



## **Civil Rights - Title VI & Environmental Justice**

**2016 Annual Planning and Programming Meeting  
FHWA/MPO/PDC/VDOT/DRPT  
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# Title VI and Environmental Justice

## MPO Reviews 2015

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## MPO Reviews 2015

### Background

- In the Summer of 2014, FHWA and FTA conducted their required annual findings before the approval of STIPs.
- Title VI related findings were:
  - VDOT District offices conduct annual Title VI Civil Rights Program Review of MPOs
  - District Civil Rights Managers have a documented or institutionalized role in the review and comment of the products and activities of the metropolitan planning and program development process.

# Title VI and Environmental Justice MPO Reviews 2015

## Preparing for the reviews...

- **November 2014**
  - **The District Civil Rights Managers convened to review the sub-recipient monitoring process. MPO Reviews were discussed in depth.**
  - **The preliminary schedule of reviews to be conducted was developed.**

# Title VI and Environmental Justice MPO Reviews 2015

## ...preparing for the reviews (cont.)

- **December 2014**
  - **District Civil Rights Managers and District Planners convened to go over the Title VI MPO Review process and the collaborative roles of the staff of the Civil Rights Division (CRD) and the Transportation Mobility and Planning Division (TMPD) regarding Title VI.**
  - **CRD and TMPD started working jointly and cooperatively into reinstating the role of the Civil Rights Managers in the review and comment of the products and activities of the metropolitan planning and program development process.**

# Title VI and Environmental Justice MPO Reviews 2015

## The Reviews

- The first MPO reviews began to take place late winter/early spring and continued throughout the year.
- As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, all 15 reviews had been conducted and 14 Review reports had been submitted to FHWA.
- Prior to submittal to FHWA, Civil Rights Managers shared the prepared reports with each of their corresponding MPOs.
- Civil Rights opted to request comments from the FHWA's Virginia Civil Rights office regarding the reports prior to releasing closing letters to the MPOs.

# Title VI and Environmental Justice

## MPO Reviews 2015

### ...the Reviews (cont.)

- To date, comments received from FHWA for three reports are:
  - Describe in more detail how the MPO is conducting the administration of the Title VI Program, including the structure and staff involved in its management and the day-to-day implementation.
  - VDOT must ensure that the responses provided to the review questions are completed by the person responsible for the implementation of the program at the MPO so that the integrity of the review is not compromised or deemed just an administrative exercise.

## **Title VI and Environmental Justice MPO Reviews 2015**

**...the Reviews (cont.)**

**VDOT will work in fine-tuning those components of the report and the respective narratives for future MPO reviews and the up-coming PDC reviews.**

# Title VI and Environmental Justice

## PDC Reviews 2016

# Title VI and Environmental Justice PDC Reviews 2016

## Preparing for the PDC reviews

- To begin the process of developing a schedule for the review of PDCs, Civil Rights put together a table that separated the 21 PDCs into 2 groups:
  - 1) PDCs with MPO connection
  - 2) Rural PDCs (no MPOs).
- With the assistance of TMPD staff, the 21 PDCs were categorized and this exercise revealed a total of 7 rural PDCs.
- The PDC reviews will first concentrate in reviewing the 7 PDCs that had no MPO connection.

# Title VI and Environmental Justice PDC Reviews 2016

## Reviews to be conducted

- The PDC reviews will concentrate in reviewing the 7 PDCs that had no MPO connection.

DISTRICT	RURAL PDCs
Bristol	Cumberland Plateau PDC
Lynchburg and Richmond District	Commonwealth Regional Council
Richmond	Southside PDC
Hampton Roads	Accomack-North Hampton PDC
Fredericksburg	Middle Peninsula PDC
	Northern Neck PDC
Culpeper	Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Council

- PDCs reviews will be conducted after training with the goal of having all 7 reviews accomplished by the conclusion of this federal fiscal year.

**THANK YOU!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
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