



Harry S Truman Coordinating Council

800 E. Pennell
Carl Junction, MO 64834

Office: (417)649-6400
Fax: (417)649-6409
www.hstcc.org

TITLE VI

Fair Practice Policy

The Harry S Truman Coordinating Council is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of its planning efforts on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Harry S Truman Coordinating Council extends this protection to include sexual orientation, and gender identity.

What is Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964?

Title VI provides as follows: “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 a program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.” [42 U.S.C. 2000d]. In addition to prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin, Title VI requires the Harry S Truman Coordinating Council to consider the effects its programs and activities may have upon minority and low income communities.

Discrimination Prohibited by Title VI

There are many forms of illegal discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity that affect access to services and programs. Among other things, in operating a federally-assisted program The Harry S Truman Coordinating Council cannot on the basis of race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity, either directly or indirectly:

- o Deny program services, aid, or benefits
- o Provide a different service, aid, or benefit or provide them in a manner differently than they are provided to others.
- o Segregate or separately treat individuals in any matter related to the receipt of any services, aid, or benefit.

Title VI & Environmental Justice

On February 11, 1994, President Clinton signed Executive Order 12898: Federal Action to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations. The Executive Order provides that “each agency shall make achieving environmental justice 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.” In support of Executive Order 12898, U.S. DOT issued an Order on Environmental Justice (DOT Order 5610.2). This order clarifies and reinforces Title VI responsibilities in federally financed transportation projects.

Public Involvement

Another integral component of Environmental Justice is public involvement in the planning and development of transportation projects. The DOT Order (5610.2) on Environmental Justice directs departments of transportation to provide minority and low-income populations greater access to information on and opportunities for public participation in matters that may impact their health and environment. Public participation is accomplished in a variety of ways such as public hearings, open houses, and community outreach. The Harry S Truman Coordinating Council strives for

public involvement as early as possible in the planning and development stages of major transportation and community development projects.

For More Information

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding Title VI please contact:

Jill Cornett
Harry S Truman Coordinating Council
800 E Pennell
Carl Junction, MO 64834
jcornett@hstcc.org

How to file a Complaint

If you believe you have been subjected to discrimination under Title VI based on your race, color, national origin, or any aspect of this policy, you may file a complaint up to 180 days from the date of the alleged discrimination. The complaint should include the following information:

- Your name, address, and how to contact you (i.e., telephone number, email address, etc)
- How, when, where and why you believe you were discriminated against. Include the locations, names, and contact information of any witnesses.

The complaint may be filed in writing to:

Jill Cornett
Executive Director
Harry S Truman Coordinating Council
800 E Pennell
Carl Junction, MO 64834
416-649-6400
jcornett@hstcc.org

Referral to Review Officer

Upon receipt of the Complaint, the Harry S Truman Coordinating Council (HSTCC) Executive Director, shall appoint one or more staff review officers, as appropriate, to evaluate and investigate the Complaint. The Complainant shall meet with the staff review officer(s) to further explain his or her complaint. The staff review officer(s) shall complete their review no later than 45 calendar days after the date HSTCC received the Complaint. If more time is required, the HSTCC Executive Director shall notify the Complainant of the estimated time frame for completing the review. Upon completion of the review, the staff review officer(s) shall make a recommendation regarding the merit of the Complaint and whether remedial actions are available to provide redress. Additionally, the staff review officer(s) may recommend improvements to HSTCC's processes relative to Title VI, as appropriate. The staff review officer(s) shall forward their recommendations to the HSTCC Executive Director, for concurrence. If the HSTCC Executive Director concurs, he or she shall issue the HSTCC's written response to the Complainant.

Request for Reconsideration

If the Complainant disagrees with the HSTCC Executive Director's response, he or she may request reconsideration by submitting the request, in writing, to the HSTCC Executive Director within 10 calendar days after receipt of the HSTCC Executive Director's response. The request for reconsideration shall be sufficiently detailed to contain any items the Complainant feels were not fully understood by the HSTCC Executive Director. The HSTCC Executive Director will notify the Complainant of his or her decision either to accept or reject the request for reconsideration within 10 calendar days. In cases where the HSTCC Executive Director agrees to reconsider, the matter shall be returned to the staff review officer(s) to re-evaluate in accordance with the paragraph, above.

Appeal

If the request for reconsideration is denied, the Complainant may appeal the HSTCC Executive Director's response by submitting a written appeal to HSTCC Executive Board no later than 10 calendar days after receipt of the HSTCC

Executive Director's written decision rejecting the reconsideration. The HSTCC Executive Board will review all the information and documents that have been submitted and determine whether they agree or disagree with the Executive Director's decision. The Complainant will be notified no later than 45 calendar days from the date of appeal to the Board of the Board's decision.

Submission of Complaint to the State of Missouri Department of Transportation

If the Complainant is dissatisfied with HSTCC's resolution of the Complaint, he or she may also submit a written Complaint within 180 days after the alleged date of discrimination to the State of Missouri Department of Transportation for investigation:

**MODOT
3025 E. Kearney Street
P.O. BOX 868
Springfield, MO 65801
Phone: 1-888-ASK-MODOT/ 417-895-7600
Fax: 417-895-771**