://azdot.gov/planning/research-center

B. Contracts and Finance

Procurement

This group is responsible for the expenditure of the public monies, including federal assistance monies allocated to ADOT each year in support of ADOT management and operations. These funds must be processed in accordance with the Arizona Procurement Code. Responsibility and authority is delegated to the Chief Procurement Officer and, subsequently, to the group, based upon appropriate training, expertise, knowledge and past experience with a state government unit. The Procurement group is responsible to ensure that all ADOT contracts, agreements, and solicitations contain Title VI required language in accordance with USDOT Order 1050.2A.

Demographic data (race) on contract selection and award is reported to the Title VI Program on a quarterly basis. Title VI Program staff reviews this data to assess nondiscrimination in the selection and

award process based on the race of all proposers compared to the selectees to identify potential trends of disparate impacts. Annually, Title VI Program staff conducts reviews of each contract template and on a quarterly basis two contracts are reviewed to ensure compliance with Title VI required language in accordance with USDOT Order 1050.2A. The reviews are accessed using the Procurement Portal where all contracts are housed. Further program information can be found at: https://azdot.gov/business/procurement

Engineering Consultants Section

ADOT's Engineering Consultants Section (ECS) is responsible for prescribing and administering procedures for managing ADOT's professional services contracts which are exempt from the State Procurement Code (ARS 41-2501). It is ECS's responsibility to ensure these procedures and the administration of contracts are compliant with applicable state and federal regulations. The ECS is responsible to ensure that all ADOT contracts, agreements and solicitations contain Title VI required assurance language in accordance with USDOT Order 1050.2A.

Annually, Title VI Program staff conducts reviews of each contract template and on a quarterly basis two contracts are reviewed to ensure the Title VI required assurance language in accordance with USDOT Order 1050.2A is included in the contract. ADOT Contract Advertisements are posted on the ECS website with a Google Translate option for alternate language formats and can be found here: https://azdot.gov/business/engineering-consultants/upcoming-advertisements

Additionally, further program information regarding ECS can be found at here: https://azdot.gov/business/engineering-consultants

Contracts and Specifications (C&S)

C&S is dedicated to ensuring nondiscrimination in the prequalification process for contractors and to ensure that all ADOT contracts, agreements and solicitations contain Title VI required language in accordance with USDOT Order 1050.2A. C&S is responsible for advertising and awarding ADOT construction contracts in compliance with state and federal regulations. Current ADOT Advertisements and Future Projects are posted on the C&S website and can be found here: https://azdot.gov/business/contracts-and-specifications/current-advertisements

Demographic data (race) on contract selection and awards is reported to the Title VI Program on a quarterly basis. Title VI Program staff reviews this data to assess nondiscrimination in the selection and award process based on the race of all proposers compared to the selectees to identify potential trends of disparate impacts. Annually, the Title VI Program conducts reviews of each contract type template and on a quarterly basis two random contracts are reviewed to ensure the Title VI required assurance language in accordance with USDOT Order 1050.2A. Further program information can be found at:

https://azdot.gov/business/contracts-and-specifications

C. Environmental Planning (EP)

EP oversees all environmental programs within ADOT. This group ensures that local, state, and federal environmental laws are complied with during the development, construction, and operation of ADOT projects. EP is responsible for ensuring public participation and that nondiscrimination occurs throughout the entire environmental review process from Project Scoping to approval of the decision document (i.e. (Categorical Exclusion, (CE)), Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), or Record of Decision (ROD)) are in compliance with Title VI nondiscrimination regulation.

ADOT has assumed FHWA responsibility for carrying out environmental approvals under the following programs concurrently: Categorical Exclusions (23 USC 326) and the Surface Transportation Project Delivery Program (23 USC 327). With this assignment of federal environmental review responsibility, EP is responsible for complying with all applicable federal environmental laws, regulations, executive orders and policies, and is solely legally responsible for environmental decisions made on all ADOT federal aid highway projects. In 1994, EO 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice (EJ) in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, was issued. EO 12898 emphasized a federal agency's responsibility to make EJ a goal by identifying and addressing the effects of programs, policies and activities on minority and low-income populations. This is accomplished by involving the public in developing transportation projects that fit within their communities without sacrificing equity, EJ, and safety.

Under NEPA Assignment an Environmental Planner sends a draft copy of all unlisted CE, Environmental Assessment (EA), and Environmental Impact Study (EIS) to the Title VI Program to conduct a compliance review for Title VI, EJ, and LEP. Further program information on how EP complies with Title VI and EJ can be found at:

https://azdot.gov/business/environmental-planning/ce-assignment-and-nepa-assignment

The Title VI Program has compliance oversight responsibilities on Title VI, LEP and EJ compliance in NEPA documents. EP collects and analyzes demographic data that includes, race, national origin/LEP, income, minority status, and age as part of the NEPA analysis in defining the affected environment of projects. ADOT's process for identifying possibly disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority and/low income populations is described on EP's web page and can be found in the ADOT EP Procedures as well as here:

https://azdot.gov/business/environmental-planning/guidance-federal-aid-projects/environmental-justice

EP reports to the Title VI Program a listing of all active Individual CE, EA, and EIS reports for review monthly, and publishes a quarterly report of Listed CEs. EP also provides a quarterly report that includes a listing of all CE, EA, and EIS actions for the quarter.

For Title VI, LEP and EJ compliance on NEPA projects the Title VI Program conducts reviews of CE, EA, and EIS that are provided by EP on a project-by-project basis to include all public involvement activities, in accordance with ADOT's NEPA Assignment. Title VI Program staff analyzes the race demographics for the project area to ensure that current demographic data is included and that the appropriate unit of measurement (e.g. census block groups) was used to effectively determine possible disparate impacts.

As part of the NEPA review process, EP provides the Title VI Program, on a project-by-project basis, project environmental analysis, design plans, demographic data, project related public involvement collateral, PIPs, and other study material. Title VI Program staff analyzes proposed outreach collateral for

Title VI compliance with ADOT's PIP and LEP Plan by considering language needs and ensuring the public is aware of their rights under Title VI.

EP group attends construction partnering meetings and preconstruction meetings to communicate mitigation measures to the contractor and Districts. During the development of plans and as part of the environmental clearance process, EP issues an Environmental Permit Issues and Commitments (EPIC) Sheet that outlines the environmental mitigation requirements for the contractor to follow in the final engineering plans. EP also reviews project specifications to ensure environmental commitments are included into the final plans appropriately. At the completion of construction, EP ensures that the requirements are completed by the contractor through signature of the EPIC sheet by the ADOT Resident Engineer who oversees the contractor.

In addition to the EPIC sheet and other reviews done for mitigation during the project development phase, EP has an Environmental Commitment Coordinator that tracks non contractor commitments and the final completion of the EPIC sheets for projects. EP utilizes the WorkFront project tracking system to routinely add projects to the tracking system and track compliance with non-contractor mitigation measures and the completion of the EPIC sheet. All mitigation measures for each project, once completed are closed out on the tracking system. EP guidance can be found on the EP website: https://azdot.gov/business/environmental-planning/quality-assurance-and-quality-control

For complex projects involving long term mitigation requirements such as Right-of-Way, environmental remediation, or survey work, EP coordinates directly with other ADOT groups and consultants to track mitigation measures through established project team meetings and project specific tracking spreadsheets.

EP mitigation measures with ROW depend on the project. EP group takes the lead for mitigation efforts regarding ROW; communication is facilitated during monthly meetings and through the tracking/mitigation for individual land parcels.

D. Right-of-Way (ROW) Group

The ROW Group manages the Real Estate transactions for ADOT. The ROW Group's primary functions include development of State Transportation Board resolutions, ROW surveys, plans and appraisals, as well as completing acquisition, condemnation, demolition, property management and residential and business relocation. The ROW Group ensures the equitable treatment of business and persons displaced by highway projects, regardless of race, color, or national origin by operating under the Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR Part 24) to address the requirements established by the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (URA), as amended.

During ROW's interview/intake process with owners/tenants for relocations and acquisitions, ROW staff collect demographic information, on a volunteer basis. ROW also provides the initial and final compensation offers for acquisitions to the Title VI Program, which are analyzed for disparate impact and trends; this information is reported to the Title VI Program on a quarterly basis.

Additionally, ROW staff disseminates self-identification cards during parcel auctions. At these events, ROW staff collect demographic information (race/ethnicity) from attendees using self-identification survey cards. ROW provides a Meeting Summary, within two weeks of the auction, which includes demographic data and additional meeting information. Title VI Program staff analyzes the demographic

data to ensure that representation of the racial makeup within the study area is equitable and provides ROW feedback based on the data analyzed with recommendations for improvement, if applicable, to avoid racial disparities. Further program information can be found at: <u>https://azdot.gov/business/right-way-properties</u>

E. Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO)

Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO) is an integrated approach to optimize the performance of existing infrastructure by implementing multimodal, intermodal, and often cross-jurisdictional systems, services and projects. This includes regional operations collaboration and coordination activities among transportation and public safety agencies.

TSMO strategies improve system efficiency, enhance public safety and security, reduce traffic delays of road users, and improve access to information for travelers. The emphasis of TSMO is an outcome driven, performance-based system. TSMO strategies include but are not limited to traffic safety, traffic incident management, travel information services, roadway weather information, freeway management, connected vehicles and automated vehicles, traffic signal systems and coordination, work zone management, managed lanes, emergency response and Homeland Security, freight management, active traffic management, and new technologies that are rapidly occurring.

TSMO reports to the Title VI Program on a quarterly basis the location and type of maintenance activities conducted. TSMO submits Title VI Quarterly Reports to the External Civil Rights Programs that documents the program area's Title VI activities. Further program information can be found at: https://azdot.gov/business/transportation-systems-management-and-operations-tsmo

F. Communications: Community Relations

Community Relations oversees public involvement and outreach for ADOT transportation planning and programming, studies, projects, and initiatives. Community Relations, in coordination with Major Projects and other ADOT divisions involved in project development and delivery, is responsible for updating ADOT's Public Involvement Plan (PIP) for compliance with federal requirements and best practices. The Major Projects public involvement team oversees public involvement and outreach for ADOT transportation projects delivered by the Major Projects Office. They also serve as the lead for all ADOT media campaigns, contacts and inquiries for Major Projects. The Office of Law and Policy is responsible for informing and involving Arizona's elected officials and staff at the local, state and federal levels in ADOT's activities affecting their constituencies. The Public Information Office (PIO) serves as the lead for all ADOT media campaigns, contacts and inquiries.

The Title VI Program reviews information reported by Community Relations through PIPs to assess nondiscrimination in the public participation process, and ensure compliance with ADOT's PIP and LEP Plan.

Community Relations submits quarterly reports to the Title VI Program of all public involvement activities conducted by the program. Title VI Program staff analyzes Community Relations quarterly reports by reviewing demographic data (race) and outreach efforts to compare meeting attendees with the population's demographics of the surrounding area for each activity.

Community Relations staff collect demographic information (race and ethnicity) from attendees at public meetings using self-identification survey cards and report this demographic data to the Title VI Program

within two weeks after public meeting events. Title VI Program staff analyzes the demographic data to ensure that representation of the racial makeup within the study area is equitable and provides Community Relations feedback based on the data analyzed with recommendations for improvement if/when applicable to avoid racial disparities.

The Title VI Program coordinates with Community Relations for Title VI Program staff to periodically attend public meetings hosted by the group for random reviews of compliance with Title VI requirements at ADOT public meetings. Further program information can be found at:

http://www.azdot.gov/projects https://azdot.gov/adot-news http://www.azdot.gov/media https://www.azdot.gov/adot-blog

G. Local Public Agency Section (LPA)

The purpose of the ADOT LPA Section is to provide guidance, assistance with project delivery and oversight to local public agencies such as counties, towns, cities and tribal governments within the state. The ADOT LPA Section assists the project sponsor and project managers with delivery of federally funded local government projects, and provides oversight and monitoring of federally funded local projects. The ADOT LPA Section links local government project planning with project development.

The LPA Section provides a "Local public agency projects manual," which serves as a comprehensive monitoring and reporting document and identifies Title VI eligibility requirements, work activities, budget, schedule, and resources for the ADOT LPA Section's Oversight and Monitoring Operational Plan. The LPA Section also works with ADOT's eight Certification Acceptance agencies (CA) to ensure compliance requirements set forth by FHWA when implementing the Federal Aid Highway Program (FAHP) in Arizona.

Title VI oversight of local public agencies is conducted by ADOT's Title VI Program. The LPA Section submits Title VI Quarterly Reports to the Title VI Program which documents the program area's Title VI activities. The LPA Section also notifies the Title VI Program of any new local public agency or Self-Administered (SA) Agencies receiving FHWA funds and/or whose projects will be constructed by ADOT; this ensures the local public agency meets the required Title VI program requirements. All local public agency compliance reviews conducted by the Title VI Program are reported to the LPA Section (see Section 6 Subrecipient Review Procedures). Further program information can be found at: https://azdot.gov/business/programs-and-partnerships/local-public-agency

H. Business Engagement and Compliance (BECO)

The Business Engagement and Compliance Office (BECO) is responsible for ensuring that ADOT, its subrecipients, contractors and consultants achieve full compliance with all applicable federal regulations related to disadvantaged and small business inclusion, full and fair contracting opportunity in federal aid construction contracting and on-the-job training for women and minorities in the construction trades by certifying eligible Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) firms, maintaining a registry for Small Business Concerns (SBCs), and facilitating ADOT's good faith efforts to meet overall DBE participation goals in federal aid projects.

On a quarterly basis; BECO submits to the Title VI Program public involvement collateral materials such as notices for On-the-Job Training (OJT), other supportive services offered to DBEs and notifications for DBE Disparity Studies, when conducted. Title VI Program staff reviews these materials for compliance with ADOT's PIP and LEP Plan.

Additionally, BECO staff report to the Title VI Program, demographic information (race) collected from attendees at public meetings, training and DBE conferences. This demographic data is analyzed by Title VI Program staff for the identification of potential Title VI disparities in BECO's approach in providing services to members of the public and DBEs and as a means of ensuring that all participants benefit equitably from BECO's services, that funding is not distributed in a disparate manner, and that BECO's outreach efforts are effectively engaging all businesses regardless of race, color, national origin, or LEP status.

Lastly, BECO displays the ADOT Nondiscrimination Notice to the Public at public meetings, training, conferences and incorporates nondiscrimination language in all public materials Further program information can be found at: <u>https://azdot.gov/business/business-engagement-and-compliance/about-beco</u>

I. Project Management Group (PMG)

The Project Management (PMG) group develops safe and efficient transportation systems that meet the needs of customers through the planning, programming and designing of the Regional Transportation Plans and the State Highway System. The PMG provides quality project management services and management support information for the timely and cost-effective implementation of the ADOT Construction Program and Local Governments' Federal Aid Transportation Programs.

The PMG submits Title VI Quarterly Reports to the Title VI Program that document the program area's Title VI activities Further program information can be found at: <u>https://azdot.gov/business/project-management-services/project-management-group</u>

5. INTERNAL PROGRAM AREA REVIEWS

ADOT's Title VI internal monitoring program is designed to ensure Title VI program compliance throughout ADOT. On a yearly basis, every ADOT program area undergoes a high/low risk based assessment to determine which program area is reviewed for the year.

ADOT must ensure that all of its programs and activities are operated in a nondiscriminatory manner. In order to monitor ADOT's compliance, the Title VI Program reviews and analyzes quarterly reports and Public Meeting Summaries submitted by program areas; the summaries describe Title VI demographic data collection efforts and sources for demographic data collected for race, color, and national origin. Each program area also submits quarterly reports which include demographic data, policy updates, Title VI training attended, and complaints received/reported to the Title VI Program. Public Meeting Summaries include outreach methods, compliance efforts with ADOT's PIP, Title VI dissemination, DOT LEP Four-Factor Analysis results as conducted on a project-by-project basis.

Per FHWA guidance, effective assessment of a program area Title VI compliance review involves five core elements: Civil Rights organization and staffing; program plans and documents; program implementation (including policies and procedures); demographic data collection and analysis; and Title VI program personnel interviews. To determine if these five core elements are adequately addressed, ADOT's Title VI

Program reviews the following activities: public involvement, implementation of the agency Limited English Proficiency (LEP) plan, data collection and analysis, Title VI training, and Title VI discrimination complaint processing. ADOT's Title VI Program staff conducts interviews with program area staff to assess overall understanding of Title VI, LEP, and EJ responsibilities.

Using a high/low risk assessment, on an annual basis, the Title VI Program staff conducts comprehensive compliance reviews to:

- 1. Ensure compliance with Title VI federal requirements.
- 2. Provide technical assistance and training in the program areas implementation of Title VI.
- 3. Correct deficiencies, when found to exist.

High/Low Risk Assessment for internal program reviews is measured from:

- 1. Deficiencies in providing Quarterly Reports
- 2. Deficiencies in providing Public Meeting Summaries
- 3. Demographic data collection and analysis procedures
- 4. Quarterly meeting attendance by the Liaison
- 5. Date of last program area training
- 6. Complaints received
- 7. Date of last program area review
- 8. Consideration of risk to the agency

The comprehensive Title VI On-site Compliance Review follows the steps outlined below:

Notification

- Program areas are electronically notified of the intended review by the Title VI Program 30 calendar days prior to the upcoming Title VI review with a fillable ADOT Title VI On-site Compliance Review questionnaire is also included for completion and submission prior to the review. The program area Title VI Liaison assists in the coordination and participates in the on-site review process.
- 2. Two weeks prior to the on-site review, a reminder is sent via email to discuss agenda, logistics, expectations of the on-site visit, request policies, procedures, sample documents and the Title VI On-site Compliance Review questionnaire for a pre on-site review-desk audit.

Once identified for a comprehensive Title VI On-site Compliance Review, a letter is sent electronically to the program area's director, External Civil Rights Programs Manager, ADA/Title VI Program Coordinator, Title VI Program Manager and the Title VI Liaison. The letter outlines:

- 1. Date for the Title VI On-site Compliance Review, 35 calendar days following the date of the notice letter
- 2. Date for all internal policies, procedures and Title VI Onsite Questionnaire to be submitted to the Title VI Program, no less than 30 calendar days from the date of the letter
- 3. On-site Review Process

Contents of Title VI On-site Questionnaire submitted to Title VI Program:

- 1. Demographic data collection methods
- 2. Sampling contracts to ensure inclusion of required nondiscrimination provisions
- 3. Sampling of public involvement material including meeting notices, project flyers, and other public documents demonstrating LEP compliance
- 4. EJ efforts towards project development
- 5. LEP efforts
- 6. Directive/Policy updates

- 7. Training efforts
- 8. Title VI complaints if any received directly by the program area

Deficiencies

If deficiencies are found:

- 1. Within 30 calendar days of the on-site review, deficiencies are documented in a tailored report for the program area that is provided to the program area director, External Civil Rights Programs Manager, ADA/Title VI Program Coordinator, Title VI Program Manager, and the Title VI Liaison.
- 2. By expectation, the program area shall correct all deficiencies within a reasonable period of time, not to exceed 90 calendar days of receipt of the Title VI Program findings report.
- 3. Within 30 calendar days of the Title VI Program finding report, a meeting is scheduled with the Title VI Program to discuss possible technical assistance and an action plan towards full compliance.
- 4. Outstanding high priority vital items, such as missing Title VI assurances in contracts, noncompliance with ADOT's Public Involvement Plan, will be submitted within 30 calendar days of report mailing.
- 5. The program area submits a formal action plan within 45 calendar days of Title VI Program 's findings report.
- 6. Program area training is provided by the Title VI Program prior to closing the review.
- 7. Within 90 calendar days, the program area MUST be fully compliant on outstanding deficiencies.
- 8. If not compliant, the Title VI Program elevates the deficiency finding to the ADOT Director.

No Deficiencies

If no deficiencies are found:

- 1. A formal letter of full compliance is provided within 30 calendar days of on-site review along with a report of findings.
- 2. The report may still provide recommendations for strengthening the program area's Title VI Program.
- 3. Program area training is provided by the Title VI Program.

Follow-up Monitoring

The Title VI Program determines if additional monitoring is needed to ensure ongoing compliance with Title VI requirements.

6. SUBRECIPIENT REVIEW PROCEDURES

ADOT subrecipients of FHWA funding include Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO), Councils of Governments (COG), Certification Acceptance Agencies (CA), and Local Public/Self-Administered Agencies (LPAs):

Eight MPOs:

- 1. Central Yavapai MPO CYMPO
- 2. MetroPlan Greater Flagstaff (formerly Flagstaff MPO or FMPO) MetroPlan
- 3. Lake Havasu MPO LHMPO
- 4. Maricopa Association of Governments (Phoenix metro area) MAG
- 5. Pima Association of Governments (Tucson metro area) PAG
- 6. Sierra Vista MPO SVMPO

- 7. Sun Corridor MPO SCMPO
- 8. Yuma MPO YMPO

Four COGs:

- 1. Central Arizona Association of Governments CAG
- 2. Northern Arizona COG NACOG
- 3. Southeastern Arizona Governments Organization SEAGO
- 4. Western Arizona COG WACOG

Eight CAs:

- 1. City of Chandler
- 2. City of Mesa
- 3. City of Phoenix
- 4. City of Scottsdale
- 5. City of Tempe
- 6. City of Tucson
- 7. Maricopa County Department of Transportation MCDOT
- 8. Pima County Department of Transportation PCDOT

<u>LPAs:</u>

15 counties, approximately 90 cities and towns and 22 federally recognized Indian tribes (21 reservations) have the potential to become ADOT FHWA LPA subrecipients.

Title VI Requirements for MPOs, COGs, and CA Agencies of Federal Highway Funds (FHWA)

ADOT FHWA MPO, COG, and CA subrecipients submit Title VI plans to the External Civil Rights Programs for review, annually. Title VI Plans are evaluated for compliance by review of submitted processes to implement policies and procedures prohibiting discrimination, including, but not limited to the following:

- 1. Title VI Nondiscrimination Statement of Policy, including:
 - a. Express commitment to the Title VI nondiscrimination program.
 - b. Specific programs and activities covered by Title VI.
 - c. Delegation of authority and responsibilities to appropriate Title VI personnel.
 - d. Appoint the Agency Title VI Program Coordinator.
 - e. Policy signed by the Chief Administrative Officer.
 - f. The policy statement circulated throughout the organization and made available to the public.
 - g. List of all relevant federal statutes, regulations, executive orders, and other legislation.
 - h. Provide a copy of their Agency Nondiscrimination Notice to the Public and a list of locations where it is posted.
- 2. Subrecipient Title VI organization and staffing information, including:
 - a. Identification of the Title VI Coordinator and program area.
 - b. Description of the Civil Rights Title VI Coordinator showing relation to the top executive, as shown on an organizational chart.
 - c. Outline the roles and responsibilities of the Title VI Coordinator and others assisting with Title VI obligations.

- 3. Federal Aid program areas, including:
 - a. Description of program areas
 - b. Legal/operational authorities
 - c. Title VI compliance monitoring responsibilities for each area
- 4. Title VI Standard Assurances and Appendices (USDOT Order 1050.2)
- 5. Data collection procedures
 - a. Describe how the organization collects demographic data.
 - b. Describe what demographic data is collected.
 - c. Describe how the demographic data is analyzed.
 - d. Describe how often demographic data is collected.
 - e. Describe how the demographic data is related to the different program areas: For example: in the case of a subrecipient's public outreach department, what demographic data is collected from public meeting participants; how it is used to proactively evaluate public outreach opportunities under Title VI (race, color, national origin, disability, low income status and LEP).
- 6. Complaint procedures, including:
 - a. Process for filing complaints and provide complaint form
 - b. Description of investigative process
 - c. Responsible agency staff
 - d. Time limits to submit complaints and complete investigations
 - e. Provide investigative reports to the ADOT Title VI Program within 60 days of receipt of the complaint
- 7. Annual Goals and Accomplishment reports
 - a. Number of program area reviews conducted, results of the review, actions taken and actions planned
 - b. Number and type of compliance reviews conducted for subcontractors/consultants
 - c. Title VI related training provided for agency staff and subcontractors/consultants
 - d. Summary of Title VI complaints filed with the agency
 - e. Number of compliance reviews planned for the upcoming year
 - f. Outcome of analyzed data for each department reviewed throughout the year.
- 8. Complying with LEP requirements
 - a. Provide an LEP Plan
 - b. Description of how the agency reaches populations with LEP
 - c. Describe how the agency uses the Four-Factor Analysis programmatically and on a project-by-project basis
- 9. Complying with EJ requirements
 - a. Describe the process by which EJ requirements are met.
 - b. Describe the methods the agency uses to collect minority (race) and low income population data, in addition to other nondiscrimination population data.
 - c. Examples of outreach events for underserved populations.
- 10. Training Procedures
 - a. Describe how and when members of the agency are trained on Title VI program requirements and responsibilities
 - b. Include procedures as to how and when training will be conducted for other stakeholders.

Title VI Requirements for Local Public/Self-Administered (LPAs) Agencies of Federal Highway Funds:

The ADOT Title VI Program has oversight of an additional 15 counties, approximately 90 cities and towns and 22 Indian tribes (21 reservations) that have the potential to become an LPA.

As recipients of federal financial assistance, LPAs must provide the Title VI Program with the following methods of administration prohibiting discrimination, including, but not limited to the following in order to be eligible and to demonstrate evidence of compliance to receive federal funds from ADOT:

- 1. Coordinate a high/low risk-based review process on programs and activities covered by Title VI
- 2. Designate a responsible point of contact to coordinate Title VI efforts
- 3. Provide the "ADOT Nondiscrimination Notice to the Public" including a list of locations where it is posted
- 4. Process to collect demographic data on their programs and activities
- 5. Procedures to route Title VI complaints
 - a. Complaint form to receive FHWA Title VI complaints.
- 6. Title VI Standard Assurances and Appendices (USDOT Order 1050.2)
- 7. Training Log
 - a. A process to log all FHWA Title VI training to the LPA employees

7. TITLE VI TRAINING

The Title VI Program implements the required annual Title VI Nondiscrimination Training Program for all ADOT staff, consultants and contractors and an annual Title VI Training Program for subrecipients.

ADOT's training component for staff is composed of two (2) levels of training of varied intensity and content. Past training has included topics such as methods for identifying and eliminating complaints of discrimination, understanding and applying Title VI regulations and identifying elements of Title VI compliance within program areas.

- 1. Title VI Liaison Level This training is conducted quarterly and is intended to provide liaisons with an opportunity to discuss issues, ask questions regarding reviews conducted or to be conducted, review specific scenarios, and share experiences. It is also an opportunity to provide individualized training related to Title VI/Nondiscrimination requirements and how to apply the requirements to the specific federal program area. The training provided to the liaisons is intended to be a trickle-down approach for dissemination to staff in the group. Additionally, program area training is provided upon request and on a need basis and, more specifically, are tailored to the specific functions and major challenges of each federal program area for Title VI compliance.
- 2. All staff/new staff- Annual Title VI training is mandatory for all ADOT employees. The available Computer-based Training (CBT) includes an independent study of viewing of elements contained in the Title VI Program, and reviews Title VI, ADA, EJ, and LEP requirements, complaint routing processes, and an emphasis on "knowing their role" as an ADOT employee to ensure nondiscrimination in activities and services provided to the public. Title VI training records for all ADOT employees are maintained by ADOT Learning and Development and accessible to the Title VI Program.

The Title VI Training Program for subrecipients is composed of two levels of training of varied intensity and content.

- MPOs, COGs, and CAs on an annual basis are chosen to receive an on-site compliance review, which is followed by training; content of the training is tailored to address the issues and/or challenges facing each subrecipient and identified through the formal review. Annual mandatory training is also conducted by the Title VI Program to all designated subrecipient Title VI coordinators.
- 2. LPAs receive Title VI training at the onset of becoming a subrecipient of FHWA funds from ADOT. Additional training is identified from desk reviews conducted by the Title VI Program to ensure that each subrecipient is afforded an opportunity to receive a Title VI training session at least every three years. Furthermore, training and technical assistance is provided on an ongoing basis and as requested by the subrecipient agency.

8. COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

These procedures apply to all complaints filed under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended and the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 as they relate to any program or activity administered by ADOT, its subrecipients, consultants, and/or contractors. Intimidation or retaliation as a result of a complaint is prohibited by law.

In addition to these procedures, complainants reserve the right to file formal complaints with other state or federal agencies or to seek private counsel. On Non-FHWA funded programs and activities, every effort is made to resolve complaints informally by ADOT and subrecipient level.

Procedures

- 1. All complaints received by ADOT against ADOT or FHWA Subrecipients in FHWA-funded programs and activities are referred to the FHWA Division Office for processing.
- 2. For information on the contact and complaint process for FHWA Office of Civil Rights can be found here: <u>https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/civilrights/file/</u>
- 3. All other complaints filed against ADOT in programs not funded by FHWA will fall under ADOT's authority and jurisdiction for investigation.
- 4. Any person, specific class of persons or entity that believes they have been subjected to discrimination as prohibited by the legal provisions of Title VI on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, or retaliation may file a formal complaint with the External Civil Rights Programs. A copy of the Discrimination Complaint Form may be accessed electronically at: https://azdot.gov/business/civil-rights/title-vi-nondiscrimination-program/filing-complaint
- 5. The complaint must be filed within 180 days of the alleged discrimination, and include the date the alleged discrimination became known to the complainant and the last date of the incident.
- 6. The complaint must be signed by the complainant and shall include:
 - a. The complainant(s) name, address and phone number;
 - b. A detailed description of the alleged incident that led the complainant to believe discrimination occurred;
 - c. The date of the alleged act of discrimination, the date when the complainant(s) became aware of the alleged discrimination, the last date of the conduct or the date or the date the conduct was discontinued;
 - d. The names and job titles of the parties involved in the complaint;
 - e. The facts and circumstances surrounding the alleged discrimination and the basis of the complaint (i.e., race, color, national origin, disability, or retaliation);

- f. Names and contact information of persons whom the investigator can contact for additional information to support or clarify the allegations; and
- g. The corrective action being sought by the complainant.
- 7. Complaints may be filed by one of the following methods:
 - a. By completing and signing the Complaint Form and delivering it in person or by mail;
 - b. By emailing or faxing the Complaint Form and mailing the signed original to the External Civil Rights Programs;
 - c. By calling the External Civil Rights Programs where information obtained is used to complete the Complaint Form and, subsequently, forwarded to the complainant for review, and signature; or
 - d. By electronically submitting and digitally signing the Complaint Form.
- 8. Upon receipt of a completed complaint, the External Civil Rights Programs determines jurisdiction, acceptability or need for additional information. Within five (5) calendar days, the External Civil Rights Programs acknowledges receipt of the complaint and the intended course of action.
- 9. For acceptance, a complaint must be:
 - a. In writing;
 - b. Timely filed;
 - c. Involve a covered basis (i.e., race, color, national origin, disability, or retaliation); and
 - d. Within ADOT's authority.
- 10. Complaints may be dismissed if the complainant:
 - a. Requests the withdrawal of the complaint;
 - b. Fails to respond to repeated requests for additional information;
 - c. Fails to cooperate in the investigation; and
 - d. Cannot be located after reasonable attempts to reach the complainant have been made.
- 11. ADOT External Civil Rights Programs maintains a confidential log of all accepted and/or forwarded Title VI Complaints which will include:
 - a. Name of complainant(s);
 - b. Date the complaint was received;
 - c. Date of the allegation;
 - d. Description of the alleged discrimination;
 - e. Other relevant information, as needed;
 - f. Report date;
 - g. Recommendations; and
 - h. Outcome/Disposition.
- 12. Upon accepting a complaint, the External Civil Rights Programs investigators:
 - Provide the respondent an opportunity to respond to the allegations. The respondent has 10 calendar days from the External Civil Rights Programs written notification to furnish a written response; and/or
 - b. Determine if more information is needed to resolve a case and may contact the complainant who will then have 10 calendar days to provide additional information.
- 13. Within 45 calendar days of accepting a complaint, an ADOT Investigators:
 - a. Gather all relevant information in a fair and impartial manner;
 - b. Conduct interviews of all concerned parties; and
 - c. Prepare a final investigative report with a recommended disposition.
- 14. Upon final determination, one of two letters are issued to the complainant:
 - a. A closure letter summarizing the allegations stating that there was no Title VI violation and that the case will be closed; or

- b. A Letter of Finding summarizing the allegations and the interviews regarding the alleged incident and explaining whether any additional action, additional training will be provided to the staff involved or other action will occur.
- 15. All allegations of discrimination are taken seriously and every effort is made to provide a fair and unbiased determination. Complainants may file a complaint directly with the USDOT agencies listed below:
 - a. USDOT, Federal Highway Administration, Arizona Division 4000 North Central Avenue, Suite 1500, Phoenix, AZ 85012;
 - b. USDOT, Federal Aviation Administration 800 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20591;
 - c. USDOT, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20590;
 - d. USDOT, Federal Transit Administration FTA Office of Civil Rights, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20590; and
 - e. USDOT, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20590.

For questions or to file a complaint, please contact:

ADOT External Civil Rights Programs Danielle Valentine, Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Coordinator Krystal Smith, ADA Nondiscrimination Program Coordinator MD 154A, 1801 W. Jefferson St., Suite: 101 Phoenix, AZ 85007 Phone: (602) 712-8946

If information is needed in another language, please contact ADOT's External Civil Rights Programs at (602) 712-8946. Si se necesita información en español, por favor comuníquese con **los Programas Externos de Derechos Civiles de ADOT al (602) 712-8946.**

9. COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES

A. Subrecipient Compliance Review Process - MPOs, COGs, CAs

ADOT is a recipient of federal financial assistance. All recipients are required to comply with various nondiscrimination laws and regulations, including Title VI. ADOT and its subrecipients of federal-aid funds must ensure that all of its programs and activities are operated in a nondiscriminatory manner.

ADOT External Civil Rights Programs requires subrecipients to provide an updated Title VI Implementation Plan and Goals and Accomplishments Report, on an annual basis, in order to document their Title VI compliance efforts and progress. The annual report should list all of the accomplishments the subrecipient has achieved in the area of Title VI, such as program area reviews, training, and processing of Title VI complaints, as well as the goals to accomplish in the upcoming year in relation to their Title VI program. Yearly reports are analyzed and categorized based on a high/low risk assessment. After yearly high/low risk assessment, the External Civil Rights Programs conducts compliance reviews of selected CAs, MPOs and COGs, and other subrecipients of federal financial assistance to determine the level of compliance with Title VI requirements. ADOT's annual goal is to conduct subrecipient compliance reviews of at a minimum 20% of its subrecipients. The subrecipient compliance reviews include:

- 1. Ensuring compliance with Title VI
- 2. Providing technical assistance in the implementation of the Title VI program
- 3. Correcting deficiencies, when found to exist

High/Low Risk Assessment for MPOs/COGs/CAs compliance reviews is based on the following::

- 1. Deficiencies identified within an initial Implementation Plan submittal
- 2. Deficiencies identified in the Goals and Accomplishments Report
- 3. Date of last on-site review conducted
- 4. Demographic data collection and analysis
- 5. Complaints received

Notification

- 1. Subrecipients are notified by the External Civil Rights Programs within 30 calendar days of the upcoming Title VI On-site Compliance Review via secured email notification.
- 2. A week prior to the on-site review, a reminder is provided to discuss the agenda, logistics, expectations of the on-site visit, and to request policies, procedures and sample documents for a desk audit.

Once identified for a comprehensive Title VI On-site Compliance Review, a letter is sent via secured email notification to the agency's Director, Title VI Nondiscrimination Program Coordinator, External Civil Rights Programs Manager, Title VI Program Manager, ADOT's LPA Group (for a CA agency) or MPO/COG oversight group. The letter states:

- 1. Date for the Title VI On-site Compliance Review visit, 35 calendar days following the date of the notice letter;
- 2. Date for all internal policies, procedures and Title VI On-site Questionnaire to be submitted to the External Civil Rights Programs, no less than 30 calendar days from the date of the letter; and,
- 3. Title VI On-site Compliance Review process.

Contents of Title VI On-site Questionnaire submitted to External Civil Rights Programs includes:

- 1. Data collection methods;
- 2. Sampling contracts to ensure inclusion of required nondiscrimination provisions;
- 3. Sampling of public involvement material including meeting notices, project flyers, and other public documents demonstrating LEP compliance;
- 4. EJ efforts in project planning;
- 5. LEP efforts;
- 6. Policy updates/ changes;
- 7. Title VI complaints if any were received by the program area;
- 8. Leadership changes.

Two weeks prior to an on-site review the below items are reviewed by External Civil Rights Programs:

- 1. Annual Goals and Accomplishments Report;
- 2. Title VI Nondiscrimination Plan;
- 3. Title VI On-Site Compliance Review Questionnaire; and
- 4. Agency website for Title VI documents and public involvement project information.

On-site Review

1. External Civil Rights Programs reviews training efforts and the number of complaints reported, if any, in the subrecipient's required annual goals and accomplishment report or through the Title VI On-site Questionnaire submitted.

2. At the on-site review visit, External Civil Rights Programs staff conducts staff interviews and discuss reporting and data collection/analysis practices, review two FHWA funded contracts to ensure inclusion of the required Title VI Assurances, view and document location of the subrecipient nondiscrimination notice to the public, review public notification practices, examine public participation practices, discuss LEP and EJ efforts, examine efficiency of Title VI complaint procedures and make verbal and written recommendations toward best practices.

Deficiencies

If deficiencies are found:

- 1. Within 30 calendar days of the on-site review visit, deficiencies are documented in a report provided to the agency's director, ADOT's LPA Section or MPO/COG program, Title VI Program Manager, Title VI Program Coordinator, External Civil Rights Programs Manager.
- 2. By expectation, the subrecipient should correct all deficiencies within a reasonable period of time, not to exceed 90 calendar days from receipt of the report.
- 3. Within 30 calendar days of report mailing, a meeting must be scheduled to discuss possible technical assistance and an action plan towards full compliance.
- 4. Outstanding high priority vital items, such as signed Title VI assurances, will be submitted within 30 calendar days of report mailing.
- 5. Subrecipient is asked to submit a formal action plan within 45 days of report mailing.
- 6. Within 90 calendar days, the subrecipient MUST be fully compliant on outstanding deficiencies.
- 7. If not compliant, ADOT makes a formal funding recommendation to the appropriate oversight division and/or federal authority.

No Deficiencies

If no deficiencies are found:

- 1. A formal letter of full compliance is provided to the agency's director, Title VI Program Coordinator, External Civil Rights Programs Manager, Title VI Program Manager and ADOT's LPA Section or MPO/COG program within 30 calendar days of the on-site review along with a report of findings.
- 2. The report of findings may still provide recommendations for strengthening the subrecipient's Title VI Program.

Follow-up Monitoring

The subrecipient continues to be responsible for submitting annual FHWA Title VI reports to the External Civil Rights Programs. The External Civil Rights Programs determines if additional monitoring is needed to ensure ongoing compliance with Title VI requirements.

B. Subrecipient Compliance Review Process - Local Public/Self-Administered Agencies (LPAs)

High/Low Risk Assessment for LPAs compliance reviews:

On an annual basis External Civil Rights Programs conducts the following high/low risk assessment to select desk review of LPAs. ADOT's goal is to conduct annual desk reviews of 20% of active LPAs. The External Civil Rights Programs works with the LPA's Title VI designated point of contact to facilitate and report desk review findings.

High/Low Risk Assessment for LPAs Desk Reviews:

- 1. Funding amount and type;
- 2. Complaints received;
- 3. Length of time between reviews.

Desk reviews include the following elements:

- 1. Review that vital documents are translated for LEP persons;
- 2. Demographic data collection and analysis;
- 3. Title VI dissemination efforts;
- 4. Review Title VI training records.

Deficiencies

If deficiencies are found:

- Within 30 calendar days of the desk review, deficiencies are documented in a report provided to the agency's director, ADOT's LPA Section, External Civil Rights Programs Manager, Title VI Program Coordinator and the Title VI Program Manager.
- 2. By expectation, the LPA should correct all deficiencies within a reasonable period of time, not to exceed 90 calendar days of receipt of the report.
- 3. Within 30 calendar days of report mailing, a meeting must be scheduled to discuss possible technical assistance and an action plan towards full compliance.
- 4. Outstanding high priority vital items, such as signed Title VI assurances, are submitted within 30 calendar days of report mailing.
- 5. The LPA is asked to submit a formal action plan within 45 calendar days of report mailing.
- 6. Within 90 calendar days, the LPA must be fully compliant on outstanding deficiencies.
- 7. If not compliant, ADOT makes a formal funding recommendation to the appropriate oversight division and/or federal authority.

No Deficiencies

If no deficiencies are found:

- 1. A formal letter of full compliance is provided, within 30 calendar days from the desk review to the agency's director, ADOT's LPA Section, External Civil Rights Programs Manager, Title VI Program Coordinator and the Title VI Program Manager.
- 2. The report may still provide recommendations for strengthening the LPA's Title VI compliance program.

Follow-up Monitoring

The External Civil Rights Programs determines if additional monitoring is needed to ensure ongoing compliance with Title VI requirements.

10. LEP Plan

ADOT in the course of routine business matters related to its programs and activities makes efforts to effectively communicate with all members of the public. LEP is a term used to describe individuals who do not speak English as their primary language and who have a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English. ADOT's LEP Plan is designed to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and EO 13166 which prohibits recipients of federal financial assistance from discrimination based on national origin.

Authorities

The following matrix illustrates the authorities that require ADOT to provide LEP persons with meaningful access to programs, activities, and services.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964	Limited English Proficiency Executive Order (EO) 13166
federal law	federal policy
Enacted July 2, 1964	Signed August 11, 2000
Considers all persons	Considers eligible persons
Contains monitoring and oversight compliance review requirements	Contains monitoring and oversight compliance review requirements
Factor criteria is required, no numerical or percentage thresholds	Factor criteria is required, no numerical or percentage thresholds
Provides protection on the basis of race, color, and national origin Focuses on eliminating discrimination in federally-funded programs	Provides protection on the basis of national origin; focuses on providing LEP persons' federally-funded programs with meaningful access to services using factor criteria under federally-funded programs
Annual Accomplishments and Upcoming Goals Report to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)	Annual Accomplishment and Upcoming Goals Report to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Roles and Responsibilities

Recipients of federal financial assistance are required to take reasonable steps to provide LEP individuals with meaningful access to their programs, activities, and services (EO 13166). The following chart, although not exhaustive, illustrates activities and responsibilities that are required to adhere to LEP directives. The chart also outlines the responsibilities of the External Civil Rights Programs and ADOT Program Areas.

Each program area is responsible for conducting a Four-Factor Analysis and ensuring compliance with LEP requirements on a project-by-project basis. Quarterly, ADOT Program Area Title VI Liaisons provide the External Civil Rights Programs documentation of Four-Factor Analysis conducted on a project-by-project basis. The External Civil Rights Programs conducts a secondary examination to ensure accuracy and consistency of the application of the Four-Factor Analysis, and provides feedback if required. On a quarterly basis External Civil Rights Programs also analyzes the results of the Four-Factor Analysis to identify potential disparate impacts to be addressed within the program area. Lastly, the Title VI Program reviews all Civil Rights Meeting Summaries required to be submitted within two weeks by program area having convened a public meeting to ensure compliance with ADOT's LEP Plan.

Act	ivity	Responsibility ADOT Division / Program	Title VI Program
1.	Assessing and addressing the needs of eligible persons (Conduct a Four-Factor Analysis). Recommended table to be used: B16001 "language spoken at home by ability to speak English for population 5 years and over" from the 5 year American Community Survey.	x	
2.	Taking reasonable steps or ensuring that responsible steps are taken to ensure meaningful access	х	

3.	3. Developing and implementing monitoring control mechanisms X to ensure delivery of service and ongoing compliance		x
4.	Compliance, monitoring, and oversight	Х	х
5. Providing technical assistance and guidance			Х
6.	Reporting accomplishments and goals	Х	X

Program Areas use the below LEP Four-Factor Analysis

Factor 1: Identify the number and proportion of LEP persons served or encountered and eligible for service population by the ADOT Program/Project

Factor 2: Identify the frequency in which LEP persons encounter the ADOT Program/Project Factor 3: Identify the nature and importance of program, activity, or services provided by the ADOT Program/Project

Factor 4: Identify available resources, including language assistance services varying from limited to wide ranging with varying costs by the ADOT Program/Project

AGENCY LEP FOUR-FACTOR ANALYSIS

(NOT INTENDED TO RELINQUISH EACH PROGRAM AREA'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CONDUCT THIS ANALYSIS ON A PROJECT-BY-PROJECT BASIS)

In developing this plan, ADOT undertook a USDOT Four-Factor LEP analysis which considers the following:

1. The number or proportion of LEP persons eligible in Arizona who may be served or likely to encounter ADOT programs, activities, or services.

Based on data collected from the U.S. Census for Arizona, Spanish and Navajo are identified as the top languages for LEP persons likely to be served by an ADOT program, service or activity. Additional LEP languages may be identified through Four-Factor Analyses conducted on a project-by-project basis.

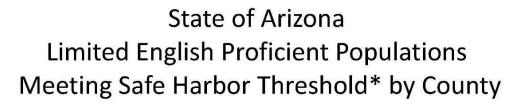
State of Arizona Limited English Proficient Populations that meet the *Safe Harbor Threshold by Counties				
County	Language	Percent	Speak English less than "very well"	Total Population
Apache	Other and unspecified languages	12.64%	7,834	61,963
Cochise	Spanish	7.14%	8,480	118,773
Coconino	Spanish	1.54%	2,076	137,653
Coconino	Other and unspecified languages	3.10%	4,270	137,653
Gila	Spanish	1.68%	854	50,904
Gila	Other and unspecified languages	6.59%	3,355	50,904
Graham	Spanish	2.96%	1,063	35,924
Greenlee	N/A	N/A	N/A	8,795

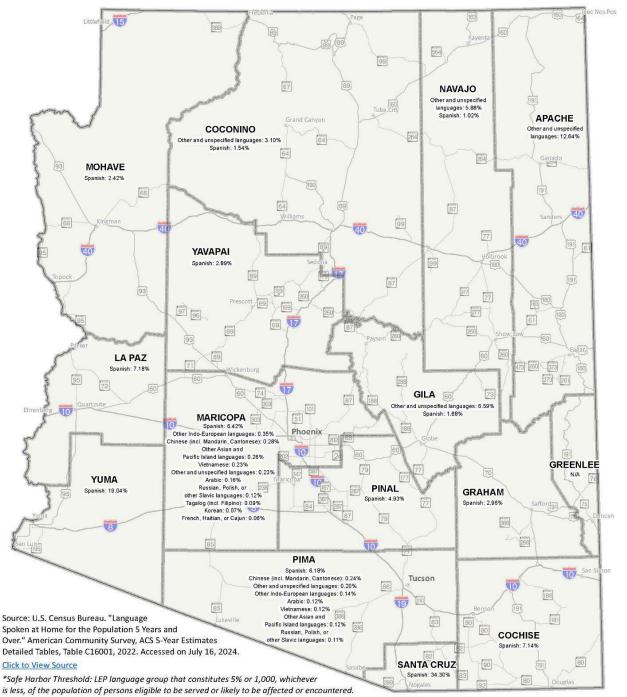
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La Paz	Spanish	7.18%	1,145	15,954
Maricopa	Spanish	6.42%	267,707	4,171,400
Maricopa	French, Haitian, or Cajun	0.06%	2,362	4,171,400
Maricopa	Russian, Polish, or other Slavic languages	0.12%	5,056	4,171,400
Maricopa	Other Indo-European languages	0.35%	14,647	4,171,400
Maricopa	Korean	0.07%	2,950	4,171,400
Maricopa	Chinese (incl. Mandarin, Cantonese)	0.28%	11,735	4,171,400
Maricopa	Vietnamese	0.23%	9,518	4,171,400
Maricopa	Tagalog (incl. Filipino)	0.09%	3,907	4,171,400
Maricopa	Other Asian and Pacific Island languages	0.26%	10,848	4,171,400
Maricopa	Arabic	0.16%	6,495	4,171,400
Maricopa	Other and unspecified languages	0.23%	9,716	4,171,400
Mohave	Spanish	2.42%	4,969	205,348
Navajo	Spanish	1.02%	1,028	100,367
Navajo	Other and unspecified languages	5.88%	5,900	100,367
Pima	Spanish	6.18%	61,097	988,748
Pima	Russian, Polish, or other Slavic languages	0.11%	1,080	979,353
Pima	Other Indo-European languages	0.14%	1,399	988,748
Pima	Chinese (incl. Mandarin, Cantonese)	0.24%	2,349	988,748
Pima	Vietnamese	0.12%	1,154	988,748
Pima	Other Asian and Pacific Island languages	0.12%	1,169	988,748
Pima	Arabic	0.12%	1,219	988,748
Pima	Other and unspecified languages	0.20%	1,971	988,748
Pinal	Spanish	4.93%	20,215	410,022

Santa Cruz	Spanish	34.30%	15,336	44,706
Yavapai	Spanish	2.89%	6,602	228,774
Yuma	Spanish	19.04%	36,235	190,315
Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2022). Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the population 5 years and over, 2019-2022 American Community Survey 5-Year estimates. Retrieved July, 16, 2024 from https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDT5Y2022.C16001?q=C16001:%20Language%20Spoken%20at%20Home%20for% 20the%20Population%205%20Years%20and%20Over&g=040XX00US04\$0500000&moe=true				

*Safe Harbor Threshold: LEP language group that constitutes 5% or 1,000, whichever is less, of the population of persons eligible to be served or likely to be affected or encountered.





Prepared by: Artiona Department of Transportation Multimodal Planning Division | Geospatial Analysis Section MP2gs@aztot.gov Project ID: 2024062 September 2024



Note: The State of Arizona makes no claims concerning the accuracy of this map nor assumes any liability resulting from the use of the information herein. 2. The frequency with which LEP persons come in contact with ADOT programs and services. ADOT program areas identified to have the highest public interactions are listed below:

MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION (MVD) AND COMPLIANCE

- Motor Vehicle Division (MVD)
 - o Customer Service Program
 - o Specialty Registration and Licensing Program
 - o Division Operational Support Services
 - o Commercial Licensing Program
 - o Regulatory (Third Party Program)
- Enforcement and Compliance Division (ECD)
- Office of Inspector General
 - o Enforcement Services Program
- Human Resources (HR)

OFFICE OF LAW AND POLICY

• Executive Hearing Office

BUSINESS OPERATIONS

- Employee and Business Development Office
 - o External Civil Rights
 - o BECO
- Audit and Analysis
- Communications
 - o Community Relations
 - o Public Information

BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

- State Transportation Board
- Arizona Highways Magazine
- Administrative Services Division (ASD)
 - o Grand Canyon National Park Airport
 - o Facilities Management

FINANCIAL

• Procurement

STATE ENGINEER

- Infrastructure Delivery and Operations Division (IDO)
 - o Engineering Consultant Section (ECS)
 - o Construction Group and Materials
 - o Contracts and Specifications
 - o Local Public Agency (LPA)
 - o Joint Project Agreement Section
 - o Right-of-Way (ROW)
 - o Project Management Group (PMG)
 - o Environmental Planning (EP)

- Multimodal Planning Division (MPD)
 - o Aeronautics
 - o Transit
 - o Major Projects
 - o Grant Coordination
 - o Research
 - o Transportation Analysis
 - o Planning and Programming
 - o Tribal Planning and Coordination
 - o Safety
 - o Administrative Functions
- Alternative Delivery/Major Projects
 - o Public Private Partnership (P3) Initiatives
- Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO)
 - o Systems Maintenance
 - o Emergency Management
 - o Traffic Maintenance
 - o Geospatial Analysis
- 3. The nature and importance of the program, activities or services provided by ADOT to LEP persons.

All of ADOT's programs are important; however, ADOT has identified those related to safety, public transit, ROW, EP, Community Relations and public information are among the most important and likely to have the highest LEP interactions.

As such, publications and other material disseminated regarding these programs are routinely available in both English and Spanish. ADOT strives to continue to provide alternative and meaningful language formats to all LEP persons. Moreover, ADOT evaluates its programs, services and activities to ensure that persons who may be LEP are always provided with meaningful access.

4. The resources available to ADOT and overall cost to provide LEP assistance.

ADOT makes every effort to make its programs, services and activities accessible to LEP individuals. ADOT displays ADOT Nondiscrimination Notices in both English and Spanish in conspicuous locations within its facilities, public rest areas, and at public meetings both in-person or virtual format. Additionally, Title VI/ADA Complaint Procedures, and Title VI Informational brochures are distributed by program areas that come into contact with the public in both English and Spanish. Nondiscrimination language in both English and Spanish is also displayed on external notices/communications to the public to request language assistance. ADOT continues to use available resources, both internal and external, to accommodate reasonable requests for translation and interpretation services free of cost, regardless of the language, when requested within reasonable notice.

ADOT has identified the following resources for LEP:

1. List containing direct contact information for volunteer ADOT staff that assist as interpreters and/or translators if needed. Lists are verified and updated annually for

each program area by the Title VI Liaison and is published on ADOT's internal website (ADOTnet), under the "FHWA Title VI Liaison Resources" tab.

- 2. Program areas having contact with the public use the U.S. Census "I Speak" language cards to identify language needs in order to match with available services. Language cards are verified and distributed annually by the program area Title VI Liaison.
- 3. Use of web based translation and telephonic interpretation services under contract with ADOT, when required.
- 4. Each program area maintains a list of translation and interpretation services for use, when required.
- 5. All ADOT program areas procure interpretation and or translation services through the Arizona Procurement Portal (APP) which lists ADOT "on-contract" interpretation and or translation vendors.

ADOT makes the below Title VI information available in Spanish:

- 1. Title VI and Nondiscrimination Notice to the Public
- 2. Complaint Procedures
- 3. Complaint Form
- 4. Title VI Informational Brochures
- 5. Self-identification cards to voluntarily collect demographic data
- 6. Outgoing voice message for External Civil Rights Program's main phone line

USDOT Safe Harbor Stipulation

The Safe Harbor Threshold is calculated by dividing the population estimate for a language group that "Speaks English less than very well" by the total population of the county. The LEP Safe Harbor Threshold provision stipulates that for each LEP group that meets the LEP language threshold (5% or 1,000 individuals, whichever is less, of the population to be served) ADOT must provide translation of vital documents (e.g., Notice of Nondiscrimination, Complaint Procedure and Complaint Form) in written format for LEP persons.

The failure to provide written translations under the circumstances does not mean there is noncompliance, but rather provides a guide for recipients that would like greater certainty of compliance that can be provided by a fact-intensive, Four-Factor Analysis. For example, If a language does not mean the Safe Harbor Threshold, and a document is not considered "vital", then a written translation would not be necessary. Other ways of providing meaningful access, such as effective oral interpretation of certain vital documents, might be acceptable under such circumstances.

Strong evidence of compliance with the recipient's written-translation obligations under 'safe harbor' includes providing written translations of vital documents for each eligible LEP language group that constitutes 5% or 1,000, whichever is less, of the population of persons eligible to be served or likely to be affected or encountered.

This safe harbor provision applies to the translation of written documents only. It does not affect the requirement to provide meaningful access to LEP individuals through competent oral interpreters where oral language services are needed and are reasonable.

Conclusion

ADOT understands that language needs will change as the Arizona population changes. Further, ADOT complies with the requirement to assess its programs and services each year to determine compliance with various nondiscrimination regulations. As such, ADOT revisits the LEP plan each year and makes appropriate changes, as needed. For questions or concerns regarding the ADOT's commitment to nondiscrimination or to request additional information about LEP services, contact Danielle Valentine or Krystal Smith, Title VI/ADA Nondiscrimination Program Coordinators at civilrightsoffice@azdot.gov, 602-712-8946.

LEP Guidance and Resources

The guidance documents and the resources listed below are provided to assist ADOT's program areas with implementing LEP requirements and may be used in conjunction with this LEP Plan.

- <u>The U.S. Department of Transportation Guidance to Recipients on Special Language</u> <u>Services to Limited English Proficient Beneficiaries, Federal Register/Vol. 66, No.</u> <u>14/Monday, January 22, 2001.</u>
- <u>The U.S. DOJ Policy Guidance, Enforcement of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of</u> <u>1964-National Origin Discrimination Against Persons With Limited English Proficiency,</u> <u>Federal Register/Vol. 65, No. 159/Wednesday, August 16, 2000</u>
- U.S. Department of Justice Clarifying Memorandum, dated October 26, 2001
- <u>United States Census 2010 Language Identification Flashcard</u>
- <u>LEP.gov website</u>

11. ACRONYMS

ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act ADOT – Arizona Department of Transportation AZ UTRACS - Arizona Transportation Business portal **BECO** - Business Engagement and Compliance Office CA – Certificate of Acceptance **CAG** – Central Arizona Association of Governments **CE** – Categorical Exclusions **CFR** – Code of Federal Regulations COG - Council of Governments **CNS** – Contracts and Specifications **ECRP** – External Civil Rights Programs **CYMPO** – Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization **DBE** – Disadvantaged Business Enterprise **EA** – Environmental Assessments **ECS** – Engineering Consultants Section **EIS** – Environmental Impact Statements **EJ** – Environmental Justice EO – Executive Order **EP** – Environmental Planning FAA – Federal Aviation Administration FAHP – Federal Aid Highway Program FHWA – Federal Highway Administration FMCSA – Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration FMPO – Flagstaff Metropolitan Planning Organization(Metro Plan) FONSI – Finding of No Significant Impact FTA – Federal Transit Administration **IDO** – Infrastructure Delivery and Operations Division **IP** – Implementation Plan LHMPO – Lake Havasu Metropolitan Planning Organization LEP - Limited English Proficiency LPA – Local Public Agency MAG – Maricopa Association of Governments (Phoenix metro area) MPO - Metropolitan Planning Organization **MVD** – Motor Vehicle Division NACOG - Northern Arizona Council of Governments **NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act** NHTSA – National Highway Traffic Safety Administration OJT – On-the-Job Training P3 – Public Private Partnership PAG – Pima Association of Governments (Tucson metro area) **PIO** – Public Information Office PIP - Public Involvement Plan **RFQ** – Request for Qualifications ROD - Record of Decision

ROW – Right-of-Way
SCMPO – Sun Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization
SEAGO – Southeastern Arizona Governments Organization
STIP – State Transportation Improvement Plan
SVMPO – Sierra Vista Metropolitan Planning Organization
TIP – Transportation Improvement Plan
Title VI Plan – Title VI Nondiscrimination Implementation Program Plan
TSMO – Transportation System Management and Operations
URA – Uniform Relocation Assistance
USDOT – United States Department of Transportation
WACOG – Western Arizona Council of Governments
YMPO – Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization

12. AUTHORITIES

Pertinent Nondiscrimination Authorities:

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 49 CFR Part 21 23 CFR Part 200 USDOT Title VI Order 1000.12C USDOT Order 1050.2AThe Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, (PL 100-209) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 Titles II Americans with Disabilities Act Title III Americans with Disabilities Act Federal Aviation Administration's Nondiscrimination Statute Executive Order 12898 Executive Order 13166 Section 162 (a) of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973