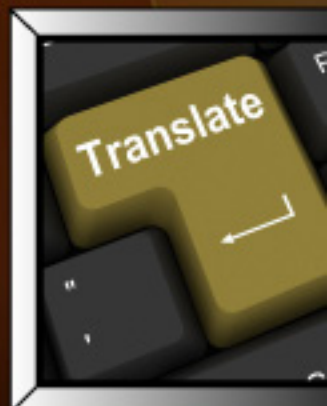




**TITLE VI,
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
AND THE HAMPTON
ROADS TRANSPORTATION
PLANNING ORGANIZATION**



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“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 subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

What is Title VI ?

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, prohibits discrimination based upon race, color, and national origin. Specifically, 42 USC 2000d states that “No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” The use of the word “person” is important as the protections afforded under Title VI apply to anyone, regardless of whether the individual is lawfully present in the United States or a citizen of a State within the United States.

What is Environmental Justice?

Environmental Justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies. Considering this principle of equity in transportation, environmental justice ensures that there is full and fair participation, and prevents the denial, reduction, or delay in the receipt of benefits. The three fundamental principals of environmental justice are:

- **To avoid, minimize, or mitigate** disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects, on minority populations and low-income populations.
- **To ensure** the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the transportation decision-making process.
- **To prevent** the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority and low-income populations.

Why are Title VI and Environmental Justice Important to the HRTPO ?

HRTPO is a Federally funded, federally mandated, transportation planning organization. Federal funding for transportation planning projects are channeled through the HRTPO planning process. Our existence, ensures that existing and future expenditures of Federal funds for transportation projects and programs are based on a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive planning process. By factoring Title VI and Environmental Justice into the transportation planning process, the HRTPO ensures that all voices are considered, in our transportation planning process and that Hampton Roads transportation system is one that takes all Hampton roads into consideration.

How Do Title VI and Environmental Justice Improve Transportation Decision Making?

Environmental Justice is more than a set of legal and regulatory obligations. Properly implemented, environmental justice and Title VI principles and procedures improve all levels of transportation decision making. An MPO effectively utilizing Title VI and Environmental Justice will:

- **Make better** transportation decisions that meet the needs of all people. Enhance the public-involvement process, strengthen community-based partnerships, and provide minority and low-income populations with opportunities to learn about and improve the quality and usefulness of transportation in their lives.
- **Improve** data collection, monitoring, and analysis tools that assess the needs of, and analyze the potential impacts on minority and low-income populations.
- **Partner** with other public and private programs to leverage transportation agency resources to achieve a common vision for communities.

How Do Title VI and Environmental Justice Improve Transportation Decision Making?

- **Avoid** disproportionately high and adverse impacts on minority and low-income populations.
- **Minimize and/or mitigate** unavoidable impacts by identifying concerns early in the planning phase and providing offsetting initiatives and enhancement measures to benefit affected communities and neighborhoods.

How can I learn more about more about the HRTPO, Title VI and Environmental Justice?

To find out more about the HRTPO, and our programs, visit us at <http://www.hrtpo.org>. If you are interested in attending an Environmental Justice RoundTable meeting, visit the HRTPO at [http://www.hrtpo.org/page/environmental-justice-\(ej\)](http://www.hrtpo.org/page/environmental-justice-(ej)) and sign up for more information.

HRTPO welcomes your input and offers many opportunities to become involved in the transportation planning process. Some of the ways you can participate are:

- ⇒ Attending HRTPO Board and Advisory Committee meetings
- ⇒ Participating in workshops or special events
- ⇒ Responding to surveys
- ⇒ Inviting an HRTPO staff person to speak at your event, organization, or meeting
- ⇒ Subscribing to our e-newsletter and receiving notices through our mail or e-mail list

LEADERSHIP AND LEARNING ARE INDISPENSABLE TO EACH OTHER.
JOHN F. KENNEDY

THE BEST WAY TO
FIND
YOURSELF IS TO LOSE YOURSELF IN THE
SERVICE
OF OTHERS.

MAHATMA GANDHI

LOVE
IS THE ONLY FORCE CAPABLE
OF TRANSFORMING
AN ENEMY INTO A FRIEND.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR

WITH CONFIDENCE, YOU HAVE WON BEFORE YOU HAVE STARTED
MARCUS GARVEY

LET US ALWAYS MEET EACH OTHER WITH
SMILE FOR
THE SMILE IS THE
BEGINNING OF **LOVE**

MOTHER TERESA

THAT'S ALL NONVIOLENCE IS - ORGANIZED LOVE.
JOAN BAEZ

the *heartbeat* of
HAMPTON
ROADS **TPO**
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

723 Woodlake Dr.
Chesapeake, VA 23320
(757) 420-8300