



MEMO

TO: Albany City Council

VIA: Peter Troedsson, City Manager
Chris Bailey, Public Works Operations Director

FROM: Jon Goldman, Transportation Superintendent
Barry Hoffman, Transit Programs Supervisor

DATE: January 11, 2022, for the February 27, 2019, City Council Meeting

SUBJECT: Adopting Updated Title VI Program
Relates to Strategic Plan theme: Effective Government

Action Requested:

Staff requests City Council review and adopt by resolution the 2019 Title VI program for public transit programs as required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Discussion:

Council has previously adopted a 2014 Title VI program as required by the FTA. Recipients of funds directly from the FTA are required to develop and adopt a Title VI program. Staff developed the Title VI program which includes the following policy statement:

“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.”

In Accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, this Title VI program reflects the Albany Transit System’s commitment to ensuring that no person shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin, religion, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity provided by the Albany Transit System (ATS).

The FTA conducts reviews of transit programs who receive Federal 5307 funding. In the summer of 2018, our FTA review was conducted. One area of our Title VI program was identified as requiring an update. The section requiring update deals with insuring that fare and/or major service changes do not have a disparate impact on persons covered by the Title VI provisions.

A new section was added to the Title VI policy to better comply with FTA regulations. The added section to the Title VI program follows:

Service and Fare Changes

Fare Changes and Major service reductions shall be evaluated prior to implementation to determine whether those changes will have a disparate impact on the public transit riders on basis of race, color, or national origin. FTA C 4702.1B provides guidance to evaluate disparate impact. This involves a

comparison between the proportion of persons in the protected class who are adversely affected by the service or fare change and the proportion of persons not in the protected class who are adversely affected. The comparison population for a statistical measure of disparate impact is all persons who are either affected by the service or fare changes or who could possibly be affected by the service or fare change (e.g., potential passengers). Upon completion of a service or fare equity analysis, and before implementation, Albany Transit shall brief the City Council, the Mayor, and City Manager regarding the service and/or fare change(s) and the equity impacts of the service and/or fare change(s).

Adoption of changes in fares or service reductions as described in this section shall be by majority decision of the Council at a regular public meeting and after conducting a public hearing. The Public hearing shall include the opportunity to solicit comments from the public. Council shall consider comments from the public when making their decision

For the purposes of this section the threshold of a major service reduction that requires a public hearing and public comment is defined as a proposed change affecting the reduction of 40 percent of hours of service or more or 40 percent or more of existing stops, routes, or service area of the Albany Transit System.

For the purposes of this section the fare change threshold that warrants a public hearing is defined as any change including increases or decreases to fares or fare structure of the Albany Transit System.

Budget Impact:

None.

TF:JG:CB:kc