

KYOVA Interstate Planning Commission operates its programs, services and activities in compliance with federal nondiscrimination laws including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 and related statutes and regulations. Title VI prohibits discrimination in federally assisted programs and requires that no person in the United States of America shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin (including limited English proficiency), be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal assistance. Related federal nondiscrimination laws administrated by the Federal Transit Administration prohibit discrimination on the basis of age, sex, and disability. These protected categories are contemplated within the KYOVA Title VI Program consistent with federal interpretation and administration. Additionally, KYOVA provides meaningful access to its programs, services, and activities to individuals with limited English proficiency, in compliance with US Department of Transportation policy and guidance on federal Executive Order 13166.

There are three fundamental environmental justice principles:

- To avoid, minimize, or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects, on minority populations and low-income populations.
- To ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the transportation decision-making populations.
- To prevent the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority and low-income populations.

The benefits of environmental justice to transportation decision-making are:

- Better transportation decisions that meet the needs of all people.
- Transportation facilities that fit more harmoniously into communities.
- Enhancements to the public-involvement process, strengthen community-based partnerships, and provide minority and low-income populations with opportunities to learn about and improve the quality and usefulness of transportation in their lives.
- Improving data collection, monitoring, and analysis tools that assess the needs of, and analyze the potential impacts on minority and low-income populations.
- Partnering with other public and private programs to leverage transportation-agency resources to achieve a common vision for communities.
- Mitigating disproportionately high and adverse impacts on minority and low-income populations.
- Minimizing and/or mitigating unavoidable impacts by identifying concerns early in the planning phases and providing offsetting initiatives and enhancement measures to benefit affected communities and neighborhoods.

KYOVA Interstate Planning Commission is committed to a policy of non-discrimination in the operation of its programs and services without regard to race, color and national origin as well as age, gender, disability or sexual orientation. Additional information on KYOVA's Title VI obligations is outlined in the Title VI Plan and the Participation Plan.

Any person who believes that he or she, individually, or as a member of any specific class of persons, has been subjected to discrimination by the MPO and its activities is encouraged to report a complaint using KYOVA's procedure – see links below.

Title VI Complaint Procedure Title VI Complaint Form Title VI Notice of Protections against Discrimination



To request additional information regarding Title VI and related nondiscrimination obligations, please contact:

KYOVA Interstate Planning Commission Attention: Title VI/EJ Coordinator 400 Third Avenue P. O. Box 939 Huntington, WV 25712 Phone: 304-523-7434 Website: www.kyovaipc.org

## Additional Information

If information is needed in another language, contact KYOVA's Title VI/EJ Coordinator at 304-523-7434.

Spanish: Si necesita esta información en otro idioma, por favor contacte al especialista de KYOVA del Título VI al 304-523-7434.

Title VI and Environmental Justice links for additional information

- Federal Highway Administration: https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/environmental\_justice/ej\_at\_dot/
- Federal Transit Administration: <u>http://www.fta.dot.gov/12347\_2238.html</u>