



City Council Report

Date: October 19, 2015
To: City Council
Through: Scott Butler, Deputy City Manager
From: Jodi Sorrell, Transit Services Director
Subject: City of Mesa Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Title VI Implementation Plan
Citywide

Strategic Initiatives



Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is to present the City of Mesa Title VI Implementation Plan as required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to the Council for adoption. Staff recommends the adoption of the plan and attached resolution to maintain compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Background

The FTA is responsible for ensuring that its funding recipients fully comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

As required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, “No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.” Every three years recipients of federal funding must submit an updated Title VI Program that documents compliance with federal Title VI guidance.

The City of Phoenix Public Transit Department is the designated grant recipient of FTA funds for the region. As the designated recipient for federal funding, the City of Phoenix Public Transit Department is responsible for providing the FTA with a Title VI update every three years.

Discussion

The City of Mesa, as a “sub recipient” of the City of Phoenix Transit Department, is required to submit a Title VI Implementation Plan to the designated “recipient”, the City of Phoenix, every three years as well as provide annual updates.

The City’s Title VI Program update was completed in collaboration with Valley Metro and regional transit partners. The update provides information on complaint procedures, LEP requirements, outlines the City’s Public Participation Plan and activities, discloses past investigations, complaints and lawsuits.

In addition, the City’s Title VI Coordinator conducted in-depth training with all City Title VI liaisons on new FTA Title VI Program guidance and requirements.

Alternatives

The alternative would be to not adopt the updated plan, rendering the City as non-complaint with Title VI and FTA guidelines, potentially resulting in the loss of future FTA and other federal funding.

Fiscal Impact

Potential loss of FTA and other federal funding in the event the updated plan is not adopted.

Coordinated With

The City of Mesa’s Title VI Coordinator has coordinated this effort with the City’s Transit Services and Community Services Departments, Valley Metro, and the City of Phoenix.