CITY OF HOUSTON

Public Notice of Title VI Program Rights

TITLE VI PROGRAM POLICY STATEMENT

The City of Houston (COH) is committed to compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 21, 49 CFR Part 303, and all related Nondiscrimination authorities. City of Houston assures that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program, activity or service, whether those programs, activities and services are federally funded or not. In the event the City of Houston distributes Federal aid funds to another entity, the City of Houston will include Title VI language in all written agreements and will monitor for compliance.

The City of Houston assures every effort will be made to provide meaningful access to persons with Limited English Proficiency.

Retaliation is prohibited under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related federal and state nondiscrimination authorities. It is the policy of the City of Houston that persons filing a complaint of discrimination should have the right to do so without fear of retaliation, interference, intimidation, coercion, or reprisal.

DEFINITION OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND RECIPIENTS AFFECTED

Federal financial assistance is defined as any federal dollars that are assigned to the City of Houston to support any program, activity or service by way of grant, loan or contract, other than a contract of insurance or guaranty.

SPECIFIC FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION PROHIBITED

City of Houston's efforts to prevent discrimination include, but are not limited to prohibiting:

- The denial of services, financial aid, or other benefits provided under a program.
- Distinctions in the quality, quantity, or manner in which the benefit is provided.
- Segregation or separation of persons in any part of the program.
- Restriction in the enjoyment of any advantages, privileges, or other benefits provided to others.
- Different standards or requirements for participation.
- Methods of administration which directly or indirectly or through contractual relationships would defeat or impair the accomplishment of effective nondiscrimination.
- Discrimination in any activities or services related to a highway, infrastructure or facility built or repaired in whole or in part with Federal funds.
- Discrimination in any employment resulting from a program or services, the primary purpose of which is to provide employment.

The City of Houston gives public notice of its' policy to uphold and assure full compliance with the non-discrimination requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related nondiscrimination authorities. Title VI and related nondiscrimination authorities stipulate that no person in the United States of America shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The City of Houston encourages residents to participate in the development and planning of priorities, strategies, and funding allocations related to its programs and activities.

Public meetings provide for public contribution. Meetings are published with the date, time and location that provides for the greatest participation by stakeholders of proposed projects, programs and activities. Access to meeting information and proposed changes may be obtained in digital and printed copy.

Participation in public meetings is free of linguistic, cultural, economic or historic barriers. Translation and interpretation services are available upon request for public meetings. The department hosting the public meeting may be contacted for this request or individuals may contact the City's 3-1-1 Service Helpline for assistance with translation and interpretation services.

TITLE VI COMPLAINT PROCESS

Any person who desires more information regarding the City of Houston's Title VI Program can visit the City of Houston Title VI website, *https://www.houstontx.gov/obo/title-vi.html,* or contact the Title VI Program Coordinator listed below.

Any person who believes they have, individually or as a member of any specific class of persons, been subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, has the right to file a formal complaint. Any such complaint must be in writing and submitted within 180 days following the date of the alleged occurrence. Any person who believes he or she has been subjected to retaliation as a result of filing a Title VI related grievance also has the right to file a formal complaint. Any such complaint must also be in writing and submitted within 180 days following the date of the alleged occurrence.

File the Complaint Form: https://www.houstontx.gov/obo/title-vi.html
Email: TitleVI@houstontx.gov
Call: 832-393-0600 (option 5)
City of Houston Title VI Coordinator: Norma Meadows
611 Walker Street, 7th Floor
Houston, Texas 77002

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For 24/7 assistance with any City of Houston program or activity, you may contact the 3-1-1 Houston Service Helpline.