



HCRMA
HIDALGO COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY

Title VI / Nondiscrimination Plan

April 4, 2022

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INTRODUCTION

As a subrecipient of federal assistance administered by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority (HCRMA) is required to comply with various nondiscrimination laws and regulations, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which provides:

No person in the United States, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

Title VI served as the model for subsequent nondiscrimination laws, including the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1973 (gender), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (disability), and Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (age). HCRMA's nondiscrimination policy statement includes these protected classes to ensure that no person be subjected to any form of discrimination in its programs or activities.

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), as the federal government's coordinating agency for Title VI, implemented its Title VI program in 28 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) Part 42 and issued guidance in two main documents: The Title VI Legal Manual and the Complaint Investigation Procedures Handbook.

Title VI authorizes and directs federal agencies to enact "rules, regulations, or orders of general applicability" to achieve the statute's objectives. The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) implemented its Title VI program in 49 C.F.R. Part 21. FHWA's implementing regulations can be found in 23 C.F.R. Part 200.

Discrimination under Title VI

It is everyone's responsibility at the HCRMA to prevent, minimize, and eradicate any form of discrimination. There are two types of discrimination prohibited under Title VI and its related statutes: (1) disparate treatment that alleges similarly situated persons are treated differently because of their race, color, or national origin (i.e., intentional discrimination); and (2) disparate impact/effects when a facially neutral policy, procedure, or practice results in different or inferior services or benefits to members of a protected group. In disparate impact, the focus is on the consequences of a decision, policy, or practice rather than the intent. Prohibited forms of Discrimination include, but may not be limited to:

- The denial of services, financial aid, or other benefits provided under a program;
- Distinctions in the quality, quantity, or manner in which a 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;
- Differing standards or requirements for participation;
- Methods of administration that directly or indirectly, or through contractual relationships would defeat or impair the accomplishment of effective nondiscrimination; (and/or)
- Discrimination in any activities or services related to a highway, infrastructure or facility built or repaired in whole or in part with federal funds.

AUTHORITIES UNDER TITLE VI

The authorities applicable to this Title VI/Nondiscrimination Program include:

- **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964** (42 U.S.C. §2000d et seq., 78 stat. 252), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin);
- **49 CFR Part 21** (entitled Nondiscrimination in Federally-Assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation-Effectuation of Title VI of The Civil Rights Act of 1964);
- **23 CFR Part 200** (FHWA's Title VI/Nondiscrimination Regulation);
- **28 CFR Part 50.3** (U.S. Department of Justice Guidelines for Enforcement of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964); and,
- **Texas Administrative Code §9.4, Civil Rights – Title VI Compliance**

The following Executive Order place further emphasis on preventing discrimination based on race and national origin.

- **Executive Order 12898**, “*Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*,” addresses disproportionate adverse environmental, social and economic impacts that may exist in communities, specifically minority and low-income populations.
- **Executive Order 13166**, “*Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency*,” addresses improving access to services for persons whose primary language is not English and who have limited ability to read, write, speak or understand English.

POLICY STATEMENT

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on federal and federally assisted projects and programs based on race, color, and national origin. Since 1964, additional statutes have prohibited discrimination based on sex (Federal-aid Highway Act of 1973), age (The Age Discrimination Act of 1975), and disability (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990). Taken together, these requirements define an overarching Title VI/Nondiscrimination Program. Additionally, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 defined the word “program” to make clear that discrimination is prohibited throughout an entire agency if any part of the agency receives federal assistance.

The Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority, as a subrecipient of Federal financial assistance and under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes, ensures that no person shall on the grounds of race, religion (where the primary objective of the financial assistance is to provide employment per 42 U.S.C. § 2000d-3), color, national origin, sex, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of its programs or activities regardless of whether those programs and activities are federally-funded or not.

The Title IV/Nondiscrimination Policy Statement signed by the HCRMA’s Executive Director is included in **Attachment A** and is available on the HCRMA’s website at
<https://www.hcrma.net/nondiscrimination/Nondiscrimination%20Policy%20Statement.pdf>

U.S. DOT TITLE VI ASSURANCES

23 C.F.R. § 200.9(a)(1) and 49 C.F.R. § 21.7 require assurances that 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 otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the recipient receives Federal assistance from the U.S. DOT, including the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

The Title VI Assurances will be signed by the Executive Director every three (3) years or within 30 days following a change in executive leadership.

The U.S. DOT Standard Title VI Assurances signed by the HCRMA's Executive Director is included in **Attachment B** and is available on the HCRMA's website at
<https://www.hcrma.net/nondiscrimination/Title%20VI%20Assurances.pdf>

TITLE VI COORDINATOR

The Executive Director will appoint an individual to serve as the HCRMA's Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator. With support from the Executive Director, the Title VI Coordinator is responsible for the HCRMA's Title VI/Nondiscrimination Program and will be delegated sufficient authority and responsibility to effectively carry out the duties assigned to this position.

The Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator will work to ensure there is a demonstrated commitment on the part of the administration to enforce Title VI and will be responsible for program implementation. Responsibilities assigned to the Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator include:

- Addressing Title VI issues or discriminatory practices or policies identified through self-monitoring and review activities;
- Being the Point of Contact for Title VI implementation and monitoring of programs and/or activities receiving federal financial assistance;
- Implementation of procedures for the prompt processing of Title VI external discrimination complaints; and
- Developing Agency specific Title VI information for public dissemination.

The Notice of Appointment for the Title VI Coordinator and Organizational Chart is included as **Attachment C**. The organizational chart identifies the relationship the Title VI Coordinator has with the Executive Director.

TITLE VI COMPLAINT HANDLING PROCEDURES

Any person who believes they, or any specific class of persons, to be subjected to prohibited discrimination based on race, color or national origin may file a written complaint individually or through a representative. A complaint must be filed no later than 180 days after the date of the alleged discrimination, unless the discrimination is ongoing, or the time for filing is extended by the FHWA. Complaints related to the Federal-aid highway program may be filed with TxDOT, FHWA Division Office, the FHWA Headquarters Office of Civil Rights (HCR), the USDOT Departmental Office of Civil Rights, or the USDOJ.

Complaints alleging violations of Title VI by the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority (HCRMA) may be filed in writing directly with the following local, state and federal agencies:

Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority
ATTN: Title VI Coordinator
203 W. Newcombe Ave
Pharr, TX 78577

Texas Department of Transportation Civil Rights Division
ATTN: Title VI Program Administrator
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701

Federal Highway Administration – Texas Division
300 E. 8th Street
Austin, TX 78701

Federal Highway Administration
Office of Civil Rights
HCR-20, Room E81-320
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Complaint and investigation files are confidential. The contents of such will only be disclosed to appropriate agency personnel, state and federal authorities in accordance with Federal and State laws. The HCRMA will retain files in accordance with records retention schedules and all Federal guidelines.

Roles and Responsibilities

The HCRMA is responsible for processing Title VI external discrimination complaints it receives. All discrimination complaints received by the HCRMA will be referred to TxDOT's CIV for review and action within 10 calendar days. TxDOT processes complaints consistent with FHWA's Questions and Answers for Complaints Alleging Violations of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 guidance. Within 10 days of receipt of the complaint, TxDOT will inform the FHWA Division Office, which will forward the complaint to the FHWA Headquarters Office of Civil Rights (HCR) for review and further investigation, if accepted.

Processing Complaints

Complainants shall set forth, as fully as possible, the facts and circumstances surrounding the alleged discrimination. If a person makes a verbal complaint to a HCRMA employee, that person shall be interviewed by the Title VI Coordinator. If necessary, the Title VI Coordinator will assist the person in documenting the complaint in writing and submitting the written version to the person for signature.

Within 10 days of receipt of the complaint, the Title VI Coordinator will acknowledge receipt, inform the complainant of action proposed or taken, and forward the complaint to the appropriate regulatory agency. The complaint documentation should contain the following information, if available:

- Name, address, and phone number of the complainant;
- Name(s) and address(es) of alleged discrimination official(s);
- Basis of complaint (i.e. race, color, national origin, sex, age);
- Date of alleged discriminatory act(s);
- Date of compliant received by the HCRMA and forwarded to TxDOT;
- A statement of the complaint;
- Other agencies (state, local, or federal) where the complainant has been filed; and
- An explanation of any actions the HCRMA has taken or proposed to resolve the issue raised in the complaint.

Complainants may also complete the External Discrimination Complaint Form in English or Spanish. The External Discrimination Complaint Form is included in **Attachment D**.

FHWA has the authority for making all final decisions, including dismissing complaints and issuing letter of findings for complaints concerning the Federal Highway Program. The following are four potential outcomes once a complaint is submitted to FHWA:

- **Accept:** If a complaint is filed timely, contains sufficient information to support a claim under Title VI, and concerns matters under FHWA's jurisdiction, then FHWA will send to the complainant, the respondent agency, and the FHWA's Division Office a written notice that it has accepted the complaint for investigation.
- **Preliminary Review:** If it is unclear whether the complaint allegations are sufficient to support a claim under Title VI, the FHWA may (1) dismiss it, or (2) engage in a preliminary review to acquire additional information from the complainant and/or respondent before deciding whether to accept, dismiss, or refer the complaint.
- **Procedural Dismissal:** If a complaint is not filed timely, is not in writing and signed, or features other procedural/practical defects, then FHWA will send the complainant, respondent, and FHWA Division Office a written notice that it is dismissing the complaint.
- **Referral/Dismissal:** If the complaint is procedurally sufficient but FHWA (1) lacks jurisdiction over the subject matter, or (2) lacks jurisdiction over the respondent entity, then FHWA will either dismiss the complaint or refer it to another agency that does have jurisdiction. If FHWA dismisses the complaint, it will send the complainant, respondent, and FHWA Division Office a copy of the written dismissal notice. For referrals, FHWA will send a written referral notice with a copy of the complaint to the proper Federal agency and a copy to the USDOT Departmental Office of Civil Rights.

Investigative Process for HCRMA Complaints

FHWA may delegate a Title VI complaint filed on the HCRMA to TxDOT for investigation. Within 60 days of receipt of complaint, TxDOT will conduct and complete an investigation of the allegation and based on the information obtained, will render a recommendation for action in a report of findings to FHWA. FHWA will issue final decisions in all cases, including those complaints investigated by TxDOT. The complaint will be resolved by informal means whenever possible. Such informal attempts and their results will be summarized in the report findings.

Information to be Maintained

The Title VI Coordinator will maintain a complaint log of any complaints or lawsuits filed against the HCRMA and all correspondence related to those complaints. The log will identify:

- Each complainant by race, color, or national origin;
- The complainant's name;
- The basis of the complaint;
- Allegations or issues surrounding the discrimination complaint;
- The dates the complaint was filed and the investigation completed;
- The disposition and date of disposition;
- Other pertinent information; and
- Corrective actions taken, if any.

The HCRMA's Title VI Complaint Handling and Process Procedures is available on the HCRMA's website at <https://www.hcrma.net/titlevicomplaint.html>.

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

Executive Order 13166, entitled *Improving Access to Services by Persons with Limited English Proficiency*, requires Federal agencies to assess and address the needs of otherwise eligible persons seeking access to federally conducted programs and activities who, due to Limited English Proficiency (LEP), cannot fully and equally participate in, or benefit from, those programs and activities.

LEP individuals are those who do not speak English as their primary language and have a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English as a result of their national origin. These individuals may be entitled to language assistance with respect to a particular service, benefit, or encounter.

The U.S. Department of Justice LEP Guidance advises each Federal department, agency, and subrecipient to “take reasonable steps to ensure ‘meaningful’ access to LEP individuals to the information and services they provide.” It further explains that the identification of “reasonable steps” to ensure meaningful access will be contingent on a number of factors. Among the factors to be considered are:

- The number or proportion of LEP persons in the eligible service population;
- The frequency with which LEP individuals come into contact with the programs or activities;
- The importance of the program, activity, or services provided; and
- The resources available and the cost.

The HCRMA will develop a Language Assistance Plan (LAP) to assist in its efforts to ensure that information and services are accessible to LEP individuals by providing guidance on translation, interpretation, and outreach services for LEP individuals seeking access to HCRMA programs. The HCRMA will continually monitor and reevaluate the changes in demographics, services and programs, and other factors that should be considered when determining LEP needs. This assessment will help guide in determining what changes, if any, are needed to update its LAP plan.

The HCRMA’s Language Assistance Plan (LAP) is available on the HCRMA’s website at:
<https://www.hcrma.net/nondiscrimination/LAP%20HCRMA.pdf>

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations*, signed in February 11, 1994, requires Federal agencies to take the appropriate and necessary steps to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse effects of Federal projects on the health or environment of minority and low-income populations to the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law. FHWA requires TxDOT to carry out Environmental Justice (EJ) responsibilities as part of its nondiscrimination program.

As a subrecipient of federal assistance administered by the TxDOT, the HCRMA makes achieving EJ part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations.

Identification of Minority and Low-income Populations

Minority population is defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census as Hispanic or Latino, Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian American, and/or Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander.

Low income is defined as persons in households with income below the federal poverty level established annually by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Department of Health and Human Services, public outreach, and other relevant information sources will be used to gather data and list readily identifiable groups or clusters of minority or low-income persons in the boundaries of the proposed project to establish demographic characteristics and trends. The data is used to identify and engage traditionally underserved populations, including those covered under existing EJ policies, as well as LEP populations.

Manuals and Guidance

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, Executive Orders on EJ and LEP, and the Uniform Relocation Assistance and the Real Property Acquisitions Policies Act (Uniform Act) govern policy for conducting, at the Federal and state-level, a thorough and defensible community impact assessment (CIA).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The HCRMA will provide an opportunity for public involvement and access to the transportation decision making process to all segments of the population, including minority or low-income communities and populations who are not proficient in English.

The HCRMA will develop a Public Participation Plan (PPP) for those projects that require public involvement which will include:

- Maps of the identified Environmental Justice (EJ) and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) populations.
- Procedures on public involvement/participation on notifying the public regarding the development of transportation plans and improvement programs, public hearings/meetings and how it solicits and addresses the public's comments in the final documents.
- Early and continuous public involvement/participation through the stages of project development.
- Information to public in languages other than English.
- Documented efforts of utilizing demographic data or knowledge of the community to perform outreach to specific populations.
- Steps to seek out and consider the needs of minority, low-income, or other non-traditional stakeholders.
- A stakeholders list with contact information for organizations and individuals.

The HCRMA's Public Participation Plan (PPP) is available on the HCRMA's website at:
<https://www.hcrma.net/nondiscrimination/PublicParticipationPlan.pdf>

DATA COLLECTION & ANALYSIS

Statistical data on race, color, and national origin of participants and beneficiaries of HCRMA's programs will be collected and analyzed to ensure nondiscrimination and equity for beneficiaries of programs, services and activities. Beneficiaries include relocatees, impacted citizens, and affected communities.

The HCMRA will use the following sources to obtain demographic data within its jurisdictional boundaries:

- Census Data
- American Community Survey
- Department of Education
- Forms or Surveys (developed to obtain information on community boundaries, racial/ethnic make-up, income levels, tax base, or access to community services, schools, hospitals, shopping, etc.)
- Demographic data on public meeting participants
- Correspondence from community leaders, community-based organizations, or local data-collecting agencies.

Once the data is collected, it will be analyzed to determine if:

- transportation programs, services, facilities, and projects effectively meet the needs of “all persons” without discrimination.
- a community profile needs be developed based on racial composition of affected neighborhoods.
- Under-represented populations and businesses in the planning, project development, and maintenance process area are engaged and tracked.

DISSEMINATION OF TITLE VI INFORMATION

The HCRMA will develop Title VI information for dissemination to the general public and, where appropriate, in languages other than English. The HCRMA will inform the public of its nondiscrimination policies, procedures and other related information on its bulletin boards and on its website.

The following are available on the website at: <https://www.hcrma.net/nondiscrimination.html>:

- Title VI/Nondiscrimination Plan
- Title VI/ Nondiscrimination Policy Statement (English and Spanish)
- Title VI Nondiscrimination Assurances
- Procedures on filing a Title VI complaint
- External Discrimination Complaint Form (English and Spanish)
- Title VI Poster (English and Spanish)
- TxDOT's Language Assistance Plan

The following are displayed on the bulletin board located in the main lobby of its building located at 203 W. Newcombe Ave, Pharr, TX:

- Title VI Posters,
- Language Assistance Notices,
- “I Speak” language identification cards in English and Spanish

SOLICITATION FOR BID/REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The HCRMA will insert the following notification on all solicitations for bids and request for proposals in which federal funds are used:

“The Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252,42 U.S.C §§ 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded a full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.”

Before any solicitation for bids that include federal assistance are advertised, the HCRMA’s Title VI Coordinator will review the proposal/bid document to verify that the required language is incorporated into the bid or request for proposal document. The HCRMA’s Title VI Coordinator will also ensure that procuring document templates include the required Title VI language.

TITLE VI CONTRACT PROVISIONS

The HCRMA will incorporate Form -1273 in all federal-aid design-build contracts, in all subcontracts and in lower tier subcontracts (excluding subcontracts for design services, purchase orders, rental agreements and other agreements for supplies or services related to a construction contract).

In agreements where FHWA Form -1273 is not required, the following statement of assurance should be included in each contract with prime contractors and subcontractors in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26.13(b):

“The contractor, sub recipient or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR part 26 in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy as the recipient deems appropriate, which may include, but is not limited to:

- (1) Withholding monthly progress payments;*
- (2) Assessing sanctions;*
- (3) Liquidated damages; and/or*
- (4) Disqualifying the contractor from future bidding as non-responsible.”*

Also, the HCRMA will include US DOT Order 1050.2A Appendices A and E in each federally-assisted contracts, subcontracts, and agreements subject to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

FHWA Form 1273 – Required Contract Provisions Federal-Aid Construction Contracts and US DOT Order 1050.2A Appendices A & E are included in **Attachment E**

ATTACHMENT A
TITLE VI / NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT



TITLE VI AND RELATED STATUTES

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority, as a subrecipient of Federal financial assistance and under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes, ensures that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap/disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity conducted by the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority regardless of whether those program or activities are federally funded or not.

TÍTULO VI Y ESTATUTOS AFINES

DECLARACIÓN DE NO DISCRIMINACIÓN

La Autoridad de Movilidad Regional del Condado de Hidalgo, como subreceptor de la asistencia financiera federal y bajo el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964 y estatutos relacionados, garantiza que ninguna persona por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, edad o discapacidad / discapacidad será excluida de la participación, se le negarán los beneficios o de otra manera será objeto de discriminación en cualquier programa o actividad realizada por el Condado de Hidalgo. Autoridad de Movilidad Regional independientemente de si esos programas o actividades están financiados por el gobierno federal o no.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. Rodriguez".

Pilar Rodriguez P.E., Executive Director

A handwritten date in blue ink, reading "4/4/2022".

Date

ATTACHMENT B
TITLE VI / NONDISCRIMINATION ASSURANCES



**The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT)
Standard Title VI/ Nondiscrimination Assurances
DOT Order No. 1050.2A**

The Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority (herein referred to as the "Recipient") HEREBY AGREES THAT, as a condition for receiving federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) through the Federal Highway Administration, it is subject to, and will comply with, the following:

STATUTORY/REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 *United States Code* [U.S.C.] § 2000d et seq., 78 stat. 252) (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin)
- 49 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) Part 21 (entitled *Nondiscrimination in federally Assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation-Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964*)
- 28 C.F.R. Section 50.3 (U.S. Department of Justice Guidelines for Enforcement of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964)

The preceding statutory and regulatory cites hereinafter are referred to as the "Acts" and "Regulations," respectively.

GENERAL ASSURANCES

In accordance with the Acts, the Regulations, and other pertinent directives, circulars, policy, memoranda, and/or guidance, the Recipient hereby gives assurance that it will promptly take any measures necessary to ensure that:

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 otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity," for which the Recipient receives federal financial assistance from DOT, including the Federal Highway Administration.

The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 clarified the original intent of Congress, with respect to Title VI and other nondiscrimination requirements (the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973), by restoring the broad, institution-wide scope and coverage of these Acts, regulations and nondiscrimination statutes and requirements to include all programs and activities of the Recipient, if any portion of the program is federally assisted.

SPECIFIC ASSURANCES

More specifically, and without limiting the above general Assurance, the Recipient agrees with and gives the following Assurances with respect to its federally assisted DOT programs:

1. The Recipient agrees that each "activity," "facility," or "program," as defined in §§21.23 (b) and 21.23(e) of 49 C.F.R. § 21 will be (with regard to an "activity") facilitated, or will be (with regard to a "facility") operated, or will be (with regard to a "program") conducted in compliance with all requirements imposed by, or pursuant to the Acts and the Regulations.
2. The Recipient will insert the following notification in all solicitations for bids, Requests for Proposals for work, or material subject to the Acts and the Regulations made in connection with all DOT programs and, in adapted form, all proposals for negotiated agreements regardless of funding source:

"The Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that for any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award."

3. The Recipient will insert the clauses of Appendix A and Appendix E of this Assurance in every contract or agreement subject to the Acts and the Regulations.
4. The Recipient will insert the clauses of Appendix B of this Assurance, as a covenant running with the land, in any deed from the United States effecting or recording a transfer of real property, structures, use, or improvements thereon or interest therein to a Recipient.
5. That where the Recipient receives federal financial assistance to construct a facility, or part of a facility, the Assurance will extend to the entire facility and facilities operated in connection therewith.
6. That where the Recipient receives federal financial assistance in the form of, or for the acquisition of, real property or an interest in real property, the Assurance will extend to rights to space on, over, or under such property.
7. The Recipient will include the clauses set forth in Appendix C and Appendix D of this Assurance, as a covenant running with the land, in any future deeds, leases, licenses, permits, or similar instruments entered into by the Recipient with other parties:
 - a. for the subsequent transfer of real property acquired or improved under the applicable activity, project, or program; and
 - b. for the construction or use of, or access to, space on, over, or under real property acquired or improved under the applicable activity, project, or program.
8. That this Assurance obligates the Recipient for the period during which federal financial assistance is extended to the program, except where the federal financial assistance is to provide, or is in the form of, personal property, or real property, or interest therein, or structures or improvements thereon, in which case the Assurance obligates the Recipient, or any transferee for the longer of the following periods:
 - a. the period during which the property is used for a purpose for which the federal financial assistance is extended, or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits; or
 - b. the period during which the Recipient retains ownership or possession of the property.

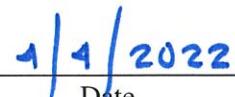
9. The Recipient will provide for such methods of administration for the program as are found by the Secretary of Transportation or the official to whom he/she delegates specific authority to give reasonable guarantee that it, other recipients, subrecipients, subgrantees, contractors, subcontractors, consultants, transferees, successors in interest, and other participants of federal financial assistance under such program will comply with all requirements imposed or pursuant to the Acts, the Regulations, and this Assurance.
10. The Recipient agrees that the United States has a right to seek judicial enforcement regarding any matter arising under the Acts, the Regulations, and this Assurance.

By signing this ASSURANCE, the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority also agrees to comply (and require any subrecipients, subgrantees, contractors, successors, transferees, and/or assignees to comply) with all applicable provisions governing the DOT access to records, accounts, documents, information, facilities, and staff. The Recipient also recognize that it must comply with any program or compliance reviews, and/or complaint investigations conducted by the DOT. The Recipient must maintain records and reports; and submit the material for review upon request to DOT, or its designee, in a timely, complete, and accurate manner. Additionally, Recipient must comply with all other reporting, data collection, and evaluation requirements as prescribed by law or detailed in program guidance.

The Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority gives this ASSURANCE in consideration of, and for obtaining, any Federal grants, loans, contracts, agreements, property, and/or discounts, or other federal-aid and federal financial assistance extended after the date hereof to the recipients by the DOT under all DOT programs. This ASSURANCE is binding on the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority, other recipients, subrecipients, subgrantees, contractors, subcontractors and their subcontractors, transferees, successors in interest, and any other participants in all DOT programs. The person(s) signing below is authorized to sign this ASSURANCE on behalf of the Recipient.



Pilar Rodriguez, P.E. Executive Director



Date

APPENDIX A

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest (hereinafter referred to as the "contractor") agrees as follows:

1. **Compliance with Regulations:** The contractor (hereinafter includes consultants) will comply with the Acts and the Regulations relative to Nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, as they may be amended from time to time, which are herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract.
2. **Nondiscrimination:** The contractor, with regard to the work performed by it during the contract, will not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in the selection and retention of subcontractors, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment. The contractor will not participate directly or indirectly in the discrimination prohibited by the Acts and the Regulations, including employment practices, when the contract covers any activity, project, or program set forth in Appendix B of 49 C.F.R. Part 21 ("Activities to which this Part Applies when a Primary Objective of the Federal Finance Assistance is to Provide Employment").
3. **Solicitations for Subcontracts, Including Procurements of Materials and Equipment:** In all solicitations, either by competitive bidding, or negotiation made by the contractor for work to be performed under a subcontract, including procurements of materials or leases of equipment, each potential subcontractor or supplier will be notified by the contractor of the contractor's obligations under this contract and the Acts and the Regulations relative to Nondiscrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin.
4. **Information and Reports:** The contractor will provide all information and reports required by the Acts, the Regulations, and directives issued pursuant thereto and will permit access to its books, records, accounts, other sources of information, and its facilities as may be determined by the Recipient or the Federal Highway Administration to be pertinent to ascertain compliance with such Acts, Regulations, and instructions. Where any information required of a contractor is in the exclusive possession of another who fails or refuses to furnish the information, the contractor will so certify to the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority or the Federal Highway Administration, as appropriate, and will set forth what efforts it has made to obtain the information.
5. **Sanctions for Noncompliance:** In the event of a contractor's noncompliance with the Nondiscrimination provisions of this contract, the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority will impose such contract sanctions as it or the Federal Highway Administration may determine to be appropriate, including, but not limited to:
 - a. withholding payments to the contractor under the contract until the contractor complies; and /or
 - b. cancelling, terminating, or suspending a contract in whole or in part.
6. **Incorporation of Provisions:** The contractor will include the provisions of paragraphs 1 through 6 in every subcontract, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment, unless exempt by the Acts, the Regulations and directives issued pursuant thereto. The contractor will take action with respect to any subcontract or procurement as the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority or the Federal Highway Administration may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions, including sanctions for noncompliance. In the event that the contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation by a subcontractor or supplier because of such direction, the contractor may request the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority to enter into any litigation to protect the interests of the Authority. In addition, the contractor may request the United States to enter into the litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

APPENDIX B
CLAUSES FOR DEEDS TRANSFERRING UNITED STATES PROPERTY

The following clauses will be included in deeds effecting or recording the transfer of real property, structures, or improvements thereon, or granting interest therein from the United States pursuant to the provisions of Assurance 4:

NOW, THEREFORE, the U.S. Department of Transportation, as authorized by law and upon the condition that the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority will accept title to the lands and maintain the project constructed thereon in accordance with all applicable federal statutes, the Regulations for the Administration of all Department of Transportation programs, and the policies and procedures prescribed by the Federal Highway Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation in accordance and in compliance with all requirements imposed by Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, U.S. Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation pertaining to and effectuating the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252; 42 U.S.C. § 2000d to 2000d-4), does hereby remise, release, quitclaim and convey unto the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority all the right, title and interest of the U.S. Department of Transportation in, and to, said lands described in Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof.

(HABENDUM CLAUSE)

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD said lands and interests therein unto the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority and its successors forever, subject, however, to the covenants, conditions, restrictions and reservations herein contained as follows, which will remain in effect for the period during which the real property or structures are used for a purpose for which Federal financial assistance is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits and will be binding on the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority, its successors and assigns.

The Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority, in consideration of the conveyance of said lands and interests in lands, does hereby covenant and agree as a covenant running with the land for itself, its successors and assigns, that:

- (1) no person will on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination with regard to any facility located wholly or in part on, over, or under such lands hereby conveyed [,] [and]*
- (2) that the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority **will** use the lands and interests in lands and interests in lands so conveyed, in compliance with all requirements imposed by or pursuant to Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, U.S. Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and as said Regulations and Acts may be amended[, and]
- (3) that in the event of breach of any of the above-mentioned Nondiscrimination conditions, the DOT will have a right to enter or re-enter said lands and facilities on said land, and that above-described land and facilities will thereon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the U.S. Department of Transportation and its assigns as such interest existed prior to this instruction].*

* Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary in order to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

APPENDIX C
CLAUSES FOR TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY ACQUIRED OR
IMPROVED UNDER THE ACTIVITY, FACILITY, OR PROGRAM

The following clauses will be included in deeds, licenses, leases, permits, or similar instruments entered into by the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority pursuant to the provisions of Assurance 7(a):

- A. The (grantee, lessee, permittee, etc., as appropriate) for himself/herself, his/her heirs, personal representatives, successors in interest, and assigns, as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree [in the case of deeds and leases add "as a covenant running with the land"] that:
 1. In the event facilities are constructed, maintained, or otherwise operated on the property described in this (deed, license, lease, permit, etc.) for a purpose for which a U.S. Department of Transportation activity, facility, or program is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits, the (grantee, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc.) will maintain and operate such facilities and services in compliance with all requirements imposed by the Acts and Regulations (as may be amended) such that no person on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of said facilities.
- B. With respect to licenses, leases, permits, etc., in the event of breach of any of the above Nondiscrimination covenants, the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority will have the right to terminate the [lease, license, permit, etc.] and to enter, re-enter, and repossess said lands and facilities thereon, and hold the same as if the [lease, license, permit, etc.] had never been made or issued.*
- C. With respect to a deed, in the event of breach of any of the above Nondiscrimination covenants, the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority will have the right to enter or re-enter the lands and facilities thereon, and the above-described lands and facilities will there upon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority and its assigns.*

* Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary in order to make clear the purpose of Title VI.

APPENDIX D
CLAUSES FOR CONSTRUCTION/USE/ACCESS TO REAL PROPERTY
ACQUIRED UNDER THE ACTIVITY, FACILITY OR PROGRAM

The following clauses will be included in deeds, licenses, permits, or similar instruments/ agreements entered into by Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority pursuant to the provisions of Assurance 7(b):

- A. The [grantee, licensee, permittee, etc., as appropriate] for himself/herself, his/her heirs, personal representatives, successors in interest, and assigns, as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree [in the case of deeds and leases, add "as a covenant running with the land"] that (1) no person on the ground of race, color, or national origin will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of said facilities; (2) that in the construction of any improvements on, over, or under such land, and the furnishing of services thereon, no person on the ground of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination; (3) that the (grantee, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc.) will use the premises in compliance with all other requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Acts and Regulations, as amended, set forth in this Assurance.
- B. With respect to [licenses, leases, permits, etc.], in the event of breach of any of the above Nondiscrimination covenants, the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority will have the right to terminate the [license, permit, etc., as appropriate] and to enter or re-enter and repossess said land and the facilities thereon, and hold the same as if said [license, permit, etc., as appropriate] had never been made or issued.*
- C. With respect to deeds, in the event of breach of any of the above Nondiscrimination covenants, the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority will there upon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority and its assigns.*

* Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary in order to make clear the purpose of Title VI.

APPENDIX E

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest (hereinafter referred to as the "contractor"), agrees to comply with the following Nondiscrimination statutes and authorities, including, but not limited to:

PERTINENT DONDISCRIMINATION AUTHORITIES

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq., 78 stat. 252) (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin); and 49 C.F.R. Part 21.
- The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. § 4601) (prohibits unfair treatment of persons displaced or whose property has been acquired because of Federal or Federal-aid programs and projects);
- Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973 (23 U.S.C. § 324 et seq.) (prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex);
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 794 et seq.), as amended (prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability); and 49 C.F.R. Part 27;
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq.) (prohibits discrimination on the basis of age);
- Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982 (49 U.S.C. § 4 71, Section 4 7123), as amended (prohibits discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, or sex);
- The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (PL 100-209) (broadened the scope, coverage and applicability of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 by expanding the definition of the terms "programs or activities" to include all of the programs or activities of the Federal-aid recipients, subrecipients and contractors, regardless of whether such programs or activities are federally funded);
- Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability in the operation of public entities, public and private transportation systems, places of public accommodation, and certain testing entities (42 U.S.C. §§ 12131-12189) as implemented by DOT regulations at 49 C.F.R. parts 37 and 38;
- The Federal Aviation Administration's Nondiscrimination statute (49 U.S.C. § 47123) (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, and sex);
- Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, which ensures discrimination against minority populations by discouraging programs, policies, and activities with disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations;
- Executive Order 13166, Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency, and resulting agency guidance, national origin discrimination includes discrimination because of limited English proficiency (LEP). To ensure compliance with Title VI, you must take reasonable steps to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to your programs (70 Fed. Reg. at 74087 to 74100);
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, which prohibits you from discriminating because of sex in education programs or activities (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.).

ATTACHMENT C
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT FOR TITLE VI COORDINATOR

**ORGANIZATIONAL CHART SHOWING THE TITLE VI COORDINATOR'S RELATIONSHIP
TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



TITLE VI COORDINATOR APPOINTMENT

I am designating the Chief Auditor/Compliance Officer, Celia Gaona, as the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority's Title VI Coordinator. The Chief Auditor/Compliance Officer reports directly to me and has direct access to me at any time.

With my support, the Title VI Coordinator will be directly responsible for all aspects of the Title VI Program. Her contact information is noted below:

Celia Gaona
HCRMA, Title IV Coordinator
203 W. Newcombe
Pharr, TX 78577
(956) 402-4762
Email: ADA@hcrma.net

TÍTULO VI NOMBRAMIENTO DEL COORDINADOR

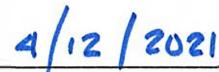
Estoy designando a la Auditora Jefe/Oficial de Cumplimiento, Celia Gaona, como Coordinadora del Título VI de la Autoridad de Movilidad Reginal del Condado de Hidalgo. El Jefe de Auditoría/Oficial de Cumplimiento me reporta directamente y tiene acceso directo a mí en cualquier momento.

Con mi apoyo, el Coordinador del Título VI será directamente responsable de todos los aspectos del Programa del Título VI. Su información de contacto se indica a continuación:

Celia Gaona
HCRMA, Coordinadora de Titulo IV
Pharr, TX 78577
(956) 402-4762
Email: ADA@hcrma.net

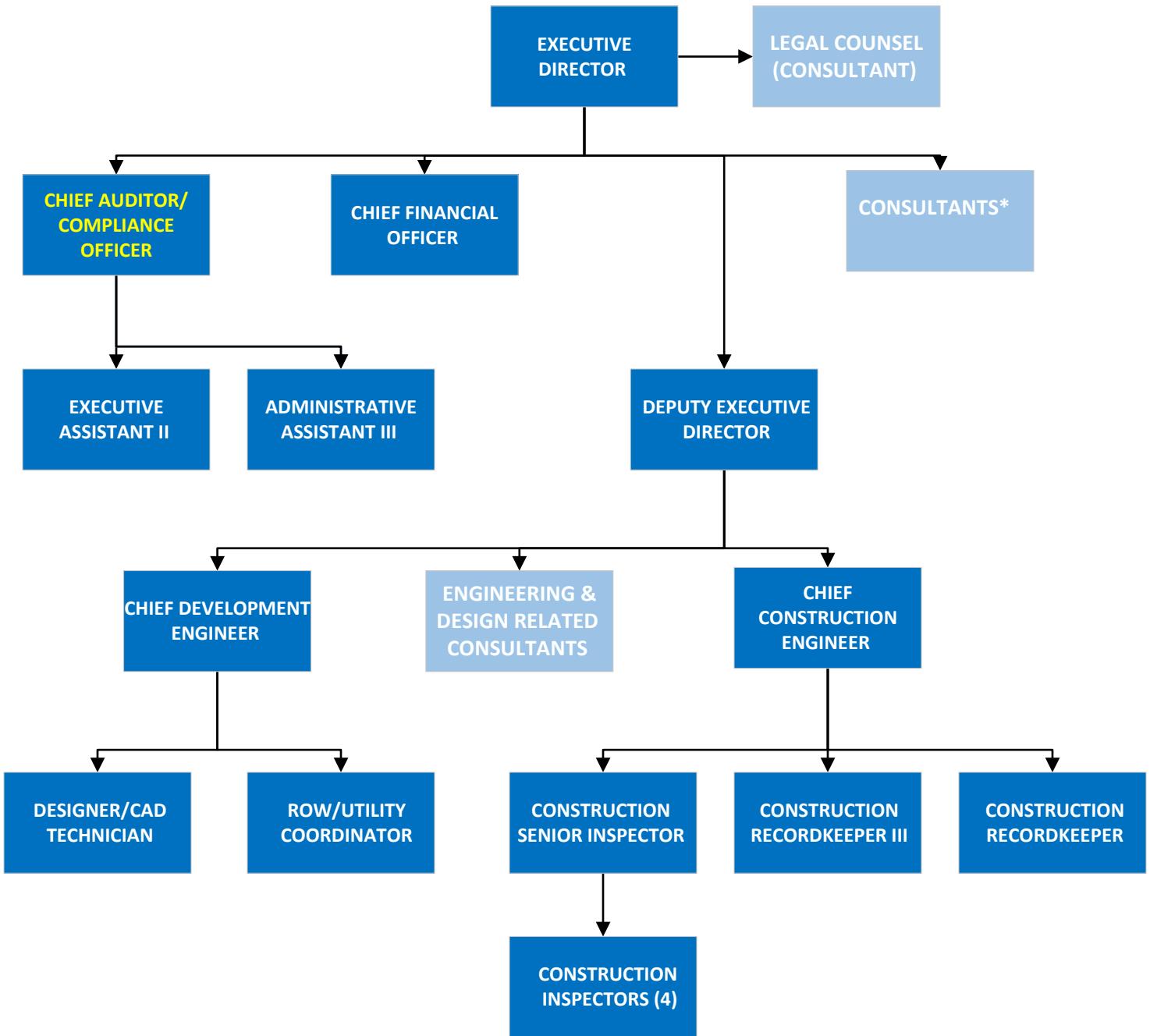
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. Rodriguez".

Pilar Rodriguez P.E., Executive Director

A handwritten date in blue ink, reading "4/12/2021".

Date

HIDALGO COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



*Includes Financial Advisors, Insurance Broker, etc.

ATTACHMENT D
SAMPLE EXTERNAL DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT FORMS
IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH

SAMPLE TITLE VI COMPLAINT LOG



Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority
Title VI and ADA External Discrimination
Complaint Form

Mail the completed and signed form to:

HCRMA
Title VI/ADA Coordinator
203 W. Newcombe Ave
Pharr TX, 78577

Last Name:	First Name and Middle Initial:
------------	--------------------------------

Mailing Address (include city, state, and zip code):

Telephone:	Email:
------------	--------

Preferred Method of Contact: Telephone Email Other (Please Specify)

Please indicate the basis of your complaint by checking one or more of the options listed:

Race _____

Color _____

Age _____

Gender _____

National Origin _____

Disability _____

Date and place of alleged discriminatory action(s). Please indicate the earliest date of discrimination and the most recent date of discrimination.

How were you discriminated against? Please explain your complaint as clearly as possible. Include how other persons were treated differently. Use additional sheet(s), if necessary. Attach supporting documents, if available.

The law prohibits intimidation or retaliation against anyone because they have either taken action, or participated in action, to secure rights protected by the laws. If you feel that you have been retaliated against, separate from the discrimination alleged above, please explain the circumstances below. Describe the action you took which you believe was the cause for the alleged retaliation.

Names of persons (witnesses, coworkers, supervisors or others) whom we may contact for additional information to support or clarify your complaint (attach additional pages, if necessary).

Name	Address	Telephone
1)		
2)		
3)		
4)		

What action(s) have you or your representative taken to attempt to resolve this complaint? Please include filing dates or other dates as applicable.

Action:

Date:

- Filed with the Federal Highway Administration _____
- Filed with the U.S. Department of Transportation _____
- Filed with another Federal Agency _____
- Filed in Federal Court _____
- Other Action _____

Please provide any additional information you feel would be helpful in investigating this matter.

Briefly explain what remedy, or action, you are seeking for the alleged discrimination.

We do not accept unsigned complaints. Please make sure to sign and date the complaint form below.

Signature

Date

Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority

Formulario de denuncia de discriminación

Envíe el formulario completo a: **externa del Título VI y la ADA**

HCRMA

Coordinador del Título VI/ADA

203 W. Newcombe Ave Pharr,

TX 78577

Apellido:	Nombre:
-----------	---------

Dirección domiciliar (ciudad, estado, código postal):

Número de teléfono:	Correo Electrónico:
---------------------	---------------------

Método preferido de contacto: Teléfono Correo Electrónico

 Otro (especifique por favor) _____

Por favor indique el motivo de su queja.

Raza _____

Color _____

Edad _____

Sexo _____

Origen Nacional _____

Impedimento _____

Fecha aproximada del presunto acto de discriminación. Indique por favor la primera vez que ocurrió la discriminación y la fecha más reciente de la discriminación.

¿Cómo es que fue discriminado? Por favor describa en sus propias palabras el acto de la presunta discriminación. Relate lo que ocurrió y cómo han tratado a otras personas de manera distinta. Utilice hojas adicionales en caso de ser necesario. Adjunte otros documentos que demuestren lo ocurrido.

La ley prohíbe la intimidación y venganza contra cualquier persona que haya tomado acción o que haya participado en la investigación de una queja de discriminación. Si usted se siente que lo han amenazado, a parte de la discriminación alegada anteriormente, por favor explique las circunstancias abajo. Describa la acción que usted tomó que pudo haber causado esta amenaza.

Por favor escriba el nombre(s) e información de contacto para cualquier persona (testigos, otros empleados, supervisores, u otros) que podamos contactar para obtener información adicional y clarificar o justificar su alegación(es). Utilice las hojas adicionales, en caso de ser necesario.

	Nombre	Dirección domiciliar	Número de teléfono
1)			
2)			
3)			
4)			

¿Qué acciones ha tomado usted o su representante para resolver esta queja? Por favor incluya las fechas de su representación u otras fechas que apliquen a su caso.

Acción:

Fecha:

<input type="checkbox"/> Administración Federal de Carreteras de los EE.UU	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Departamento de Transporte de los EE.UU.	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Otras Agencias Federales de los EE.UU.	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Tribunal Federal de los EE.UU.	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Otros	_____

Favor de proporcionar cualquier información adicional y/o fotografías que sean pertinentes a la investigación.

Explique que medidas o acciones esta buscando para remediar el presunto acto de discriminación.

No podemos aceptar una queja sin firma. Favor de incluir su firma y la fecha a continuación:



HIDALGO COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY
TITLE VI LOG OF EXTERNAL DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS AND LAWSUITS

ATTACHMENT E
FHWA FORM 1273 –
REQUIRED CONTRACT PROVISIONS FEDERAL-AID CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS

U.S. DOT 1050.2A APPENDICES A & E

**REQUIRED CONTRACT PROVISIONS
FEDERAL-AID CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS**

- I. General
- II. Nondiscrimination
- III. Nonsegregated Facilities
- IV. Davis-Bacon and Related Act Provisions
- V. Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act Provisions
- VI. Subletting or Assigning the Contract
- VII. Safety: Accident Prevention
- VIII. False Statements Concerning Highway Projects
- IX. Implementation of Clean Air Act and Federal Water Pollution Control Act
- X. Compliance with Governmentwide Suspension and Debarment Requirements
- XI. Certification Regarding Use of Contract Funds for Lobbying

ATTACHMENTS

A. Employment and Materials Preference for Appalachian Development Highway System or Appalachian Local Access Road Contracts (included in Appalachian contracts only)

I. GENERAL

1. Form FHWA-1273 must be physically incorporated in each construction contract funded under Title 23 (excluding emergency contracts solely intended for debris removal). The contractor (or subcontractor) must insert this form in each subcontract and further require its inclusion in all lower tier subcontracts (excluding purchase orders, rental agreements and other agreements for supplies or services).

The applicable requirements of Form FHWA-1273 are incorporated by reference for work done under any purchase order, rental agreement or agreement for other services. The prime contractor shall be responsible for compliance by any subcontractor, lower-tier subcontractor or service provider.

Form FHWA-1273 must be included in all Federal-aid design-build contracts, in all subcontracts and in lower tier subcontracts (excluding subcontracts for design services, purchase orders, rental agreements and other agreements for supplies or services). The design-builder shall be responsible for compliance by any subcontractor, lower-tier subcontractor or service provider.

Contracting agencies may reference Form FHWA-1273 in bid proposal or request for proposal documents, however, the Form FHWA-1273 must be physically incorporated (not referenced) in all contracts, subcontracts and lower-tier subcontracts (excluding purchase orders, rental agreements and other agreements for supplies or services related to a construction contract).

2. Subject to the applicability criteria noted in the following sections, these contract provisions shall apply to all work performed on the contract by the contractor's own organization and with the assistance of workers under the contractor's immediate superintendence and to all work performed on the contract by piecework, station work, or by subcontract.

3. A breach of any of the stipulations contained in these Required Contract Provisions may be sufficient grounds for withholding of progress payments, withholding of final payment, termination of the contract, suspension / debarment or any other action determined to be appropriate by the contracting agency and FHWA.

4. Selection of Labor: During the performance of this contract, the contractor shall not use convict labor for any purpose within the limits of a construction project on a Federal-aid highway unless it is labor performed by convicts who are on parole, supervised release, or probation. The term Federal-aid highway does not include roadways functionally classified as local roads or rural minor collectors.

II. NONDISCRIMINATION

The provisions of this section related to 23 CFR Part 230 are applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts and to all related construction subcontracts of \$10,000 or more. The provisions of 23 CFR Part 230 are not applicable to material supply, engineering, or architectural service contracts.

In addition, the contractor and all subcontractors must comply with the following policies: Executive Order 11246, 41 CFR 60, 29 CFR 1625-1627, Title 23 USC Section 140, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 USC 794), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and related regulations including 49 CFR Parts 21, 26 and 27; and 23 CFR Parts 200, 230, and 633.

The contractor and all subcontractors must comply with: the requirements of the Equal Opportunity Clause in 41 CFR 60-1.4(b) and, for all construction contracts exceeding \$10,000, the Standard Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Construction Contract Specifications in 41 CFR 60-4.3.

Note: The U.S. Department of Labor has exclusive authority to determine compliance with Executive Order 11246 and the policies of the Secretary of Labor including 41 CFR 60, and 29 CFR 1625-1627. The contracting agency and the FHWA have the authority and the responsibility to ensure compliance with Title 23 USC Section 140, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 USC 794), and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and related regulations including 49 CFR Parts 21, 26 and 27; and 23 CFR Parts 200, 230, and 633.

The following provision is adopted from 23 CFR 230, Appendix A, with appropriate revisions to conform to the U.S. Department of Labor (US DOL) and FHWA requirements.

1. **Equal Employment Opportunity:** Equal employment opportunity (EEO) requirements not to discriminate and to take affirmative action to assure equal opportunity as set forth under laws, executive orders, rules, regulations (28 CFR 35, 29 CFR 1630, 29 CFR 1625-1627, 41 CFR 60 and 49 CFR 27) and orders of the Secretary of Labor as modified by the provisions prescribed herein, and imposed pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 140 shall constitute the EEO and specific affirmative action standards for the contractor's project activities under

APPENDIX A

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest (hereinafter referred to as the “contractor”) agrees as follows:

1. **Compliance with Regulations:** The contractor (hereinafter includes consultants) will comply with the Acts and the Regulations relative to Non-discrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, (*Title of Modal Operating Administration*), as they may be amended from time to time, which are herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract.
2. **Non-discrimination:** The contractor, with regard to the work performed by it during the contract, will not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in the selection and retention of subcontractors, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment. The contractor will not participate directly or indirectly in the discrimination prohibited by the Acts and the Regulations, including employment practices when the contract covers any activity, project, or program set forth in Appendix B of 49 CFR Part 21. *[Include Modal Operating Administration specific program requirements.]*
3. **Solicitations for Subcontracts, Including Procurements of Materials and Equipment:** In all solicitations, either by competitive bidding, or negotiation made by the contractor for work to be performed under a subcontract, including procurements of materials, or leases of equipment, each potential subcontractor or supplier will be notified by the contractor of the contractor’s obligations under this contract and the Acts and the Regulations relative to Non-discrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin. *[Include Modal Operating Administration specific program requirements.]*
4. **Information and Reports:** The contractor will provide all information and reports required by the Acts, the Regulations, and directives issued pursuant thereto and will permit access to its books, records, accounts, other sources of information, and its facilities as may be determined by the Recipient or the (*Title of Modal Operating Administration*) to be pertinent to ascertain compliance with such Acts, Regulations, and instructions. Where any information required of a contractor is in the exclusive possession of another who fails or refuses to furnish the information, the contractor will so certify to the Recipient or the (*Title of Modal Operating Administration*), as appropriate, and will set forth what efforts it has made to obtain the information.
5. **Sanctions for Noncompliance:** In the event of a contractor’s noncompliance with the Non-discrimination provisions of this contract, the Recipient will impose such contract sanctions as it or the (*Title of Modal Operating Administration*) may determine to be appropriate, including, but not limited to:
 - a. withholding payments to the contractor under the contract until the contractor complies; and/or
 - b. cancelling, terminating, or suspending a contract, in whole or in part.
6. **Incorporation of Provisions:** The contractor will include the provisions of paragraphs one through six in every subcontract, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment, unless exempt by the Acts, the Regulations and directives issued pursuant thereto. The contractor will take action with respect to any subcontract or procurement as the Recipient or the (*Title of Modal Operating Administration*) may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions including sanctions for noncompliance. Provided, that if the contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with litigation by a subcontractor, or supplier because of such direction, the contractor may request the Recipient to enter into any litigation to protect the interests of the Recipient. In addition, the contractor may request the United States to enter into the litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

APPENDIX E

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest (hereinafter referred to as the “contractor”) agrees to comply with the following non-discrimination statutes and authorities; including but not limited to:

Pertinent Non-Discrimination Authorities:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.*, 78 stat. 252), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin); and 49 CFR Part 21.
- The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, (42 U.S.C. § 4601), (prohibits unfair treatment of persons displaced or whose property has been acquired because of Federal or Federal-aid programs and projects);
- Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973, (23 U.S.C. § 324 *et seq.*), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex);
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, (29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.*), as amended, (prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability); and 49 CFR Part 27;
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, (42 U.S.C. § 6101 *et seq.*), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of age);
- Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982, (49 USC § 471, Section 47123), as amended, (prohibits discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, or sex);
- The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, (PL 100-209), (Broadened the scope, coverage and applicability of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, by expanding the definition of the terms “programs or activities” to include all of the programs or activities of the Federal-aid recipients, sub-recipients and contractors, whether such programs or activities are Federally funded or not);
- Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability in the operation of public entities, public and private transportation systems, places of public accommodation, and certain testing entities (42 U.S.C. §§ 12131 – 12189) as implemented by Department of Transportation regulations at 49 C.F.R. parts 37 and 38;
- The Federal Aviation Administration’s Non-discrimination statute (49 U.S.C. § 47123) (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, and sex);
- Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, which ensures discrimination against minority populations by discouraging programs, policies, and activities with disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations;
- Executive Order 13166, Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency, and resulting agency guidance, national origin discrimination includes discrimination because of limited English proficiency (LEP). To ensure compliance with Title VI, you must take reasonable steps to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to your programs (70 Fed. Reg. at 74087 to 74100);
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, which prohibits you from discriminating because of sex in education programs or activities (20 U.S.C. 1681 *et seq.*).

this contract. The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) set forth under 28 CFR 35 and 29 CFR 1630 are incorporated by reference in this contract. In the execution of this contract, the contractor agrees to comply with the following minimum specific requirement activities of EEO:

a. The contractor will work with the contracting agency and the Federal Government to ensure that it has made every good faith effort to provide equal opportunity with respect to all of its terms and conditions of employment and in their review of activities under the contract.

b. The contractor will accept as its operating policy the following statement:

"It is the policy of this Company to assure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, religion, sex, color, national origin, age or disability. Such action shall include: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship, pre-apprenticeship, and/or on-the-job training."

2. **EEO Officer:** The contractor will designate and make known to the contracting officers an EEO Officer who will have the responsibility for and must be capable of effectively administering and promoting an active EEO program and who must be assigned adequate authority and responsibility to do so.

3. **Dissemination of Policy:** All members of the contractor's staff who are authorized to hire, supervise, promote, and discharge employees, or who recommend such action, or who are substantially involved in such action, will be made fully cognizant of, and will implement, the contractor's EEO policy and contractual responsibilities to provide EEO in each grade and classification of employment. To ensure that the above agreement will be met, the following actions will be taken as a minimum:

a. Periodic meetings of supervisory and personnel office employees will be conducted before the start of work and then not less often than once every six months, at which time the contractor's EEO policy and its implementation will be reviewed and explained. The meetings will be conducted by the EEO Officer.

b. All new supervisory or personnel office employees will be given a thorough indoctrination by the EEO Officer, covering all major aspects of the contractor's EEO obligations within thirty days following their reporting for duty with the contractor.

c. All personnel who are engaged in direct recruitment for the project will be instructed by the EEO Officer in the contractor's procedures for locating and hiring minorities and women.

d. Notices and posters setting forth the contractor's EEO policy will be placed in areas readily accessible to employees, applicants for employment and potential employees.

e. The contractor's EEO policy and the procedures to implement such policy will be brought to the attention of employees by means of meetings, employee handbooks, or other appropriate means.

4. **Recruitment:** When advertising for employees, the contractor will include in all advertisements for employees the notation: "An Equal Opportunity Employer." All such advertisements will be placed in publications having a large circulation among minorities and women in the area from which the project work force would normally be derived.

a. The contractor will, unless precluded by a valid bargaining agreement, conduct systematic and direct recruitment through public and private employee referral sources likely to yield qualified minorities and women. To meet this requirement, the contractor will identify sources of potential minority group employees, and establish with such identified sources procedures whereby minority and women applicants may be referred to the contractor for employment consideration.

b. In the event the contractor has a valid bargaining agreement providing for exclusive hiring hall referrals, the contractor is expected to observe the provisions of that agreement to the extent that the system meets the contractor's compliance with EEO contract provisions. Where implementation of such an agreement has the effect of discriminating against minorities or women, or obligates the contractor to do the same, such implementation violates Federal nondiscrimination provisions.

c. The contractor will encourage its present employees to refer minorities and women as applicants for employment. Information and procedures with regard to referring such applicants will be discussed with employees.

5. **Personnel Actions:** Wages, working conditions, and employee benefits shall be established and administered, and personnel actions of every type, including hiring, upgrading, promotion, transfer, demotion, layoff, and termination, shall be taken without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability. The following procedures shall be followed:

a. The contractor will conduct periodic inspections of project sites to insure that working conditions and employee facilities do not indicate discriminatory treatment of project site personnel.

b. The contractor will periodically evaluate the spread of wages paid within each classification to determine any evidence of discriminatory wage practices.

c. The contractor will periodically review selected personnel actions in depth to determine whether there is evidence of discrimination. Where evidence is found, the contractor will promptly take corrective action. If the review indicates that the discrimination may extend beyond the actions reviewed, such corrective action shall include all affected persons.

d. The contractor will promptly investigate all complaints of alleged discrimination made to the contractor in connection with its obligations under this contract, will attempt to resolve such complaints, and will take appropriate corrective action within a reasonable time. If the investigation indicates that the discrimination may affect persons other than the complainant, such corrective action shall include such other persons. Upon completion of each investigation, the contractor will inform every complainant of all of their avenues of appeal.

6. Training and Promotion:

a. The contractor will assist in locating, qualifying, and increasing the skills of minorities and women who are

applicants for employment or current employees. Such efforts should be aimed at developing full journey level status employees in the type of trade or job classification involved.

b. Consistent with the contractor's work force requirements and as permissible under Federal and State regulations, the contractor shall make full use of training programs, i.e., apprenticeship, and on-the-job training programs for the geographical area of contract performance. In the event a special provision for training is provided under this contract, this subparagraph will be superseded as indicated in the special provision. The contracting agency may reserve training positions for persons who receive welfare assistance in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 140(a).

c. The contractor will advise employees and applicants for employment of available training programs and entrance requirements for each.

d. The contractor will periodically review the training and promotion potential of employees who are minorities and women and will encourage eligible employees to apply for such training and promotion.

7. Unions: If the contractor relies in whole or in part upon unions as a source of employees, the contractor will use good faith efforts to obtain the cooperation of such unions to increase opportunities for minorities and women. Actions by the contractor, either directly or through a contractor's association acting as agent, will include the procedures set forth below:

a. The contractor will use good faith efforts to develop, in cooperation with the unions, joint training programs aimed toward qualifying more minorities and women for membership in the unions and increasing the skills of minorities and women so that they may qualify for higher paying employment.

b. The contractor will use good faith efforts to incorporate an EEO clause into each union agreement to the end that such union will be contractually bound to refer applicants without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability.

c. The contractor is to obtain information as to the referral practices and policies of the labor union except that to the extent such information is within the exclusive possession of the labor union and such labor union refuses to furnish such information to the contractor, the contractor shall so certify to the contracting agency and shall set forth what efforts have been made to obtain such information.

d. In the event the union is unable to provide the contractor with a reasonable flow of referrals within the time limit set forth in the collective bargaining agreement, the contractor will, through independent recruitment efforts, fill the employment vacancies without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability; making full efforts to obtain qualified and/or qualifiable minorities and women. The failure of a union to provide sufficient referrals (even though it is obligated to provide exclusive referrals under the terms of a collective bargaining agreement) does not relieve the contractor from the requirements of this paragraph. In the event the union referral practice prevents the contractor from meeting the obligations pursuant to Executive Order 11246, as amended, and these special provisions, such contractor shall immediately notify the contracting agency.

8. Reasonable Accommodation for Applicants / Employees with Disabilities: The contractor must be familiar

with the requirements for and comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and all rules and regulations established there under. Employers must provide reasonable accommodation in all employment activities unless to do so would cause an undue hardship.

9. Selection of Subcontractors, Procurement of Materials and Leasing of Equipment: The contractor shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability in the selection and retention of subcontractors, including procurement of materials and leases of equipment. The contractor shall take all necessary and reasonable steps to ensure nondiscrimination in the administration of this contract.

a. The contractor shall notify all potential subcontractors and suppliers and lessors of their EEO obligations under this contract.

b. The contractor will use good faith efforts to ensure subcontractor compliance with their EEO obligations.

10. Assurance Required by 49 CFR 26.13(b):

a. The requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 and the State DOT's U.S. DOT-approved DBE program are incorporated by reference.

b. The contractor or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy as the contracting agency deems appropriate.

11. Records and Reports: The contractor shall keep such records as necessary to document compliance with the EEO requirements. Such records shall be retained for a period of three years following the date of the final payment to the contractor for all contract work and shall be available at reasonable times and places for inspection by authorized representatives of the contracting agency and the FHWA.

a. The records kept by the contractor shall document the following:

(1) The number and work hours of minority and non-minority group members and women employed in each work classification on the project;

(2) The progress and efforts being made in cooperation with unions, when applicable, to increase employment opportunities for minorities and women; and

(3) The progress and efforts being made in locating, hiring, training, qualifying, and upgrading minorities and women;

b. The contractors and subcontractors will submit an annual report to the contracting agency each July for the duration of the project, indicating the number of minority, women, and non-minority group employees currently engaged in each work classification required by the contract work. This information is to be reported on [Form FHWA-1391](#). The staffing data should represent the project work force on board in all or any part of the last payroll period preceding the end of July. If on-the-job training is being required by special provision, the contractor

will be required to collect and report training data. The employment data should reflect the work force on board during all or any part of the last payroll period preceding the end of July.

III. NONSEGREGATED FACILITIES

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts and to all related construction subcontracts of \$10,000 or more.

The contractor must ensure that facilities provided for employees are provided in such a manner that segregation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin cannot result. The contractor may neither require such segregated use by written or oral policies nor tolerate such use by employee custom. The contractor's obligation extends further to ensure that its employees are not assigned to perform their services at any location, under the contractor's control, where the facilities are segregated. The term "facilities" includes waiting rooms, work areas, restaurants and other eating areas, time clocks, restrooms, washrooms, locker rooms, and other storage or dressing areas, parking lots, drinking fountains, recreation or entertainment areas, transportation, and housing provided for employees. The contractor shall provide separate or single-user restrooms and necessary dressing or sleeping areas to assure privacy between sexes.

IV. DAVIS-BACON AND RELATED ACT PROVISIONS

This section is applicable to all Federal-aid construction projects exceeding \$2,000 and to all related subcontracts and lower-tier subcontracts (regardless of subcontract size). The requirements apply to all projects located within the right-of-way of a roadway that is functionally classified as Federal-aid highway. This excludes roadways functionally classified as local roads or rural minor collectors, which are exempt. Contracting agencies may elect to apply these requirements to other projects.

The following provisions are from the U.S. Department of Labor regulations in 29 CFR 5.5 "Contract provisions and related matters" with minor revisions to conform to the FHWA-1273 format and FHWA program requirements.

1. Minimum wages

a. All laborers and mechanics employed or working upon the site of the work, will be paid unconditionally and not less often than once a week, and without subsequent deduction or rebate on any account (except such payroll deductions as are permitted by regulations issued by the Secretary of Labor under the Copeland Act (29 CFR part 3)), the full amount of wages and bona fide fringe benefits (or cash equivalents thereof) due at time of payment computed at rates not less than those contained in the wage determination of the Secretary of Labor which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, regardless of any contractual relationship which may be alleged to exist between the contractor and such laborers and mechanics.

Contributions made or costs reasonably anticipated for bona fide fringe benefits under section 1(b)(2) of the Davis-Bacon Act on behalf of laborers or mechanics are considered wages paid to such laborers or mechanics, subject to the provisions

of paragraph 1.d. of this section; also, regular contributions made or costs incurred for more than a weekly period (but not less often than quarterly) under plans, funds, or programs which cover the particular weekly period, are deemed to be constructively made or incurred during such weekly period. Such laborers and mechanics shall be paid the appropriate wage rate and fringe benefits on the wage determination for the classification of work actually performed, without regard to skill, except as provided in 29 CFR 5.5(a)(4). Laborers or mechanics performing work in more than one classification may be compensated at the rate specified for each classification for the time actually worked therein: Provided, That the employer's payroll records accurately set forth the time spent in each classification in which work is performed. The wage determination (including any additional classification and wage rates conformed under paragraph 1.b. of this section) and the Davis-Bacon poster (WH-1321) shall be posted at all times by the contractor and its subcontractors at the site of the work in a prominent and accessible place where it can be easily seen by the workers.

b.(1) The contracting officer shall require that any class of laborers or mechanics, including helpers, which is not listed in the wage determination and which is to be employed under the contract shall be classified in conformance with the wage determination. The contracting officer shall approve an additional classification and wage rate and fringe benefits therefore only when the following criteria have been met:

- (i) The work to be performed by the classification requested is not performed by a classification in the wage determination; and
- (ii) The classification is utilized in the area by the construction industry; and
- (iii) The proposed wage rate, including any bona fide fringe benefits, bears a reasonable relationship to the wage rates contained in the wage determination.

(1) If the contractor and the laborers and mechanics to be employed in the classification (if known), or their representatives, and the contracting officer agree on the classification and wage rate (including the amount designated for fringe benefits where appropriate), a report of the action taken shall be sent by the contracting officer to the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Employment Standards Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC 20210. The Administrator, or an authorized representative, will approve, modify, or disapprove every additional classification action within 30 days of receipt and so advise the contracting officer or will notify the contracting officer within the 30-day period that additional time is necessary.

(2) In the event the contractor, the laborers or mechanics to be employed in the classification or their representatives, and the contracting officer do not agree on the proposed classification and wage rate (including the amount designated for fringe benefits, where appropriate), the contracting officer shall refer the questions, including the views of all interested parties and the recommendation of the contracting officer, to the Wage and Hour Administrator for determination. The Wage and Hour Administrator, or an authorized representative, will issue a determination within 30 days of receipt and so advise the contracting officer or

will notify the contracting officer within the 30-day period that additional time is necessary.

(3) The wage rate (including fringe benefits where appropriate) determined pursuant to paragraphs 1.b.(2) or 1.b.(3) of this section, shall be paid to all workers performing work in the classification under this contract from the first day on which work is performed in the classification.

c. Whenever the minimum wage rate prescribed in the contract for a class of laborers or mechanics includes a fringe benefit which is not expressed as an hourly rate, the contractor shall either pay the benefit as stated in the wage determination or shall pay another bona fide fringe benefit or an hourly cash equivalent thereof.

d. If the contractor does not make payments to a trustee or other third person, the contractor may consider as part of the wages of any laborer or mechanic the amount of any costs reasonably anticipated in providing bona fide fringe benefits under a plan or program, Provided, That the Secretary of Labor has found, upon the written request of the contractor, that the applicable standards of the Davis-Bacon Act have been met. The Secretary of Labor may require the contractor to set aside in a separate account assets for the meeting of obligations under the plan or program.

2. Withholding

The contracting agency shall upon its own action or upon written request of an authorized representative of the Department of Labor, withhold or cause to be withheld from the contractor under this contract, or any other Federal contract with the same prime contractor, or any other federally-assisted contract subject to Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements, which is held by the same prime contractor, so much of the accrued payments or advances as may be considered necessary to pay laborers and mechanics, including apprentices, trainees, and helpers, employed by the contractor or any subcontractor the full amount of wages required by the contract. In the event of failure to pay any laborer or mechanic, including any apprentice, trainee, or helper, employed or working on the site of the work, all or part of the wages required by the contract, the contracting agency may, after written notice to the contractor, take such action as may be necessary to cause the suspension of any further payment, advance, or guarantee of funds until such violations have ceased.

3. Payrolls and basic records

a. Payrolls and basic records relating thereto shall be maintained by the contractor during the course of the work and preserved for a period of three years thereafter for all laborers and mechanics working at the site of the work. Such records shall contain the name, address, and social security number of each such worker, his or her correct classification, hourly rates of wages paid (including rates of contributions or costs anticipated for bona fide fringe benefits or cash equivalents thereof of the types described in section 1(b)(2)(B) of the Davis-Bacon Act), daily and weekly number of hours worked, deductions made and actual wages paid. Whenever the Secretary of Labor has found under 29 CFR 5.5(a)(1)(iv) that the wages of any laborer or mechanic include the amount of any costs reasonably anticipated in providing benefits under a plan or program described in section 1(b)(2)(B) of the Davis-

Bacon Act, the contractor shall maintain records which show that the commitment to provide such benefits is enforceable, that the plan or program is financially responsible, and that the plan or program has been communicated in writing to the laborers or mechanics affected, and records which show the costs anticipated or the actual cost incurred in providing such benefits. Contractors employing apprentices or trainees under approved programs shall maintain written evidence of the registration of apprenticeship programs and certification of trainee programs, the registration of the apprentices and trainees, and the ratios and wage rates prescribed in the applicable programs.

b.(1) The contractor shall submit weekly for each week in which any contract work is performed a copy of all payrolls to the contracting agency. The payrolls submitted shall set out accurately and completely all of the information required to be maintained under 29 CFR 5.5(a)(3)(i), except that full social security numbers and home addresses shall not be included on weekly transmittals. Instead the payrolls shall only need to include an individually identifying number for each employee (e.g., the last four digits of the employee's social security number). The required weekly payroll information may be submitted in any form desired. Optional Form WH-347 is available for this purpose from the Wage and Hour Division Web site at <http://www.dol.gov/esa/whd/forms/wh347instr.htm> or its successor site. The prime contractor is responsible for the submission of copies of payrolls by all subcontractors. Contractors and subcontractors shall maintain the full social security number and current address of each covered worker, and shall provide them upon request to the contracting agency for transmission to the State DOT, the FHWA or the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor for purposes of an investigation or audit of compliance with prevailing wage requirements. It is not a violation of this section for a prime contractor to require a subcontractor to provide addresses and social security numbers to the prime contractor for its own records, without weekly submission to the contracting agency..

(2) Each payroll submitted shall be accompanied by a "Statement of Compliance," signed by the contractor or subcontractor or his or her agent who pays or supervises the payment of the persons employed under the contract and shall certify the following:

(i) That the payroll for the payroll period contains the information required to be provided under §5.5 (a)(3)(ii) of Regulations, 29 CFR part 5, the appropriate information is being maintained under §5.5 (a)(3)(i) of Regulations, 29 CFR part 5, and that such information is correct and complete;

(ii) That each laborer or mechanic (including each helper, apprentice, and trainee) employed on the contract during the payroll period has been paid the full weekly wages earned, without rebate, either directly or indirectly, and that no deductions have been made either directly or indirectly from the full wages earned, other than permissible deductions as set forth in Regulations, 29 CFR part 3;

(iii) That each laborer or mechanic has been paid not less than the applicable wage rates and fringe benefits or cash equivalents for the classification of work performed, as specified in the applicable wage determination incorporated into the contract.

(3) The weekly submission of a properly executed certification set forth on the reverse side of Optional Form WH-347 shall satisfy the requirement for submission of the "Statement of Compliance" required by paragraph 3.b.(2) of this section.

(4) The falsification of any of the above certifications may subject the contractor or subcontractor to civil or criminal prosecution under section 1001 of title 18 and section 231 of title 31 of the United States Code.

c. The contractor or subcontractor shall make the records required under paragraph 3.a. of this section available for inspection, copying, or transcription by authorized representatives of the contracting agency, the State DOT, the FHWA, or the Department of Labor, and shall permit such representatives to interview employees during working hours on the job. If the contractor or subcontractor fails to submit the required records or to make them available, the FHWA may, after written notice to the contractor, the contracting agency or the State DOT, take such action as may be necessary to cause the suspension of any further payment, advance, or guarantee of funds. Furthermore, failure to submit the required records upon request or to make such records available may be grounds for debarment action pursuant to 29 CFR 5.12.

4. Apprentices and trainees

a. Apprentices (programs of the USDOL).

Apprentices will be permitted to work at less than the predetermined rate for the work they performed when they are employed pursuant to and individually registered in a bona fide apprenticeship program registered with the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Apprenticeship Training, Employer and Labor Services, or with a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the Office, or if a person is employed in his or her first 90 days of probationary employment as an apprentice in such an apprenticeship program, who is not individually registered in the program, but who has been certified by the Office of Apprenticeship Training, Employer and Labor Services or a State Apprenticeship Agency (where appropriate) to be eligible for probationary employment as an apprentice.

The allowable ratio of apprentices to journeymen on the job site in any craft classification shall not be greater than the ratio permitted to the contractor as to the entire work force under the registered program. Any worker listed on a payroll at an apprentice wage rate, who is not registered or otherwise employed as stated above, shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the classification of work actually performed. In addition, any apprentice performing work on the job site in excess of the ratio permitted under the registered program shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the work actually performed. Where a contractor is performing construction on a project in a locality other than that in which its program is registered, the ratios and wage rates (expressed in percentages of the journeyman's hourly rate) specified in the contractor's or subcontractor's registered program shall be observed.

Every apprentice must be paid at not less than the rate specified in the registered program for the apprentice's level of progress, expressed as a percentage of the journeymen hourly

rate specified in the applicable wage determination. Apprentices shall be paid fringe benefits in accordance with the provisions of the apprenticeship program. If the apprenticeship program does not specify fringe benefits, apprentices must be paid the full amount of fringe benefits listed on the wage determination for the applicable classification. If the Administrator determines that a different practice prevails for the applicable apprentice classification, fringes shall be paid in accordance with that determination.

In the event the Office of Apprenticeship Training, Employer and Labor Services, or a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the Office, withdraws approval of an apprenticeship program, the contractor will no longer be permitted to utilize apprentices at less than the applicable predetermined rate for the work performed until an acceptable program is approved.

b. Trainees (programs of the USDOL).

Except as provided in 29 CFR 5.16, trainees will not be permitted to work at less than the predetermined rate for the work performed unless they are employed pursuant to and individually registered in a program which has received prior approval, evidenced by formal certification by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

The ratio of trainees to journeymen on the job site shall not be greater than permitted under the plan approved by the Employment and Training Administration.

Every trainee must be paid at not less than the rate specified in the approved program for the trainee's level of progress, expressed as a percentage of the journeyman hourly rate specified in the applicable wage determination. Trainees shall be paid fringe benefits in accordance with the provisions of the trainee program. If the trainee program does not mention fringe benefits, trainees shall be paid the full amount of fringe benefits listed on the wage determination unless the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division determines that there is an apprenticeship program associated with the corresponding journeyman wage rate on the wage determination which provides for less than full fringe benefits for apprentices. Any employee listed on the payroll at a trainee rate who is not registered and participating in a training plan approved by the Employment and Training Administration shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the classification of work actually performed. In addition, any trainee performing work on the job site in excess of the ratio permitted under the registered program shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the work actually performed.

In the event the Employment and Training Administration withdraws approval of a training program, the contractor will no longer be permitted to utilize trainees at less than the applicable predetermined rate for the work performed until an acceptable program is approved.

c. Equal employment opportunity. The utilization of apprentices, trainees and journeymen under this part shall be in conformity with the equal employment opportunity requirements of Executive Order 11246, as amended, and 29 CFR part 30.

d. Apprentices and Trainees (programs of the U.S. DOT).

Apprentices and trainees working under apprenticeship and skill training programs which have been certified by the Secretary of Transportation as promoting EEO in connection with Federal-aid highway construction programs are not subject to the requirements of paragraph 4 of this Section IV. The straight time hourly wage rates for apprentices and trainees under such programs will be established by the particular programs. The ratio of apprentices and trainees to journeymen shall not be greater than permitted by the terms of the particular program.

5. Compliance with Copeland Act requirements. The contractor shall comply with the requirements of 29 CFR part 3, which are incorporated by reference in this contract.

6. Subcontracts. The contractor or subcontractor shall insert Form FHWA-1273 in any subcontracts and also require the subcontractors to include Form FHWA-1273 in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime contractor shall be responsible for the compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with all the contract clauses in 29 CFR 5.5.

7. Contract termination: debarment. A breach of the contract clauses in 29 CFR 5.5 may be grounds for termination of the contract, and for debarment as a contractor and a subcontractor as provided in 29 CFR 5.12.

8. Compliance with Davis-Bacon and Related Act requirements. All rulings and interpretations of the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts contained in 29 CFR parts 1, 3, and 5 are herein incorporated by reference in this contract.

9. Disputes concerning labor standards. Disputes arising out of the labor standards provisions of this contract shall not be subject to the general disputes clause of this contract. Such disputes shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures of the Department of Labor set forth in 29 CFR parts 5, 6, and 7. Disputes within the meaning of this clause include disputes between the contractor (or any of its subcontractors) and the contracting agency, the U.S. Department of Labor, or the employees or their representatives.

10. Certification of eligibility.

a. By entering into this contract, the contractor certifies that neither it (nor he or she) nor any person or firm who has an interest in the contractor's firm is a person or firm ineligible to be awarded Government contracts by virtue of section 3(a) of the Davis-Bacon Act or 29 CFR 5.12(a)(1).

b. No part of this contract shall be subcontracted to any person or firm ineligible for award of a Government contract by virtue of section 3(a) of the Davis-Bacon Act or 29 CFR 5.12(a)(1).

c. The penalty for making false statements is prescribed in the U.S. Criminal Code, 18 U.S.C. 1001.

V. CONTRACT WORK HOURS AND SAFETY STANDARDS ACT

The following clauses apply to any Federal-aid construction contract in an amount in excess of \$100,000 and subject to the overtime provisions of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act. These clauses shall be inserted in addition to the clauses required by 29 CFR 5.5(a) or 29 CFR 4.6. As used in this paragraph, the terms laborers and mechanics include watchmen and guards.

1. Overtime requirements. No contractor or subcontractor contracting for any part of the contract work which may require or involve the employment of laborers or mechanics shall require or permit any such laborer or mechanic in any workweek in which he or she is employed on such work to work in excess of forty hours in such workweek unless such laborer or mechanic receives compensation at a rate not less than one and one-half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of forty hours in such workweek.

2. Violation; liability for unpaid wages; liquidated damages. In the event of any violation of the clause set forth in paragraph (1.) of this section, the contractor and any subcontractor responsible therefor shall be liable for the unpaid wages. In addition, such contractor and subcontractor shall be liable to the United States (in the case of work done under contract for the District of Columbia or a territory, to such District or to such territory), for liquidated damages. Such liquidated damages shall be computed with respect to each individual laborer or mechanic, including watchmen and guards, employed in violation of the clause set forth in paragraph (1.) of this section, in the sum of \$10 for each calendar day on which such individual was required or permitted to work in excess of the standard workweek of forty hours without payment of the overtime wages required by the clause set forth in paragraph (1.) of this section.

3. Withholding for unpaid wages and liquidated damages. The FHWA or the contacting agency shall upon its own action or upon written request of an authorized representative of the Department of Labor withhold or cause to be withheld, from any moneys payable on account of work performed by the contractor or subcontractor under any such contract or any other Federal contract with the same prime contractor, or any other federally-assisted contract subject to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, which is held by the same prime contractor, such sums as may be determined to be necessary to satisfy any liabilities of such contractor or subcontractor for unpaid wages and liquidated damages as provided in the clause set forth in paragraph (2.) of this section.

4. Subcontracts. The contractor or subcontractor shall insert in any subcontracts the clauses set forth in paragraph (1.) through (4.) of this section and also a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime contractor shall be responsible for compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with the clauses set forth in paragraphs (1.) through (4.) of this section.

VI. SUBLetting OR ASSIGNING THE CONTRACT

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts on the National Highway System.

1. The contractor shall perform with its own organization contract work amounting to not less than 30 percent (or a greater percentage if specified elsewhere in the contract) of the total original contract price, excluding any specialty items designated by the contracting agency. Specialty items may be performed by subcontract and the amount of any such specialty items performed may be deducted from the total original contract price before computing the amount of work required to be performed by the contractor's own organization (23 CFR 635.116).

a. The term "perform work with its own organization" refers to workers employed or leased by the prime contractor, and equipment owned or rented by the prime contractor, with or without operators. Such term does not include employees or equipment of a subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor, agents of the prime contractor, or any other assignees. The term may include payments for the costs of hiring leased employees from an employee leasing firm meeting all relevant Federal and State regulatory requirements. Leased employees may only be included in this term if the prime contractor meets all of the following conditions:

(1) the prime contractor maintains control over the supervision of the day-to-day activities of the leased employees;
(2) the prime contractor remains responsible for the quality of the work of the leased employees;
(3) the prime contractor retains all power to accept or exclude individual employees from work on the project; and
(4) the prime contractor remains ultimately responsible for the payment of predetermined minimum wages, the submission of payrolls, statements of compliance and all other Federal regulatory requirements.

b. "Specialty Items" shall be construed to be limited to work that requires highly specialized knowledge, abilities, or equipment not ordinarily available in the type of contracting organizations qualified and expected to bid or propose on the contract as a whole and in general are to be limited to minor components of the overall contract.

2. The contract amount upon which the requirements set forth in paragraph (1) of Section VI is computed includes the cost of material and manufactured products which are to be purchased or produced by the contractor under the contract provisions.

3. The contractor shall furnish (a) a competent superintendent or supervisor who is employed by the firm, has full authority to direct performance of the work in accordance with the contract requirements, and is in charge of all construction operations (regardless of who performs the work) and (b) such other of its own organizational resources (supervision, management, and engineering services) as the contracting officer determines is necessary to assure the performance of the contract.

4. No portion of the contract shall be sublet, assigned or otherwise disposed of except with the written consent of the contracting officer, or authorized representative, and such consent when given shall not be construed to relieve the contractor of any responsibility for the fulfillment of the contract. Written consent will be given only after the contracting agency has assured that each subcontract is

evidenced in writing and that it contains all pertinent provisions and requirements of the prime contract.

5. The 30% self-performance requirement of paragraph (1) is not applicable to design-build contracts; however, contracting agencies may establish their own self-performance requirements.

VII. SAFETY: ACCIDENT PREVENTION

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts and to all related subcontracts.

1. In the performance of this contract the contractor shall comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws governing safety, health, and sanitation (23 CFR 635). The contractor shall provide all safeguards, safety devices and protective equipment and take any other needed actions as it determines, or as the contracting officer may determine, to be reasonably necessary to protect the life and health of employees on the job and the safety of the public and to protect property in connection with the performance of the work covered by the contract.

2. It is a condition of this contract, and shall be made a condition of each subcontract, which the contractor enters into pursuant to this contract, that the contractor and any subcontractor shall not permit any employee, in performance of the contract, to work in surroundings or under conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous to his/her health or safety, as determined under construction safety and health standards (29 CFR 1926) promulgated by the Secretary of Labor, in accordance with Section 107 of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3704).

3. Pursuant to 29 CFR 1926.3, it is a condition of this contract that the Secretary of Labor or authorized representative thereof, shall have right of entry to any site of contract performance to inspect or investigate the matter of compliance with the construction safety and health standards and to carry out the duties of the Secretary under Section 107 of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3704).

VIII. FALSE STATEMENTS CONCERNING HIGHWAY PROJECTS

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts and to all related subcontracts.

In order to assure high quality and durable construction in conformity with approved plans and specifications and a high degree of reliability on statements and representations made by engineers, contractors, suppliers, and workers on Federal-aid highway projects, it is essential that all persons concerned with the project perform their functions as carefully, thoroughly, and honestly as possible. Willful falsification, distortion, or misrepresentation with respect to any facts related to the project is a violation of Federal law. To prevent any misunderstanding regarding the seriousness of these and similar acts, Form FHWA-1022 shall be posted on each Federal-aid highway project (23 CFR 635) in one or more places where it is readily available to all persons concerned with the project.

18 U.S.C. 1020 reads as follows:

"Whoever, being an officer, agent, or employee of the United States, or of any State or Territory, or whoever, whether a person, association, firm, or corporation, knowingly makes any false statement, false representation, or false report as to the character, quality, quantity, or cost of the material used or to be used, or the quantity or quality of the work performed or to be performed, or the cost thereof in connection with the submission of plans, maps, specifications, contracts, or costs of construction on any highway or related project submitted for approval to the Secretary of Transportation; or

Whoever knowingly makes any false statement, false representation, false report or false claim with respect to the character, quality, quantity, or cost of any work performed or to be performed, or materials furnished or to be furnished, in connection with the construction of any highway or related project approved by the Secretary of Transportation; or

Whoever knowingly makes any false statement or false representation as to material fact in any statement, certificate, or report submitted pursuant to provisions of the Federal-aid Roads Act approved July 1, 1916, (39 Stat. 355), as amended and supplemented;

Shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 5 years or both."

IX. IMPLEMENTATION OF CLEAN AIR ACT AND FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts and to all related subcontracts.

By submission of this bid/proposal or the execution of this contract, or subcontract, as appropriate, the bidder, proposer, Federal-aid construction contractor, or subcontractor, as appropriate, will be deemed to have stipulated as follows:

1. That any person who is or will be utilized in the performance of this contract is not prohibited from receiving an award due to a violation of Section 508 of the Clean Water Act or Section 306 of the Clean Air Act.
2. That the contractor agrees to include or cause to be included the requirements of paragraph (1) of this Section X in every subcontract, and further agrees to take such action as the contracting agency may direct as a means of enforcing such requirements.

X. CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, INELIGIBILITY AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts, design-build contracts, subcontracts, lower-tier subcontracts, purchase orders, lease agreements, consultant contracts or any other covered transaction requiring FHWA approval or that is estimated to cost \$25,000 or more – as defined in 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200.

1. Instructions for Certification – First Tier Participants:

- a. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective first tier participant is providing the certification set out below.
- b. The inability of a person to provide the certification set out below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this

covered transaction. The prospective first tier participant shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the department or agency's determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective first tier participant to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such a person from participation in this transaction.

c. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the contracting agency determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the prospective participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the contracting agency may terminate this transaction for cause of default.

d. The prospective first tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the contracting agency to whom this proposal is submitted if any time the prospective first tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

e. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "participant," "person," "principal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, are defined in 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200. "First Tier Covered Transactions" refers to any covered transaction between a grantee or subgrantee of Federal funds and a participant (such as the prime or general contract). "Lower Tier Covered Transactions" refers to any covered transaction under a First Tier Covered Transaction (such as subcontracts). "First Tier Participant" refers to the participant who has entered into a covered transaction with a grantee or subgrantee of Federal funds (such as the prime or general contractor). "Lower Tier Participant" refers any participant who has entered into a covered transaction with a First Tier Participant or other Lower Tier Participants (such as subcontractors and suppliers).

f. The prospective first tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency entering into this transaction.

g. The prospective first tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions," provided by the department or contracting agency, entering into this covered transaction, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions exceeding the \$25,000 threshold.

h. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant is responsible for ensuring that its principals are not suspended, debarred, or otherwise ineligible to participate in covered transactions. To verify the eligibility of its principals, as well as the eligibility of any lower tier prospective participants, each participant may, but is not required to, check the Excluded Parties List System website (<https://www.epls.gov>), which is compiled by the General Services Administration.

i. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require the establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of the prospective participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

j. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph (f) of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

2. Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion – First Tier Participants:

a. The prospective first tier participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:

(1) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participating in covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;

(2) Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

(3) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (a)(2) of this certification; and

(4) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.

b. Where the prospective participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

2. Instructions for Certification - Lower Tier Participants:

(Applicable to all subcontracts, purchase orders and other lower tier transactions requiring prior FHWA approval or estimated to cost \$25,000 or more - 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200)

a. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective lower tier is providing the certification set out below.

b. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department, or agency with

this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

c. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

d. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "participant," "person," "principal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, are defined in 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations. "First Tier Covered Transactions" refers to any covered transaction between a grantee or subgrantee of Federal funds and a participant (such as the prime or general contract). "Lower Tier Covered Transactions" refers to any covered transaction under a First Tier Covered Transaction (such as subcontracts). "First Tier Participant" refers to the participant who has entered into a covered transaction with a grantee or subgrantee of Federal funds (such as the prime or general contractor). "Lower Tier Participant" refers any participant who has entered into a covered transaction with a First Tier Participant or other Lower Tier Participants (such as subcontractors and suppliers).

e. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.

f. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include this clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions exceeding the \$25,000 threshold.

g. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant is responsible for ensuring that its principals are not suspended, debarred, or otherwise ineligible to participate in covered transactions. To verify the eligibility of its principals, as well as the eligibility of any lower tier prospective participants, each participant may, but is not required to, check the Excluded Parties List System website (<https://www.epls.gov/>), which is compiled by the General Services Administration.

h. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

i. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph e of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the

department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

**Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension,
Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion--Lower Tier
Participants:**

1. The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participating in covered transactions by any Federal department or agency.

2. Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

**XI. CERTIFICATION REGARDING USE OF CONTRACT
FUNDS FOR LOBBYING**

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts and to all related subcontracts which exceed \$100,000 (49 CFR 20).

1. The prospective participant certifies, by signing and submitting this bid or proposal, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

a. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any Federal agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

b. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any Federal agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

2. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

3. The prospective participant also agrees by submitting its bid or proposal that the participant shall require that the language of this certification be included in all lower tier subcontracts, which exceed \$100,000 and that all such recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

ATTACHMENT A - EMPLOYMENT AND MATERIALS PREFERENCE FOR APPALACHIAN DEVELOPMENT HIGHWAY SYSTEM OR APPALACHIAN LOCAL ACCESS ROAD CONTRACTS

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid projects funded under the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965.

1. During the performance of this contract, the contractor undertaking to do work which is, or reasonably may be, done as on-site work, shall give preference to qualified persons who regularly reside in the labor area as designated by the DOL wherein the contract work is situated, or the subregion, or the Appalachian counties of the State wherein the contract work is situated, except:

a. To the extent that qualified persons regularly residing in the area are not available.

b. For the reasonable needs of the contractor to employ supervisory or specially experienced personnel necessary to assure an efficient execution of the contract work.

c. For the obligation of the contractor to offer employment to present or former employees as the result of a lawful collective bargaining contract, provided that the number of nonresident persons employed under this subparagraph (1c) shall not exceed 20 percent of the total number of employees employed by the contractor on the contract work, except as provided in subparagraph (4) below.

2. The contractor shall place a job order with the State Employment Service indicating (a) the classifications of the laborers, mechanics and other employees required to perform the contract work, (b) the number of employees required in each classification, (c) the date on which the participant estimates such employees will be required, and (d) any other pertinent information required by the State Employment Service to complete the job order form. The job order may be placed with the State Employment Service in writing or by telephone. If during the course of the contract work, the information submitted by the contractor in the original job order is substantially modified, the participant shall promptly notify the State Employment Service.

3. The contractor shall give full consideration to all qualified job applicants referred to him by the State Employment Service. The contractor is not required to grant employment to any job applicants who, in his opinion, are not qualified to perform the classification of work required.

4. If, within one week following the placing of a job order by the contractor with the State Employment Service, the State Employment Service is unable to refer any qualified job applicants to the contractor, or less than the number requested, the State Employment Service will forward a certificate to the contractor indicating the unavailability of applicants. Such certificate shall be made a part of the contractor's permanent project records. Upon receipt of this certificate, the contractor may employ persons who do not normally reside in the labor area to fill positions covered by the certificate, notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (1c) above.

5. The provisions of 23 CFR 633.207(e) allow the contracting agency to provide a contractual preference for the use of mineral resource materials native to the Appalachian region.

6. The contractor shall include the provisions of Sections 1 through 4 of this Attachment A in every subcontract for work which is, or reasonably may be, done as on-site work.

AMENDMENT REQUIRED CONTRACT PROVISIONS
(Exclusive of Appalachian Contracts)
FEDERAL-AID CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS

XII. Cargo Preference Act

1. U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration memorandum dated December 11, 2015 requires that all federal-aid highway programs awarded after February 15, 2016 must comply with the Cargo Preference Act and its regulation of 46 CFR 381.7 (a)-(b).