

TITLE VI PLAN

Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association 326 Highland Avenue, Suite B Cambridge, Ohio 43725

December 2023

Contents

1.0	OVERVIEW	1
	PURPOSE	
3.0	ASSURANCES	4
4.0	DEMOGRAPHICS	4
5.0	ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE	8
6.0	LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY	
7.0	AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)	
8.0	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	
9.0	TITLE VI COMPLAINT PROCEDURES	15

EXHIBIT A: ORGANIZATIONAL CHART AND MEMBERSHIP

- EXHIBIT B: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN
- EXHIBIT C: COMPLAINT FORM

EXHIBIT D: TITLE VI AND OTHER NON-DISCRIMINATION ASSURANCES

EXHIBIT E: RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL

1.0 OVERVIEW

The Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA) is organized as a Council of Governments pursuant to Section 167 of the Ohio Revised Code and is designated by the Appalachian Regional Commission as a Local Development District and by the US Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, as an Economic Development District. OMEGA is a collaborative body of member governments that serves as a facilitator between state and federal government agencies and local entities to provide opportunities in economic and community development through networking, education, planning, research, and allocation of resources. OMEGA's mission is to provide a pathway to enhance community and economic growth in the region and has been incorporated for over fifty years.

The OMEGA district includes ten counties in eastern Appalachian Ohio: Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Muskingum, and Tuscarawas Counties. On January 27, 2016, Governor John Kasich, pursuant to United States Code, Title 23, Section 135 (m), officially designated OMEGA as an Ohio Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO). Belmont and Jefferson Counties are not included in the OMEGA RTPO as transportation planning activities are covered by metropolitan planning organizations, Belomar Regional Council and the Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Metropolitan Planning Commission, respectively. The other eight counties are included in the RTPO.



In addition to the ten counties previously listed, twelve cities are also direct members of OMEGA. In accordance with our bylaws, each member appoints people to the Executive Board and membership. The specific number of appointments is based upon population. A complete list of Executive Board Members and Members is included in **Exhibit A**.

OMEGA has eleven staff members. An organizational chart is also provided in Exhibit A.

OMEGA has also established the following transportation subcommittees:

• Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Membership in these subcommittees is provided by position as defined in either OMEGA's bylaws or as approved by the Executive Board. The CAB has been inactive since the completion of the first long-range regional transportation plan in 2015 and will be re-established during the first quarter of the state fiscal year 2025. As part of the OMEGA's Regional Coordinated Transportation Pilot Program, OMEGA has also formed the Regional Coordinated Council (RCC) which includes representatives from the transportation service providers and human service agencies throughout the ten-county region. Participation in these committees or groups is voluntary. All meetings of these groups as well as the OMEGA Executive Board and Membership meetings are open to the public. Current membership of these committees is also provided in **Exhibit A**.

2.0 PURPOSE

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) requires all recipients of federal planning funds to adopt a Title VI program plan. The purpose of this plan is to demonstrate that OMEGA has the policies and procedures in place to demonstrate compliance with federal non-discrimination regulations. OMEGA receives funding from the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration through ODOT for transportation planning. OMEGA has prepared this Title VI plan to ensure compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and additional authorities and citations.

OMEGA does not tolerate discrimination in any of its programs, services, or activities, and will not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability, religion, income, sexual orientation, gender identity, or family status.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance. Specifically, Title VI provides 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 subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance" (42 U.S.C. Section 2000d).

The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 clarified the intent of Title VI to include all programs and activities of Federal-aid recipients, sub-recipients, and contractors whether those programs and activities are federally funded or not.

During the Obama Administration, the Federal Transit Administration ("FTA") placed renewed emphasis on Title VI issues, including providing meaningful access to persons with Limited English Proficiency ("LEP").

Additional authorities and citations include:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000d et seq)
- Section 162 (a) of the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1973
- Age Discrimination Act of 1975
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
- Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987
- 23 CFR Park 200
- USDOT Order 1050.2
- Executive Order 12898 Federal actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations (1994)
- Executive Order 13166 Improving Access to Services for People with Limited English Proficiency (2000)
- U.S. DOT regulation, 49 CFR part 21, "Nondiscrimination in Federally-Assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation— Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964" (June 18, 1970, unless otherwise noted);

Of particular interest is Executive Order 12898 which was intended to ensure that minority and lowincome individuals receive equitable benefit from federally funded programs that they do not suffer disproportionately from any environmental burdens caused by those programs, and that they have the opportunity for meaningful input into the process.

To ensure that OMEGA complies with these regulations, the Title VI plan includes the following:

- Demographic Profile of Planning Area
- Environmental Justice Areas
- Limited English Proficiency
- Public Involvement Process
- Title VI Complaint Procedures

3.0 ASSURANCES

OMEGA acknowledges that it is a sub-recipient of federal funds through ODOT. As such, OMEGA understands it must comply with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI) and related statutes, Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 21 and 23 CFR Part 200, to ensure that no person on the ground of race, color, or national origin, is excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any of its programs, services or activities. Please see **Exhibit D**.

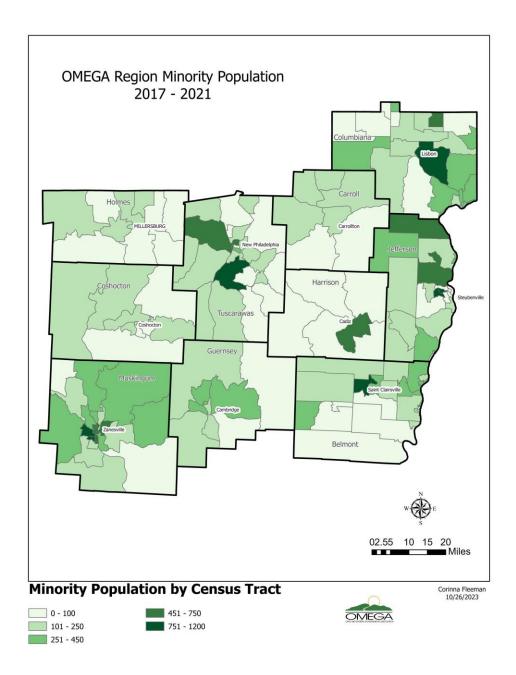
4.0 DEMOGRAPHICS

According to the 2017-2021 American Community Survey, the estimated population of the OMEGA region is 575,217 which is approximately 1% lower than the 2018 census population estimates of the region. Approximately 94% of the OMEGA region is white, 2.3% black, 2.9% two or more races, and 1% for all other races combined. **Table 1** and **Figure 1** shows the distribution of the minority population in the OMEGA region.

				Minority						
County	Total	White	Black	Native American	Asian	Hawaiian & Pacific Islander	Other	Two or More	Total	%
Belmont	67,077	62,162	2,089	59	394	50	364	1,959	4,915	7.3%
Carroll	26,866	25,820	218	0	0	0	64	764	1,046	3.9%
Columbiana	102,331	96,219	2,198	109	429	9	632	2,735	6,112	6.0%
Coshocton	36,621	35,176	422	55	136	0	63	769	1,445	3.9%
Guernsey	38,542	36,356	810	40	132	0	358	846	2,186	5.7%
Harrison	14,623	13,847	461	4	0	0	38	273	776	5.3%
Holmes	44,166	43,389	73	56	156	0	29	463	777	1.8%
Jefferson	65,620	59,441	3 <i>,</i> 588	17	397	0	334	1,843	6,179	9.4%
Muskingum	86,346	78,860	2,567	79	363	0	662	3,815	7,486	8.7%
Tuscarawas	93,025	89,283	883	100	331	0	288	3,150	4,752	5.1%
Total	575,217	540,553	13,309	519	2,338	59	2,832	16,617	35,674	6.2%

Table 1 – Population per County

Source: ACS 2017-2021 Estimates





Approximately 18% of the population is aged 65 or older and this age cohort is projected to be one of the fastest growing in the region. As part of the Regional Coordinated Transportation Plan, OMEGA has worked closely with transportation service providers, human service agencies, and the senior community to develop strategies to improve transportation and mobility services in the region. The distribution of the population aged 65 or older is shown in **Figure 2**.

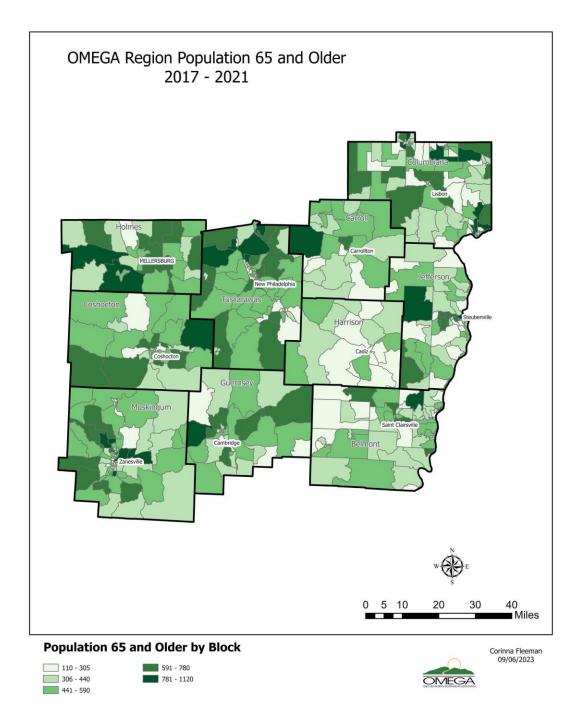
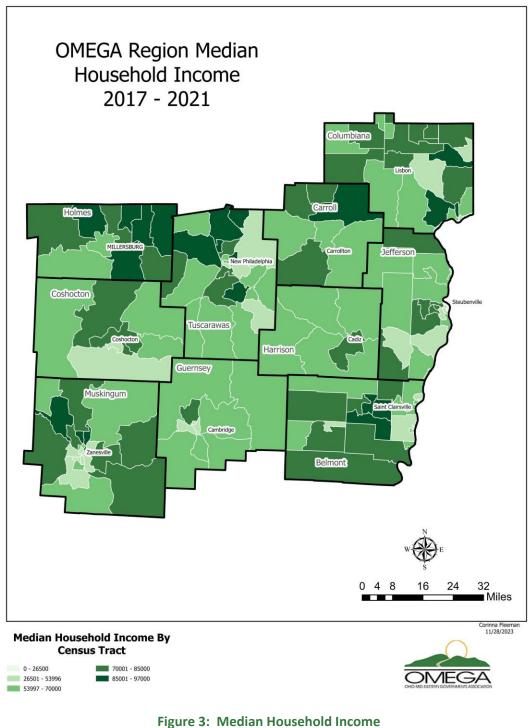


Figure 2: Population 65 Years and Older Source: ACS 2017-2021 Estimates



Source: ACS 2017-2021 Estimates

The average median household income for the OMEGA region based upon 2017-2021 ACS data is \$53,997 which is 87.2% of the state of Ohio's MHI (\$61,938) and only 78.2% of the nation's MHI (\$69,021). Holmes County has the highest MHI in the region at \$69,454 and Guernsey County has the lowest MHI in the region at \$48,434, as shown in **Table 2**. The median household income varies throughout the region, as seen in **Figure 3** (*prior page*).

County	МНІ
Belmont	\$54,191
Carroll	\$55 <i>,</i> 954
Columbiana	\$51,664
Coshocton	\$49,297
Guernsey	\$48,434
Harrison	\$51,993
Holmes	\$69,454
Jefferson	\$49,211
Muskingum	\$52,224
Tuscarawas	\$57,545
Average	\$53,997

 Table 2 – Median Household Income, by County

 Source: ACS 2017-2021 Estimates

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Based on data from the American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates 2017-2021, OMEGA focused on two population groups: minority and low-income residents to complete the Environmental Justice assessment. The profile summarizes the data for both population groups by U.S. Census Tract.

Although minorities and persons in poverty live throughout the OMEGA region, many are concentrated in specific locations and neighborhoods in or near municipal areas. A person is counted as a member of a minority group if they claimed any of the following: Black, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, or Hispanic. Based on data from the 2017-2021 ACS, minorities comprise 6.2% of the population within the OMEGA region. Therefore, any census tract with a percentage above 6.2% was considered to have a regionally significant concentration of minority populations, see **Figure 1**.

A similar approach was taken to establish regionally significant concentrations of populations with low income. Based on the 2017-2021 ACS data, the average MHI within OMEGA region is \$53,997. Therefore, any census tract with a median household income below \$53,997 was considered to have a regionally significant concentration of low-income residents, see **Figure 3**.

Finally, GIS analysis was used to determine which census tracts had either higher-than-average minority or higher-than-average low-income populations. These tracts were then identified as Environmental Justice focus areas within the OMEGA region as shown in **Figure 4**.

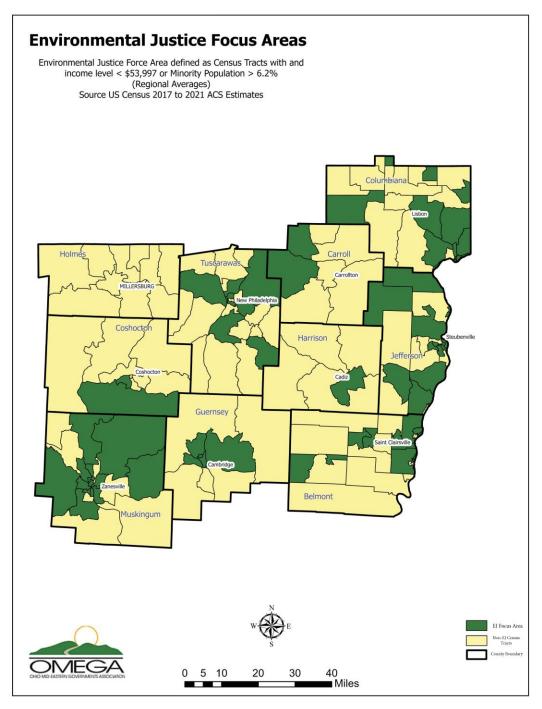


Figure 4: Environmental Justice Focus Areas Source: ACS 2017-2021 Estimates

6.0 LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

OMEGA takes reasonable steps to ensure that persons of Limited English Proficiency (LEP) have meaningful access to OMEGA's transportation programs, services, and information. To comply with federal LEP requirements, OMEGA uses the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA's) four factor analysis to determine what steps should be taken to provide meaningful access to LEP populations. These four factors are:

- 1. The number or proportion of LEP person eligible to be served, or likely to be encountered by the program.
- 2. The frequency with which LEP individuals encounter the program, activity, or service.
- 3. The nature and importance of the program, activity, or service provided by the program to people's lives.
- 4. The resources available to the agency and the cost of the alternatives.

Limited English Proficiency data from the American Community Survey 2017-2021 for the OMEGA region is summarized in **Table 3**. As shown in **Table 3**, 2.3% of the OMEGA region speaks English less than very well. Except for Coshocton, Holmes, and Tuscarawas Counties, the percent of persons who speak English "Less Than Very Well" is less than 1% and less than 700 persons in each of the other seven counties in the OMEGA region.

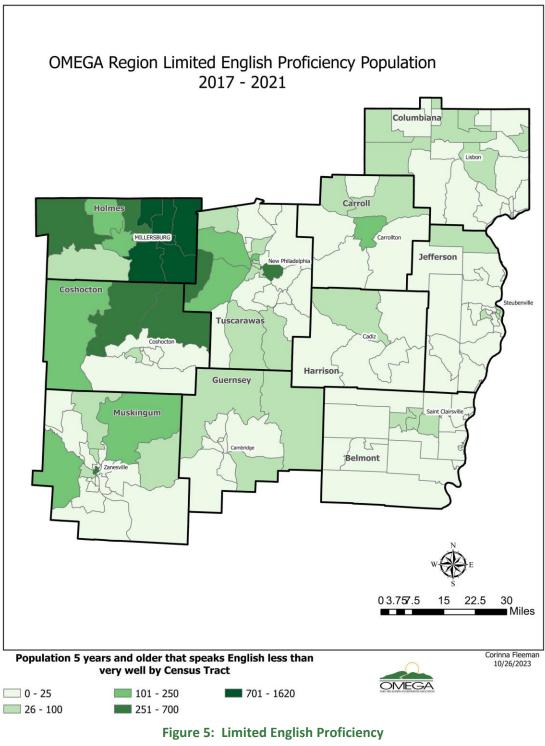
As shown in **Figure 5**, the highest concentrations of persons who speak English "Less Than Very Well" are in eastern Holmes County, northeastern Coshocton County, and northwestern Tuscarawas County. In these three counties, 10,552 people (6.5% of the tri-county population age 5 or older) speak English "Less Than Very Well". The predominant language designated by the census for this tri-county area is "Other Indo-European". Since a high concentration of Amish reside in this tri-county region, this may be indicative of the language known as Pennsylvania Dutch. As indicated by the Regional Planning Director of Holmes County that name may be deceptive as it is slang from the German word, Deutsch, which means German and is colloquially known as Pennsylvania Dutch. OMEGA will work closely with the leaders in the local Amish community to make sure that appropriate translations are provided of written transportation documents and will work with the community to provide a translator during public outreach events if needed.

		Speak En	glish Less				
		than Ve	ry Well	Lan	er than Eng	lish	
					Other		
	Pop. <u>></u> 5				Indo-	Pacific	
County	Years	Number	Percent	Spanish	European	Island	Other
Belmont	64,181	475	0.7%	311	426	172	13
Carroll	25,865	141	0.5%	171	1,064	28	3
Columbiana	97,248	145	0.1%	1,269	761	173	433
Coshocton	34,230	1,101	3.2%	246	2,518	127	19
Guernsey	36,730	132	0.4%	382	1,109	70	53
Harrison	14,356	182	1.3%	14	545	19	57
Holmes	40,585	7,308	18.0%	166	19,780	59	70
Jefferson	62,639	376	0.6%	658	540	288	23
Muskingum	80,868	680	0.8%	419	1,033	164	166
Tuscarawas	86,340	2,143	2.5%	2,030	4,591	150	138
Total	543,042	12,683	2.3%	5,666	32,367	1,250	975

Table 3: Limited English Proficiency Source: ACS 2017-2021 Estimates

As shown in **Table 3**, Spanish is the third most spoken language in the OMEGA region, with the highest percent of Spanish speaking individuals in Tuscarawas County. OMEGA will make reasonable accommodation to ensure appropriate translation services will be provided when needed.

Transportation planning documents, meeting notices, and other information related to the services provided by OMEGA are available on OMEGA's website, <u>www.omegadistrict.org</u>. Our website includes a Google-based translation plugin so that a person with limited English proficiency will be able to translate these webpages and documents. OMEGA will also provide a translator at public meetings when requested.



Source: ACS 2017-2021 Estimates

7.0 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

OMEGA provides access to our facility, programs, and services in compliance with the Americans with Disability Act. OMEGA rents office space from the Guernsey County Commissioners which is accessible. All board meetings and other public meetings are conducted at locations that are also accessible. As documented in OMEGA's public participation plan, accessibility is one of the items that is checked and verified prior to selecting a venue for a public meeting. Upon request, OMEGA will also make reasonable accommodation for the hearing impaired by providing sign language assistance, or specially printed materials for the visually impaired.

Approximately 15.5% of the population in the OMEGA district is disabled. **Figure 6** (*following page*) shows the distribution of the disabled persons throughout the region. As part of the Regional Coordinated Transportation Plan, OMEGA has worked closely with transportation service providers, human service agencies, and the disabled community to develop strategies to improve transportation and mobility services in the region.

8.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In 2013, OMEGA developed a Public Participation Plan to ensure public involvement in the transportation planning process especially as related to the transportation planning services provided by OMEGA, the long-range transportation plan, the Regional Transportation Improvement Plan, coordination with state-wide transportation planning activities, and any other special transportation studies that may be conducted by OMEGA. OMEGA has subsequently updated the Public Participation Plan in 2019 and again in 2023 (see **Exhibit B**). The Public Participation Plan has been developed to comply with the federal regulations 23 USC 450.210 and 450.316.

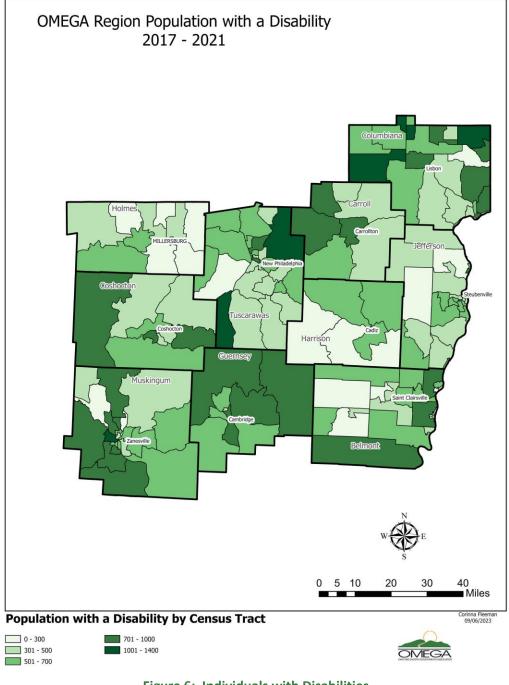


Figure 6: Individuals with Disabilities Source: ACS 2017-2021 Estimates

9.0 TITLE VI COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

To date, OMEGA has not received any Title VI complaints. To address complaints, OMEGA has adopted the following procedure.

- A. Any person who believes that he or she has been excluded from participation in or has been denied the benefits or services of any of our programs or activities based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or income status may file a complaint of discrimination under Title VI, other nondiscrimination statutes, and executive orders. A complaint must be filed no later than 180 days after the date of the last instance of alleged discrimination.
- B. Upon receipt of the complaint, OMEGA will first determine if the complaint is within OMEGA's jurisdiction, acceptability of the complaint, and need for additional information. OMEGA will also acknowledge receipt of the complaint by notifying the complainant by email or letter.
- **C.** If the complaint is determined to be within OMEGA's jurisdiction, then OMEGA will log the complaint and assign or designate a staff person to investigate the merit of the complaint.
- **D.** The OMEGA investigator will prepare an investigative report for the OMEGA Executive Director's review.
- **E.** The investigative report and its findings shall be sent to OMEGA's legal counsel for review.
- **F.** The OMEGA investigator will review any comments or recommendations from OMEGA's legal counsel. The investigator will discuss the report and recommendations with the Executive Director. The report will be modified as needed.
- **G.** The OMEGA investigative report and a copy of the complaint will be forwarded to the appropriate oversight agency (for example, the Ohio Department of Transportation Division of Equal Opportunity (DoEO) and FHWA and/or FTA), providing the federally funded assistance.
- **H.** FHWA is responsible for making the final determination in coordination with DoEO regarding Title VI complaints.
- I. Once complaint determination becomes final, the parties will be properly notified of the resolution of the complaint, including recommendations to remedy any discriminatory practice if such practice is identified, and any appeal rights.

- J. Additionally, a complaint may be filed directly with the Ohio Department of Transportation online at <u>http://www.dot.state.oh.us/Divisions/ODI/EqualOpportunity/Pages/TitleVI.aspx</u> or by using the following contact information: Ohio Department of Transportation, Office of Equal Opportunity, 1980 West Broad Street, Mail Stop 3270, Columbus, Ohio 43223; 614.466.3264; Toll-Free: 1.877.845.5058; Ohio Relay Service: 1.800.750.0750.
- K. Further, a complaint may be filed directly with the Federal Highway Administration online at <u>https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/civilrights/file/titlevi.cfm</u> or by using the following contact information: Federal Highway Administration, Office of Civil Rights, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, 8th Floor E81-105, Washington, D.C. 20590; 202.366.0693; <u>FHWA.TitleVIcomplaints@dot.gov</u>.

For more information regarding the OMEGA Title VI complaint process, please contact:

Dr. Vicki King-Maple OMEGA Executive Director 326 Highland Avenue, Suite B Cambridge, OH 43725 (740) 439-4471, ext. 204 vmaple@omegadistrict.org

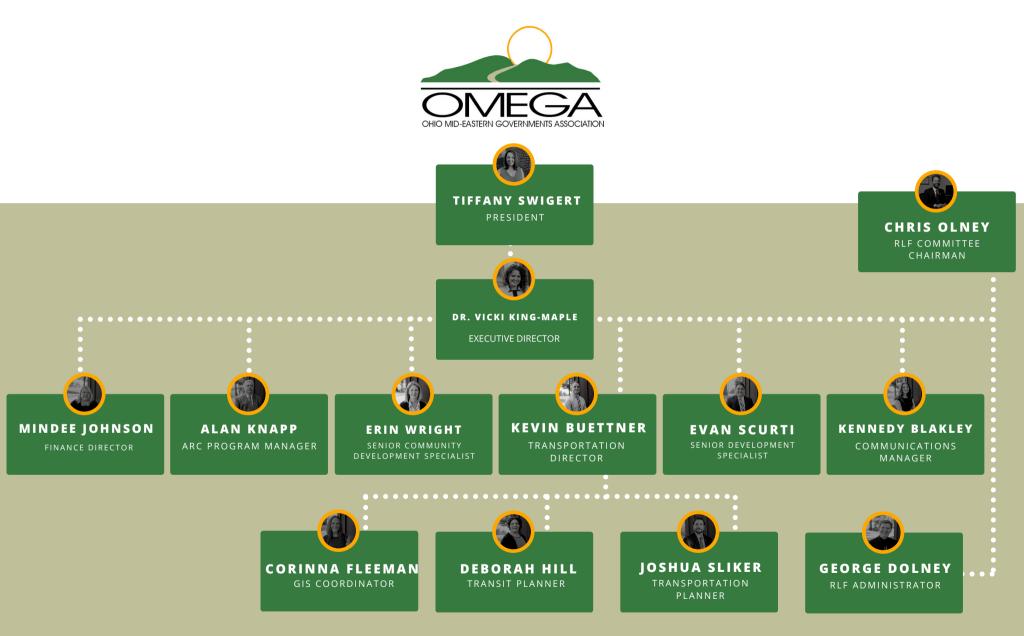
A copy of this procedure and complaint form are available on OMEGA's website, <u>www.omegadistrict.org</u>. A copy of the complaint form is also available in **Exhibit C.**

Currently Dr. King-Maple is the Title VI Coordinator for OMEGA; however, that may change as additional staff receive training.

EXHIBIT A

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART AND MEMBERSHIP

NOVEMBER 2023



WWW.OMEGADISTRICT.ORG

BELMONT COUNTY -- (6)

Josh Meyer	Membership	101 West Main Street	740.699.2155 Fax: 740.699.2156
Belmont County Commissioner	Executive	St. Clairsville	43950 jmeyer@belmontcountyohio.org
J.P. Dutton	Membership	101 West Main Street	740.699.2155 Fax: 740.699.2156
Belmont County Commissioner	Executive - Alternate	St. Clairsville	43950 jdutton@belmontcountyohio.org
Crystal Lorimor	Membership	133 Woodrow Avenue	740.695.9678
Exec. Director Belmont County CIC/DOD		St. Clairsville	43950 cic.belmontcounty@comcast.net
Frank Shaffer	Membership	65140 Breezy Point Lane	740.325.0176
Belmont County Township Association President		Bellaire	43906 shaffer2373@comcast.net
Jerry Echemann	Membership	101 West Main Street	740.699.2155 Fax: 740.699.2156
Belmont County Commissioner		St. Clairsville	43950 jechemann@belmontcounty.org
Larry Merry	Membership	101 N Market St. Suite J	740.695.4365
Director of Belmont County Port Authority		St. Clairsville	43950 larry.merry@co.belmont.oh.us

John Davies	Membership	35 South Fifth Street	43935	740.633.2876/304-215-0042
Mayor	Executive	Martins Ferry		DaviesJ1@msn.com
Andrew L. Sutak	Membership - Alternate	35 South Fifth Street	43935	740.579.2707
Service Director	Executive - Alternate	Martins Ferry		asutak@martinsferryoh.gov

CITY OF ST. CLAIRSVILLE (BELMONT) -- (1) [MIN. + ALT.]

Kathryn Thalman	Membership	P.O. Box 537	43950	740.695.1324
Mayor	Executive	St. Clairsville		kthalman@stclairsville.com
Jeremy Greenwood	Membership - Alternate	P.O. Box 537	43950	740.695.0156
Director of Public Service/Safety	Executive - Alternate	St. Clairsville		jgreenwood@stclairsville.com

CARROLL COUNTY -- (3) [MIN. + ALT.]

Christopher Modranski	Membership	119 S. Lisbon St Ste. 201		330.627.4869 Fax: 330.627.6656
Carroll County Commissioner	Executive	Carrollton	44615	<u>cmodranski@carrollcountyohio.us</u>
Robert Wirkner	Membership	119 S. Lisbon St Ste. 201		330.627.4869 Fax: 330.627.6656
Carroll County Commissioner	Executive - Alternate	Carrollton	44615	rwirkner@carrollcountyohio.us
				<u></u>
Donald E. Leggett II	Membership	119 S. Lisbon St Ste. 201		330.627.4869 Fax: 330.627.6656
Carroll County Commissioner		Carrollton	44615	dleggett@carrollcountyohio.us
Mark Wells	Membership - Alternate	P.O. Box 277		330.627.2411
Carrollton Village Administrator		Carrollton	44615	villageadministrator@villageofcarrollton.com
COLUMBIANA COUNTY (8)				
Roy Paparodis	Membership	105 S. Market Street		330.424.9511 x 1156 Fax: 330.424.5067

	membership	100 01 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	
Columbiana County Commissioner	Executive	Lisbon	44432 rpaparodis@cccommissioners.org
Tim Weigle	Membership	105 S. Market Street	330.424.9511 x 1154 Fax: 330.424.5067
Columbiana County Commissioner	Executive - Alternate	Lisbon	44432 <u>tweigle@cccommissioners.org</u>
Mike Halleck	Membership	105 S. Market Street	330.424.9511 x 1155 Fax: 330.424.5067
Columbiana County Commissioner		Lisbon	44432 mhalleck@cccommissioners.org
Shane Patrone	Membership	3760 Village Park Dr	330.424.7777
Mayor of New Waterford		P.O. Box 287	44445 spatrone@ccclerk.org
		New Waterford	
Bert Dawson	Membership	235 S. Market Street	330.424.1740
Columbiana County Engineer		Lisbon	44432 engineer@cceng.org
Penny Traina	Membership	7860 Lincole Place	330.424.1800
CCPA Director		Lisbon	44432 ptraina@ccpa-ohioriver.com

COLUMBIANA COUNTY -- (8) (continued)

Lance Willard City Manager, City of Columbiana	Membership	28 W. Friend Street Columbiana	44408	330.482.2173 lwillard@columbianaohio.gov
Paul Lease Butler Township Trustee	Membership	2075 Slater Road Salem	44460	330.565.7114 paullease906@gmail.com
CITY OF EAST LIVERPOOL (C	COLUMBIANA) (1) [MIN. + ALT.]		
Gregory T. Bricker Mayor of East Liverpool	Membership Executive	126 West Sixth Street East Liverpool	43920	330.385.3381 Fax: 330.385.3955 g.bricker@eastliverpool.com
William (Bill) Cowan Planning Director	Membership - Alternate Executive - Alternate	126 West Sixth Street East Liverpool	43920	330.385.5394 planningdirector@eastliverpool.com
CITY OF SALEM (COLUMBIA)	NA) (1) [MIN. + A	LT.]		
Cyndi Baronzzi Dickey Mayor of Salem	Membership Executive	231 S. Broadway Ave. Salem	44460	330.332.4241 mayor@cityofsalemohio.org
Julie Needs Executive Director SOD Center	Membership - Alternate Executive - Alternate	2525 Southeast Boulevard Salem	44460	330.337.7669 execdir@sodcenter.com
COSHOCTON COUNTY (3) [MIN. + ALT.]			
Tiffany Swigert - OMEGA President Director, Coshocton County Port Authority	Membership Executive	106 South Fourth Street Coshocton	43812	740.622.7005 tiffanyswigert@coshoctonportauthority.com
Dane Shryock Coshocton County Commissioner	Membership Executive - Alternate	401 1/2 Main Street Coshocton	43812	740.622.1753 daneshryock@coshoctoncounty.net
Rick Conkle Coshocton County Commissioner	Membership	401 1/2 Main Street Coshocton	43812	740.622.1753 rickconkle@coshoctoncounty.net
Gary Fischer Coshocton County Commissioner	Membership - Alternate	401 1/2 Main Street Coshocton	43812	740.622.1753 garyfischer@coshoctoncounty.net

CITY OF COSHOCTON (COSHOC	CTON) (1) [MIN	•. + ALT.]		
Mark Mills	Membership	760 Chestnut Street		740.622.1465 Fax:740.622.5933
Mayor of Coshocton	Executive	Coshocton	43812	mark.mills@cityofcoshocton.com
Max Crown	Membership - Alternate	760 Chestnut Street		740.622.1465
Service Director	Executive - Alternate	Coshocton	43812	max.crown@cityofcoshocton.com
GUERNSEY COUNTY (3) [MIN	. + ALT.]			
Jack Marlin	Membership	627 Wheeling Ave Ste. 300		740.432.9200 Fax: 740.432.9359
Guernsey County Commissioner	Executive	Cambridge	43725	jmarlin@guernseycounty.org
David L. Wilson	Membership	627 Wheeling Ave Ste. 300		740.432.9200 Fax: 740.432.9359
Guernsey County Commissioner		Cambridge	43725	dwilson@guernseycounty.org
Ernest (Skip) Gardner	Membership - Alternate	627 Wheeling Ave Ste. 300		740.432.9200 Fax: 740.432.9359
Guernsey County Commissioner		Cambridge	43725	sgardner@guernseycounty.org
Bill Arnett	Membership	9900 Brick Church Road - Ste. 2		740.432.1881
Director, Cambridge-Guernsey Co. CIC	Executive - Alternate	Cambridge	43725	director@cgccic.org
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE (GUERNS	EY) (1) [MIN. ·	+ ALT.]		
Thomas Orr	Membership	814 Wheeling Avenue		740.439.1050 Fax: 740.432.1754
Mayor of Cambridge	Executive	Cambridge	43725	camb-mayor@cambridgeoh.org
Brandon Hines	Membership - Alternate	814 Wheeling Avenue		740.439.5491
Interim Director of Economic/Community Development	Executive - Alternate	Cambridge	43725	bmhines@cambridgeoh.org

HARRISON COUNTY (3) -- [MIN. + ALT.]

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EXHIBIT B

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN



Public Participation Plan

Revised December 2023

Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association

326 Highland Avenue, Suite B Cambridge, OH 43725 www.omegadistrict.org

Contents

1 - INTRODUCTION
2 - GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
3 - STRATEGIES AND TOOLS
3.1 Citizens Advisory Board4
3.2 Website
3.3 Media4
3.4 Public Outreach5
3.5 Community Events
3.6 Press Releases
3.7 Direct Mailings5
3.8 Public Opinion Surveys5
3.9 Formal Public Review
3.10 Meetings
3.11 Consideration of Public Comments6
4 - PROGRAM EVALUATION



1 - INTRODUCTION

The Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA) is organized as a Council of Governments pursuant to Section 167 of the Ohio Revised Code and is designated by the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) as a Local Development District and by the US Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA), as an Economic Development District. OMEGA is a collaborative body of member governments that serves as a facilitator between state and federal government agencies and local entities to provide opportunities in economic and community development through networking, education, planning, research, and allocation of resources. OMEGA's mission is to provide a pathway to enhance community and economic growth in the region.

On January 27, 2016, Governor John Kasich, pursuant to United States Code, Title 23, Section 135 (m), officially designated OMEGA as an Ohio Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO), through the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). The OMEGA RTPO includes Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Muskingum, and Tuscarawas counties.

For consistency and transparency throughout the organization, OMEGA staff will adhere to the Public Participation Plan for all public outreach activities, regardless of funding source.

OMEGA's Public Participation Plan includes:

- Goals and Objectives
- Strategies and Tools
- Program Evaluation

This plan is designed to educate the public on the process and issues involved in transportation planning, community and economic development planning, and grant writing/administration. This plan will also outline the associated activities and mandated federal public participation requirements prior to approval of any project receiving federal funding, in whole or in part.

The Public Participation Plan will recognize participants interested in or affected by the activities linked to plans and programs. This is achieved through direct mailings to interested parties, as well as utilizing indirect contact with the public through universal methods such as advertisements and notices in newspapers, press releases and other mass media associated activities, and to the maximum extent possible, in electronic format.

The Public Participation Plan outlines the methods that will be used by OMEGA to solicit Public Participation and to inform and educate the public regarding the purpose and development and implementation of planning documents and grant applications. Information disseminated must be clear, concise, and represent a solid foundation that allows for the public to provide their input on recommendations that will result from the planning process conducted by OMEGA.



To enhance this effort, OMEGA proposes to expand various visualization techniques to be more "user friendly" for those participants not traditionally involved in developing/reviewing the transportation planning process, enabling complex concepts to be easily understood.

A key component of this Public Participation Plan is the identification and engagement of stakeholders. Stakeholders are individuals and/or groups who have a direct interest, involvement, or are generally affected by projects, programs, or plans. Identifying "interested parties" outside of the formal organizational structure of OMEGA is necessary to obtain adequate public input. Stakeholders commonly include but are not limited to:

- Elected Officials
- People who live in project area
- Businesses in project area
- Civic and community associations
- Environmental or special interest groups
- State and local agencies responsible for land use management, natural resources, conservation, economic development, community planning, and historic preservation groups as appropriate

2 - GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

OMEGA is committed to developing a proactive public involvement process which provides complete information, timely public notice, full public access to key decisions, and supports early and continuing involvement of the public in developing of planning documents and grant applications.

Specific goals and objectives include:

- Provide maximum opportunity for public involvement in consultation with all interested parties who participate in the planning process.
- Consult with representatives from state and local agencies, and public officials responsible for land use management, natural resources, environmental protection, conservation, and historic preservation.
- Guide and facilitate meaningful discussion throughout the planning process, as well as confirm that stakeholders, interest groups, and the general public may comment on the development of all planning documents.
- Provide a fully engaged public forum between those decision-making entities from state and local agencies, public officials, and citizens concerning transportation or community development planning issues and the participation process.
- Provide reasonable opportunities for public input and for interested parties to comment on the content of all planning documents.
- Bring a diverse cross-section of the public into the public policy decision making process.

MEGA Public Participation Plan

- Maintain meaningful public participation from the early stages of the planning process.
- Utilize combinations of public participation and visualization techniques to meet the needs of the general public.
- Reach out to traditionally underserved communities, including low income, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and minority populations to ensure environmental justice issues are addressed.
- Educate public on transportation and community development needs and planning.
- Comply with Title VI requirements.

In order to achieve the goals and objectives outlined above, several core components are included in the participation process including:

- Confirm that stakeholders, interest groups, and the general public have the opportunity to comment on community and economic development and transportation plans and programs.
- Involve key stakeholders early and throughout the planning process.
- Personalize public participation meetings and activities to obtain productive input.
- Expand visualization techniques to present transportation and community and economic development plans and programs.
- When practical, publish transportation plans and programs in electronic format, such as on the agency web site.
- Develop relationships with local media.
- Review meeting locations prior to event for compliance with Title VI and provide reasonable accommodations to meet these requirements.

3 - STRATEGIES AND TOOLS

Effective public participation is a key component to the success of OMEGA's transportation, economic, and community development planning process. Various techniques are needed to engage the public in the decision-making process. As appropriate, new techniques will be incorporated as they become available and are shown to be effective.

To meet the goals and objectives listed in Section 2, OMEGA will implement the following:

- Form a Citizens Advisory Board
- Maintain OMEGA's website with transportation, economic, and community development planning elements
- Expand media interactions
- Develop public outreach program
- Develop formal public review program
- Conduct regular transportation outreach meetings



These tools will be adjusted as needed, based upon effectiveness of public engagement.

3.1 Citizens Advisory Board

OMEGA's Executive Board which also serves as the Policy Advisory Board has formally adopted a resolution to establish a Citizens Advisory Board (see Appendix A). The purpose of the Citizens Advisory Board is to provide assurance that the general public is represented in the development of the Regional Transportation Plan and is aware of the activities of the RTPO. The Citizens Advisory Board will consider methods and techniques of maximizing and insuring citizen representation and participation in the planning, deliberations, and activities of the RTPO. Membership in the Citizens Advisory Board is open to all private citizens in the RTPO.

This Board will meet semi-annually with the initial meeting of the reconvened board to be held during the first quarter of state fiscal year 2025. Based upon the wide geographic coverage of the OMEGA's region, in-person meetings will be held in Tuscarawas County which is centrally located for the region. All meetings will be open to the public and will be formally announced in the local newspapers which serve the planning area. Pertinent information related to the development of the transportation plan and community and economic development plans will be provided at these meetings. OMEGA will encourage involvement through promotion of opportunities for the general public to become active in the process.

3.2 Website

OMEGA will maintain the existing website, <u>www.omegadistrict.org</u>, to include transportation and community and economic development components. These components will include meeting notices, meeting minutes, maps, data, recommended projects, etc. In addition, the general public will be able to post comments and discuss transportation planning issues. OMEGA will respond to questions and concerns. OMEGA will maintain email listservs that will include members of the Executive Board, Transportation Advisory Committee, Citizens Advisory Board, Membership, and other members of the public who request to join.

3.3 Media

OMEGA will actively engage the news media throughout the development of major planning activities, such as the Long-Range Transportation Plan. News releases announcing the date, time, and location for meetings of the Citizens Advisory Board, the Transportation Advisory Committee, and the Executive Board will be provided no fewer than three days prior to the meeting with reminders. All these meetings will be open to the public. Media releases will also be provided as major components of the planning process are completed.



3.4 Public Outreach

OMEGA will proactively engage the general public through a combination of all or a combination of the following:

- Community Events/Town Hall Meetings
- Press Releases
- Electronic communications
- Direct Mailings
- Public opinion surveys
- Consideration of Public Comments

3.5 Community Events

OMEGA will provide the general public with the opportunity to review, comment, and provide feedback on all planning documents, reports, and activities by setting up displays at public events, such as county fairs, festivals, and other local events. OMEGA will also set up displays and provide information on the planning process at public locations such as libraries, malls, and other places that are open to the general public.

3.6 Press Releases

OMEGA will distribute press releases to the local newspapers, radio stations, and television stations that cover the planning area. The purpose of these news releases will be to keep the public informed of the transportation planning progress including major milestones, solicitation of public comment, meeting notices, and other pertinent updates.

3.7 Direct Mailings

Where appropriate, OMEGA will also send direct mailings to impacted organizations and individuals who may not have access to computers or other media outlets. Such direct mailings may be limited to those identified by other organizations, such as transportation service providers or other agencies. These direct mailings will also be limited to key milestones of planning document development.

3.8 Public Opinion Surveys

OMEGA may develop and distribute public opinion surveys to solicit more project specific information via the organization website, social media, and during community events.



3.9 Formal Public Review

OMEGA will make all planning documents available for public review. Electronic copies of the draft and final versions will be placed on the organization website. OMEGA will send out press releases to all local newspapers and media outlets. Printed copies may be requested for those unable to access an electronic copy. Printed copies will also be available at the OMEGA office. Upon request, OMEGA will provide alternative data formats for individuals who are visually impaired or who are not proficient in English.

3.10 Meetings

In addition to the semi-annual Citizens Advisory Board meetings, the Transportation Advisory Committee meets quarterly, and the Executive Board meets at least seven times each year. Email notifications are sent to committee members and a press release to the local media is issued at least ten days prior to the meeting. These meetings are also open to the public.

Additional public outreach meetings may be scheduled during the development of planning documents and grant applications. These meetings will be advertised at least 72 hours prior to the meeting in all applicable newspapers/media outlets. All meeting locations will be ADA-compliant to ensure all members of the public may access the meeting.

3.11 Consideration of Public Comments

Public comments from the various sources will be organized and analyzed, where appropriate, so that the suggestions may be considered by OMEGA staff and decision makers. Summaries will be prepared and disseminated to the Citizens Advisory Board, the Transportation Advisory Committee, and the Executive Board as appropriate. OMEGA will respond to comments received and to those who participated in order to demonstrate the results of their involvement. This will be done via direct mailings or e-mail.

4 - PROGRAM EVALUATION

At the end of each fiscal year, OMEGA will review the Public Participation Plan to assess the effectiveness of the program and to adjust the strategies and tools as needed to more fully engage the public in this process.



APPENDIX A

MEDIA CONTACTS

Media Outlet	Contact	Phone	Email
WTOV9	Paul Giannamore	740.284.9999	pgiannamore@sbgtv.com
WTRF	Brenda Danehart	304.230.6283	bdanehart@wtrf.com
Times Leader	Jennifer Compston-Strough	740.633.1131	jcompston@timesleaderonline.com
		740.439.3531 X	
Daily Jeffersonian	Rick Stillion	1229	rstillion@daily-jeff.com
Herald Star	Ross Gallabrese	740.283.4711	rgallabrese@heraldstaronline.com
Barnesville			
Enterprise			enterprise@barnesville-enterprise.com
Harrison News Herald			newsroom@harrisonnewsherald.com
Times Reporter	Jon Baker	330.364.8415	jon.baker@timesreporter.com
Times Recorder	Brandon Hannahs	740.450.6750	<u>bhannahs@gannett.com</u>
Daily Record			news@the-daily-record.com
Coshocton Tribune	Leonard Hayhurst	740.295.3417	ctnews@coshoctontribune.com
		330.424.9541	
Morning Journal	J.D. Creer	X.296	jdcreer@mojonews.com
Salem News	J.D. Creer	330.332.4601	jdcreer@salemnews.net
The Intelligencer	John McCabe	304.232.1399	jmccabe@theintelligencer.net

EXHIBIT C

COMPLAINT FORM



Title VI Complaint Procedure:

- A. Any individual, group of individuals, or entity that believes they have been subjected to discrimination prohibited by Title VI nondiscrimination provisions may file a written complaint with the **Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA)** Executive Director. A formal complaint must be filed within 180 calendar days of the alleged occurrence. However, the complainant has the right to also file a complaint with state division of Equal Opportunity and with the appropriate federal agency.
- B. Upon receipt of the complaint, OMEGA will determine OMEGA jurisdiction, acceptability of the complaint, and need for additional information. OMEGA will also acknowledge receipt of the complaint by notifying the complainant.
- C. If the complaint is determined to be within **OMEGA** jurisdiction, then **OMEGA** will log the complaint and assign or designate a staff person to investigate the merit of the complaint.
- D. **OMEGA** investigator will prepare an investigative report for **OMEGA** Executive Director's review.
- E. The investigative report and its findings shall be sent to **OMEGA** legal counsel for review.
- F. **OMEGA** investigator will review any comments or recommendations from **OMEGA**'s legal counsel. The investigator will discuss the report and recommendations with the Executive Director. The report will be modified as needed.
- G. **OMEGA** investigative report and a copy of the complaint will be forwarded to the appropriate oversight agency (for example, the Ohio Department of Transportation Division of Equal Opportunity (DoEO) and FHWA), providing the federally funded assistance.
- H. FHWA is responsible for making the final determination in coordination with DoEO regarding Title VI complaints.
- I. Once complaint determination becomes final, the parties will be properly notified of the resolution of the complaint, including recommendations to remedy any discriminatory practice if such practice is identified, and any appeal rights.

For more information regarding the **OMEGA** Title VI complaint process, please contact:

Dr. Vicki King-Maple

Executive Director, Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association 326 Highland Avenue, Suite B; Cambridge, OH 43725 740-439-4471 ext. 204 | <u>vmaple@omegadistrict.org</u>



Section I								
Name:								
Address:								
Telephone (Home):			Telephone (Work):					
E-Mail Address (If Applicable	e):							
Accessible Format	Large Print				Audio Tape			
Requirements?	TDD			C	Other			
Section II								
Are you filing this complaint	on your own be	ehalf?		Ye	s*		No	
*If you answered "yes" to th	is question, go	to Sec	tion III.					
If not, please supply the nam the person for whom you ar		ship of						
Please explain why you have	filed for a thirc	d party	:					
Please confirm that you have obtained the perm aggrieved party if you are filing on behalf of a th							No	
Section III								
I believe the discrimination I	experienced w	as bas	ed on (ch	eck all t	that apply):		
[]Race []Color [] National Origi	n	[] Sex	[] Dis	sability	[] A	ge	
Date of Alleged Discrimination	on (Month, Day	, Year)	:		-			
Explain as clearly as possible what happened and why you believe you were discriminated against. Describe all persons who were involved. Include the name and contact information of the person(s) who discriminated against you (if known) as well as names and contact information of any witnesses. If more space is needed, please use the back of this form.								



TITLE VI COMPLAINT FORM

Section IV						
Have you previously filed a Title VI complaint with this agency?	Yes	No				
Section V						
Have you filed this complaint with any other Federal, State, or local agency, or with any Federal or State court?						
[]Yes []No						
If yes, check all that apply:						
[] Federal Agency:						
[] Federal Court [] State Ag	[] State Agency					
[] State Court [] Local Ag	[] Local Agency					
Please provide information about a contact person at the agency/court where the complaint was filed:						
Name:						
Title:						
Agency:						
Address:						
Telephone:						
Section VI						
Name of agency complaint is against:						
Contact person:						
Title:						
Telephone number:						

You may attach any written materials or other information that you think is relevant to your complaint.

Signature and date required:

Signature

Date

Please submit this form in person at the address below, or mail this form to:

Dr. Vicki King-Maple

Executive Director, Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association 326 Highland Avenue, Suite B; Cambridge, OH 43725

EXHIBIT D

TITLE VI AND NON-DISCRIMINATION ASSURANCES

The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT)

Standard Title VI/Non-Discrimination Assurances

DOT Order No. 1050.2A

The <u>Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association</u> (herein referred to as the "Recipient"), **HEREBY AGREES THAT**, as a condition to receiving any Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), through <u>Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration</u>, is subject to and will comply with the following:

Statutory/Regulatory 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);
- 49 C.F.R. Part 21 (entitled Non-discrimination 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);

Modal Operating Administration may include additional Statutory/Regulatory Authorities here.

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 and Federal Transit Administration.

The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 clarified the original intent of Congress, with respect to Title VI and other Non-discrimination requirements (The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973), by restoring the broad, institutional-wide scope and coverage of these non-discrimination statutes and requirements to include all programs and activities of the Recipient, so long as any portion of the program is Federally assisted.

Modal Operating Administration may include additional General Assurances in this section, or reference an addendum here.

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 <u>Highway Planning and Construction and Enhanced</u> <u>Mobility of Seniors and Indivduals with Disabilities</u>:

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.

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 (*Highway* <u>Planning and Construction and Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Indivduals with Disabilities</u> and, in adapted form, in all proposals for negotiated agreements regardless of funding source

"The <u>Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association</u>, 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 aff irmatively ensure that 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 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, 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. That 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, sub-recipients, sub-grantees, 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 with regard to any matter arising under the Acts, the Regulations, and this Assurance.

Modal Operating Administration may include additional Specific Assurances in this section.

By signing this ASSURANCE, *Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association* also agrees to comply (and require any sub-recipients, sub-grantees, contractors, successors, transferees, and/or assignees to comply) with all applicable provisions governing the *Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association* access to records, accounts, documents, information, facilities, and staff. You also recognize that you must comply with any program or compliance reviews, and/or complaint investigations conducted by the *Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association*. You must keep records, reports, and submit the material for review upon request to *Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association*, or its designee in a timely, complete, and accurate way. Additionally, you must comply with all other reporting, data collection, and evaluation requirements, as prescribed by law or detailed in program guidance.

Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association 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 U.S. Department of Transportation under the *Highway Planning and Construction and Enhanced Mobility dfjSeniors and Indivduals with Disabilities* This ASSURANCE is binding on *Ohio*, other recipients, sub-recipients, sub-grantees, contractors, subcontractors and their subcontractors', transferees, successors in interest, and any other participants in the *Highway Planning and Construction and Enhanced Mobility dfjSeniors and Indivduals with Disabilities.* The person(s) signing below is authorized to sign this ASSURANCE on behalf of the Recipient. Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association

(Name of Recipient)

by

(Signature of Authorized Official)

DATED____

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:

- 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, <u>Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration</u>, 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.
- 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.
- 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 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 Recipient will impose such contract sanctions as it or the <u>(*Title of Modal Operating Administration*)</u> 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 interests of the United States.

APPENDIX B NOT APPLICA BLE

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 (*Title of Recipient*) will accept title to the lands and maintain the project constructed thereon in accordance with (*Name of Appropriate Legislative Authority*), the Regulations for the Administration of (*Name of Appropriate Program*), and the policies and procedures prescribed by the (*Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit 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, Non-discrimination 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 (*Title of Recipient*) 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 (*Title of Recipient*) 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 (*Title of Recipient*), its successors and assigns.

The (*Title of Recipient*), 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 (*Title of Recipient*) 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, Non-discrimination 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 non-discrimination conditions, the Department 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 NOT APPLICABLE

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 (*Title of Recipient*) 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 Non-discrimination covenants, (*Title of Recipient*) 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 Non-discrimination covenants, the <u>(*Title of Recipient*)</u> 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 <u>(*Title of Recipient*)</u> and its assigns.*

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

APPENDIX D NOT APPLICABLE

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 (*Title of Recipient*) 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, (*Title of Recipient*) 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 Non-discrimination covenants, (*Title of Recipient*) will there upon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of (*Title of Recipient*) and its assigns.*

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary 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 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).

EXHIBIT E

RESOLUTION