

8. TITLE VI PROGRAM

Price Armstrong, Senior Transit Operations Analyst, gave a presentation on PVTA's Title VI Program and reported the following:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other federal regulations
- Focus on income and race-based discrimination
- Programs must be updated every three years
- Governing body (Advisory Board) must be made aware of, have considered, and approved the results of the Monitoring Program and the Major Service Change, Disparate Impact, and Disproportionate Burden Policies, as well as the full program package itself

No finding of Disparate Impact (does not exceed 20% threshold).

Transit Amenities Policy: PVTA is required to track its distribution of transit amenities (shelters, benches, etc.) to ensure non-discrimination in the allocation. Recent activities suggest an equitable distribution of amenities, including:

- Installation of over 100 ADA ramps in the City of Springfield at Tier 1 bus stops, mostly in environmental justice (EJ) areas. Other Tier 1 bus stops in neighboring communities to follow;
- Deployment of electric bus technology in Holyoke and Springfield, serving EJ communities;
- Current project to install new benches in EJ neighborhoods in Springfield, funded by AARP.

PVTA demonstrates no discriminatory practices with transit amenities allocation

Major Service Change Policy Changes:

- Creates new definition for "System-wide" service changes similar to those done in FY17 and FY18;
- Reduces administrative burden and clarifies process for individual route changes, consistent with peer agencies;
- Clarifies process for rescinding cuts pending funding availability

Disparate Impact (Race) Policy Update: No change to policy (threshold still set at 20%).

Disproportionate Burden (Low-Income) Policy Update: No change to policy (threshold still set at 20%).

As per federal regulation, PVTA must show evidence that the governing body was made aware of, considered, and approved the following elements:

- Results of the Monitoring Program
- The Major Service Change, Disparate Impact, and Disproportionate Burden Policies
- The Title VI Program itself

Chairman Mayor Narkewicz asked for a motion from the Advisory Board to approve the Major Service Change, Disparate Impact, and Disproportionate Burden policies found in Appendix K of the Title VI Program.

Motion: Moved and seconded (Slaughter/Burns) to approve the Major Service Change, Disparate Impact, and Disproportionate Burden policies found in Appendix K of the Title VI Program.

Chairman Mayor Narkewicz asked if the Board had any discussion. Hearing none, asked all those in favor to say aye.

Patrick Burke voted not in favor.

Motion passed by a majority vote.

Chairman Mayor Narkewicz asked for a motion from the Advisory Board to Vote to confirm consideration, awareness, and approval of the Monitoring Program found in Section 15;

Motion: Moved and seconded (Slaughter/Burns) to confirm consideration, awareness, and approval of the Monitoring Program found in Section 15.

Chairman Mayor Narkewicz asked if the Board had any discussion. Hearing none, asked all those in favor to say aye.

Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Chairman Mayor Narkewicz asked for a motion from the Advisory Board to approve the Title VI Program Update.

Motion: Moved and seconded (O'Leary/Slaughter) to approve the Title VI Program Update.

Chairman Mayor Narkewicz asked if the Board had any discussion. Hearing none, asked all those in favor to say aye.

Patrick Burke abstained.

Motion passed by a majority vote.

A TRUE RECORD

ATTEST: _____
BRANDY PELLETIER

Documents filed with Board Meeting packet: