# Transportation Equity Project Overview

Transportation Division Multnomah County

### **Transportation Division Title VI Program**

Our Title VI Program enables us to receive federal funds for projects and ensures that we have processes in place to protect against discrimination in any of our programs or activities.

### Title VI Program Plan, 2016

- Update every 3 years (we're overdue)
- Annual Accomplishments Report



President Lyndon B. Johnson signing the 1964 Civil Rights Act, July 2, 1964.

Cecil Stoughton, White House Press Office

# Scope of Title VI Plan

The Title VI Plan complies with a combination of federal laws that ensures that no person in a protected class or group (see graphic) be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of our Division's programs or activities, whether federally funded or not.

Title VI bars intentional discrimination as well as disparate impact discrimination (i.e., a neutral policy or practice that has a disparate impact on protected groups).

The Plan also includes environmental justice, requiring us to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of our programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations.



# **Beyond Legal Requirements**

- What else can our Transportation Division do to advance equity?
- How can we elevate equity in our decision-making processes and make these priorities transparent to staff and the community?
- Can we reframe how we think about community engagement?

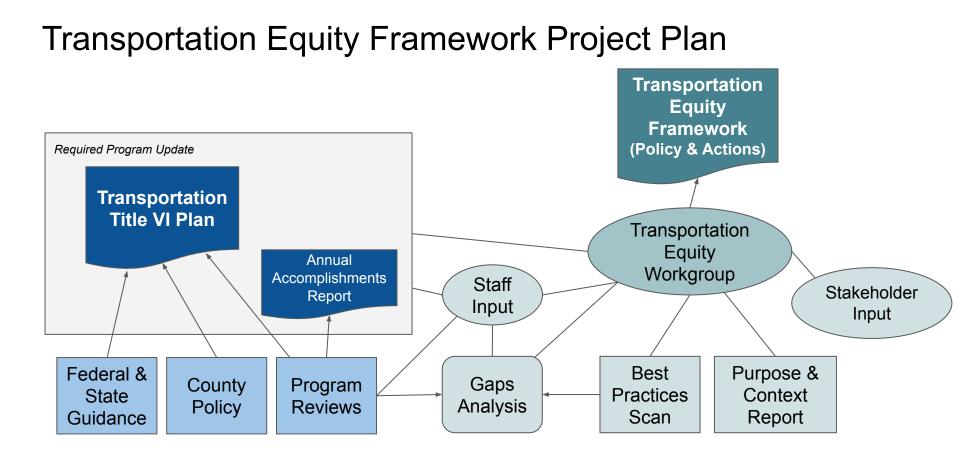




Revised March 24, 2014

# **Project Goals**

- 1. Update and improve our Title VI Program
- 2. Identify transportation equity best practices we can apply
- 3. Complement ongoing workforce equity work at the County
- 4. Provide transparency and accountability to staff and community
- 5. Engage with community members most impacted by transportation inequities
- 6. Create an iterative and adaptive process



# **Potential Framework Topics**

Engagement

- Inclusive, welcoming, culturally specific
- Ongoing relationship, building community capacity
- Levels of engagement set appropriate to the project

Planning and Advocacy

- Policy Development
- Data collection and analysis
- Funding for equity investments

Implementation

- Decision making on investments
- Response to public requests
- Building in adequate capacity

### **Outcomes and Accountability**

- Performance measures
- Regular evaluation of benefits/impacts to community

# Consultant Team

### Envirolssues

Prime consultant/On-call contract (DBE, WBE) - focus on facilitation and outreach

### Amber Ontiveros & Associates

Subconsultant (DBE, MBE, WBE) - focus on Title VI Plan and actions

### Espousal Strategies (Johnell Bell)

Subconsultant (DBE, ESB, MBE) - focus on Framework and Action Plan

### **Community Engagement Liaison Services**

Subconsultant (DBE, WBE) - engage with underrepresented communities

# Stakeholder Engagement

Transportation Equity Workgroup

- Approx. 12 members, half County staff and half community members
- Seeking representation of protected classes and historically underrepresented population groups that use the County's transportation system

### Committees and Community Groups

- Briefings to EMCTC and other regularly meeting groups Focus Groups and Interviews
- Community Engagement Liaisons (CELs) will discuss with priority communities including those with limited English proficiency