



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 02/27/2024

REQUESTER: Taylor Johnson, Transit & Parking Program Manger

PRESENTER: Scott Sturtz, P. E., Interim Public Works Director

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2324-121: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, ADOPTING A REVISION OF THE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION TITLE VI PROGRAM OF THE 1964 CIVIL RIGHTS ACT.

BACKGROUND:

On May 22, 2019, the Governor of Oklahoma designated the City to be the direct recipient of federal funds to be used for the provision of public transportation services effective upon the date the FTA formally approved the City eligible to receive such funds which occurred on June 20, 2019.

The City of Norman is committed to providing transit service to any resident or visitor in the City of Norman that desires to use public transportation. This mission is consistent with Title VI requirements which prohibit recipients of Federal financial assistance from discriminating on the basis of race, color, or national origin in their programs or activities, and it obligates Federal funding agencies to enforce compliance. Title VI also requires recipients to reduce language barriers that may impede access to important services to customers who may not be proficient in English.

The FTA requires that all direct and primary recipients of federal funds document their compliance with the Department of Transportation's Title VI regulations by submitting a Title VI Program to their FTA regional civil rights officer once every three years or as otherwise directed by the FTA. FTA Circular 4702.1B, as implemented on October 1, 2012, also requires that the Title VI Program be approved by the recipients board of directors or appropriate governing entity or officials responsible for policy decisions prior to submission to the FTA.

DISCUSSION:

Resolution R-2324-121 adopts a revised Public Transportation Title VI Program for the City of Norman that will be submitted to the FTA upon approval of the City Council. The Title VI Program includes public notice provisions, establishment of a complaint form and procedures, a public participation plan, a language assistance plan, and other general reporting requirements of the FTA as well as standards and policies for fixed route system-wide service. The program has been reviewed and revised to ensure compliance with any updated to federal

regulations and to account for any demographic changes in census data released since the last version of this program was adopted.

The draft of this policy revision has been posted on the City website for public review and feedback in accordance with the existing policy. Additionally, public notice and invitation to comment was posted in the Norman Transcript newspaper as well. The final date for public comment was February 19, 2024. No public comments were received.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends adoption of R-2324-121, thereby adopting the City of Norman's Public Transportation Title VI Program.