# Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. operating as YVEDDI Public Transportation





Date Adopted February 23, 2017 Revised April 22, 2021

# Title VI Program Plan



## PLAN REVIEW AND APPROVAL

On behalf of the YVEDDI Board of Directors for the	e Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI), I hereby
acknowledge receipt of the Title VI Nondiscriminati	on Plan. We, the Board of Directors, have <i>reviewed and hereby</i>
guidelines of this Plan, to the end that no person is subjected to discrimination under any YVEDDI tran	that all decisions are made in accordance with the nondiscrimination excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise asportation services and activities on the basis of race, color, national by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the nondiscrimination
Signature of Authorizing Official	 DATE
olynature of Authorizing Official	DATE

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#### TITLE VI NONDISCRIMINATION AGREEMENT

**BETWEEN** 

# THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND

## YADKIN VALLEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT INC. (YVEDDI).

In accordance with DOT Order 1050.2A, Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) assures the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) that no person shall, on the ground of **race**, **color**, **national origin**, **sex**, **religion**, **age**, **or disability**, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 and related nondiscrimination authorities, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination or retaliation under any program or activity undertaken by the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI).

Further, the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) hereby agrees to:

- 1. Designate a Title VI Coordinator that has a responsible position within the organization and easy access to the Executive Director of the organization.
- 2. Issue a policy statement, signed by the Executive Director of the organization, which expresses a commitment to the nondiscrimination provisions of Title VI and related applicable statutes. The signed policy statement shall be posted and circulated throughout the organization and to the general public, and published where appropriate in languages other than English. The policy statement will be re-signed when there is a change of Executive Director.
- 3. Insert the clauses of the contract language from Section 6.1 in every contract awarded by the organization. Ensure that every contract awarded by the organization's contractors or consultants also includes the contract language.
- 4. Process all and, when required, investigate complaints of discrimination consistent with the procedures contained within this Plan. Log all complaints for the administrative record.
- 5. Collect statistical data (race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability) on participants in, and beneficiaries of, programs and activities carried out by the organization.
- 6. Participate in training offered on Title VI and other nondiscrimination requirements. Conduct or request training for employees or the organization's sub recipients.
- 7. Take affirmative action, if reviewed or investigated by NCDOT, to correct any deficiencies found within a reasonable time period, not to exceed 90 calendar days, unless reasonable provisions are granted by NCDOT.
- 8. Document all Title VI nondiscrimination-related activities as evidence of compliance. Submit information and reports to NCDOT on a schedule outlined by NCDOT.

**THIS AGREEMENT** is given in consideration of, and for the purpose of obtaining, any and all federal funds, grants, loans, contracts, properties, discounts or other federal financial assistance under all programs and activities and is binding.

Autho	rized Signature	
Date		
_		<del>Cindy Dixon</del> Mickey Cartner
		Board Chair

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. 2000d 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." The broader application of nondiscrimination law is found in other statutes, executive orders, and regulations, which provide additional protections based on age, sex, religion, and disability, including the 1987 Civil Rights Restoration Act, which extended nondiscrimination coverage to all programs and activities of federal-aid recipients, sub recipients, and contractors, including those that are not federally-funded (see Appendix A – Applicable Nondiscrimination Authorities).

Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) is a recipient of Federal financial assistance from the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT), receiving Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds through the NCDOT. As the primary recipient of USDOT funds in North Carolina, the NCDOT's comprehensive Title VI Nondiscrimination Program includes compliance oversight and technical assistance responsibilities towards its sub recipients and those sub recipients must use federal and state funds in a nondiscriminatory manner.

Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) establishes this Title VI Nondiscrimination Plan for the purpose of complying with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as required by FTA Circular 4702.1B, and related requirements outlined under Group 01.D, "Nondiscrimination Assurance," of the FTA Certifications and Assurances. This document details the nondiscrimination program, policies, and practices administered by this organization, and will be updated periodically to incorporate changes and additional responsibilities as they are made.

## 2.0 DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

## 2.1 PROGRAM(S) AND SERVICES ADMINISTERED

Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) provides public transportation options to its customers within Davie, Stokes, Surry and Yadkin counties in North Carolina. Public transportation demand response services are provided Monday - Friday from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM except on Holidays and on weekends and after hours by appointment when the need arises. Dialysis treatments schedules are accommodated by adjusting start and end times of routes as needed. Deviated fixed route service is offered in Davie and Surry County with two routes that operate 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM that serve the Mocksville and Elkin areas. All calls for trips and trip scheduling is done in the regional call center located in Yadkin County. YVEDDI provides both a local telephone number and a toll free number for the convenience of the caller. YVEDDI uses multiple funding sources to subsidize trip costs including Medicaid, NC Rural Operating Assistance Program grants, federal Elderly and Disabled transportation grants and 5311 operating grants. Fares for demand response service are \$2 each way for in town rides, \$3 each way for in county rides and either \$5, \$10 or \$15 each way for out of county rides depending the distance of the trip. Deviated fixed routes fares are \$1 each way for the Circulator routes. YVEDDI provides contracted transportation service as well. Certain trips that are repetitive, such as dialysis or congregate nutrition are scheduled as subscription service and only require that the trip be called in and scheduled when changes are required. All demand response trips require two full working days advance notice to be scheduled. Medicaid clients are asked to schedule their trips directly with the Department of Social Services at least three working days in advance in order to confirm eligibility and obtain prior approval. All Medicaid trips must be approved and scheduled by the local DSS office staff. Call Center hours are Monday - Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

YVEDDI Public Transportation operates as a separate program of the parent agency Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. which is a nonprofit Community Action Agency organized in 1965 to serve the people of Davie, Stokes, Surry and Yadkin Counties, with a 501(c) 3 status. YVEDDI employs about 240 staff and approximately 100 are part-time. Within the transportation program we have (1) Transportation Director, (1) Administrative Coordinator, (1) Mobility Manager, (1) Operations Manager, (1) Call Center Manager, (1) Safety Officer, (6) Dispatchers, (2) Reservationists/Schedulers, (2) County Coordinators, (1) Driver/Maintenance Specialist, and (40) Drivers. All departments within the agency share overhead expenses for Executive and accounting staff, facility costs etc. Each department pays an indirect cost of 7.71% for all expenses within the department which pays for the overhead expenses. All departments' revenue and expenses are kept separate including department budgets for administration and operating costs. YVEDDI Public Transportation has 61 NCDOT funded vehicles of which 44 are lift equipped.

## **FUNDING SOURCES / TABLES**

For the purpose of federally-assisted programs, "federal assistance" shall include:

- 1. grants and loans of Federal funds;
- 2. the grant or donation of Federal property and interest in property;
- 3. the detail of Federal personnel;
- 4. the sale and lease of, and the permission to use (on other than a casual or transient basis), Federal property or any interest in such property without consideration or at a nominal consideration, or at a consideration which is reduced for the purpose of assisting the recipient, or in recognition of the public interest to be served by such sale or lease to the recipient; and
- 5. Any Federal agreement, arrangement, or other contract which has, as one of its purposes, the provision of assistance.

Each FTA Formula Grant received by our system during the fiscal year 2016, and whether the funds were received through NCDOT or directly from FTA, is checked below. Additional details are provided on how often each of the grants is received (annually, first time, etc.)

Grant Title	NCDOT	FTA	Details (i.e., purpose, frequency, and duration of receipt)
5307 (Urbanized Area Formula)			
5309 (b)(2) (Fixed Guideway Modernization)			
<b>5310</b> (Transportation for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities)			
<b>5311</b> (Formula Grants for Other than Urbanized Areas)	$\boxtimes$		Annual application, one year period of performance, used for administrative expenses, capital and other non-operating expense. Admin- \$\frac{426,620}{\$535,886 Capital- \frac{\$693,411}{\$81,654}}
5311 (b)(3) (Rural Transit Assistance)			
5316 (Job Access and Reverse Commute)			
5317 (New Freedom)			Annual application, one year period of performance, used for salary for a Mobility Manager \$39,592
5303, 5304 and/or 5305 (Metropolitan & Statewide Planning)			
5339 (Bus and Bus Facilities Formula)			

Other:	$\boxtimes$		Annual application, one year period of performance, provides additional trips not funded by NC ROAP funds. \$62,000
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## 2.2 DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

<b>Board or Committee Name</b>	Appointed	Elected	# of Members
Transit Advisory Board			15 voting
YVEDDI Board of Directors			24 voting

## 2.3 TITLE VI COORDINATOR

The individual below has been designated as the Title VI Coordinator for YVEDDI, and is empowered with sufficient authority and responsibility to implement the Title VI Nondiscrimination Program:

Name: Janet Phillips

Official Title: Human Resources Director

Address: PO Box 309 Boonville, NC 27011

Phone: 336-367-3533 Email: jphillips@yveddi.com

Key responsibilities of the Coordinator include:

- Maintaining knowledge of Title VI and related requirements.
- Attending civil rights training when offered by NCDOT or any other regulatory agency.
- Administering the Title VI Nondiscrimination Program and coordinating implementation of this Plan.
- Making sure internal staff and officials are familiarized and complying with their Title VI nondiscrimination obligations.
- Disseminating Title VI information internally and to the general public, including in languages other than English.
- Presenting Title VI-related information to decision-making bodies for input and approval.
- Ensuring Title VI-related posters are prominently and publicly displayed.
- Developing a process to collect data related to race, national origin, sex, age, and disability to ensure minority, low-income, and other underserved groups are included and not discriminated against.
- Ensuring that non-elected boards and committees reflect the service area and minorities are represented.
- Implementing procedures for prompt processing (receiving, logging, investigating and/or forwarding) of discrimination complaints.
- Coordinating with, and providing information to, NCDOT and other regulatory agencies during compliance reviews or complaint investigations.

Promptly resolving areas of deficiency to ensure compliance with Title VI nondiscrimination requirements.

## 2.4 CHANGE OF TITLE VI COORDINATOR AND/OR HEAD OF DECISION-MAKING BODY'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

If Title VI Coordinator or Executive Director changes, this document and all other documents that name the Coordinator, will immediately be updated, and an updated policy statement and assurance will be signed by the new Executive Director.

## 2.5 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

An organizational chart showing the Title VI Coordinator's place within the organization is located in Appendix B.

#### 2.6 SUB RECIPIENTS

Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) does not have pass through funds to any other organizations and, therefore, does not have any sub recipients.

#### 3.0 TITLE VI NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI), as a federal-aid recipient, to ensure that no person shall, on the ground of **race**, **color**, **national origin**, **sex**, **religion**, **age or disability**, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any of our programs and activities, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and all other related nondiscrimination laws and requirements.

Signature	
Type Name, Title of Responsible Official	
Kathy Payne, Executive Director	
Date	

#### **Title VI and Related Authorities**

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. Section 2000d) provides 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 1987 Civil Rights Restoration Act (P.L. 100-259) clarified and restored the original intent of Title VI by expanding the definition of "programs and activities" to include all programs and activities of federal-aid recipients (such as, Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) sub recipients, and contractors), whether such programs and activities are federally-assisted or not.

Related nondiscrimination authorities include, but are not limited to: 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"; 49 U.S.C. 5332, "Nondiscrimination (Public Transportation)"; FTA Circular 4702.1B - Title VI Requirements and Guidelines for Federal Transit Administration Recipients; DOT Order 5610.2a, "Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations"; FTA C 4703.1 - Environmental Justice Policy Guidance For Federal Transit Administration Recipients; Policy Guidance Concerning (DOT) Recipient's Responsibilities to Limited English Proficient (LEP) Persons, 74 FR 74087; The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, P.L. 101-336; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 790; Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended 42 U.S.C. 6101; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. 1681; Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, 42 U.S.C. 4601; Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794d;

## Implementation

- This statement will be signed by the Executive Director of Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI), and re-signed whenever a new person assumes that position.
- The signed statement will be posted on office bulletin boards, near the receptionist's desk, in meeting rooms, at transit stops, inside vehicles, and disseminated within brochures and other written materials.
- The core of the statement (signature excluded) will circulate internally within annual acknowledgement forms.
- The statement will be posted or provided in languages other than English, when appropriate.

## 4.0 NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

- Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) operates its programs and services without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, and disability in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and related statutes. Any person who believes she or he has been aggrieved by any unlawful discriminatory practice may file a complaint with Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI).
- For more information on Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) civil rights program, and the procedures to file a complaint, contact 800-555-1212, 336-367-3520 (TTY 800-555-1111) (Relay NC 711); email title.vi.complaint@yveddi.com; or visit our administrative office at 533 N. Carolina Ave. Boonville, NC 20711. For more information, visit www.yveddi.com.
- ➤ If information is needed in another language, contact 800-555-1212.
- ➤ A complainant may file a complaint directly with the North Carolina Department of Transportation by filing with the Office of Equal Opportunity and Workforce Services, External Civil Rights Section, 1511 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1511, Attention: Title VI Nondiscrimination Program; phone: 919-508-1808 or 800-522-0453, or TDD/TTY: 800-735-2962.
- ➤ A complainant may file a complaint directly with the Federal Transit Administration by filing a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights, Attention: Title VI Program Coordinator, East Building, 5th Floor-TCR, and 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20590.

#### **Implementation**

- The notice will be posted in its entirety on our website and in any documents and reports we distribute.
- Ads in newspapers and other publications shall include the first three (3) bullets.
- The statement will be posted or provided in languages other than English, when appropriate.

## 5.0 PROCEDURES TO ENSURE NONDISCRIMINATORY ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

We are committed to the nondiscriminatory administration of our programs and services. As with the implementation of our programs in general, organization-wide compliance is required. Thus, employees and staff will periodically be reminded of our Title VI nondiscrimination obligations through staff training and use of the **Annual Education and Acknowledgment Form** below. The Title VI Coordinator will periodically assess program operations to ensure that this policy is being followed. A single copy of the form is located in Appendix...Appendix D.

Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI)

Annual Education and Acknowledgement Form

## **Title VI Nondiscrimination Policy**

(Title VI and related nondiscrimination authorities)

No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity of a Federal-aid recipient.

All employees and representatives of Agency Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) are expected to consider, respect, and observe this policy in their daily work and duties. If any person approaches you with a civil rights-related question or complaint, please direct him or her to Name of Title VI Coordinator Janet Phillips at Contact Info phone: 336-367-3533, postal mail: PO Box 309 Boonville, NC 27011 or email: jphillips@yveddi.com.

In all dealings with the public, use courtesy titles (e.g., Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr.) to address or refer to them without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

## Acknowledgement of Receipt of Title VI Program

I hereby acknowledge receipt of Agency's Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI)
Title VI Program and other nondiscrimination guidelines. I have read the Title VI Program and I am
committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in or denied the benefits of Yadkin
Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) programs, policies, services and activities on the
basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights
Act of 1964 and related nondiscrimination statutes.

Date

## **Implementation**

Signature

- Periodically, but not more than once a year, employees and representatives will receive, review and certify commitment to the Title VI Program.
- New employees shall be informed of Title VI provisions and expectations to perform their duties accordingly, asked to review the Title VI Program, and required to sign the acknowledgement form.
- Periodic review of operational practices and guidelines by the Title VI Coordinator to verify compliance with the Title VI Program.
- Signed acknowledgement forms and records of internal assessments will remain on file for at least three years.

## **6.0 CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION**

Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) ensures all contractors will fulfill their contracts in a nondiscriminatory manner. While contractors are not required to prepare a Title VI Program, they must comply with the nondiscrimination requirements of the organization to which they are contracted. YVEDDI and its contractors will not discriminate in the selection and retention of contractors (at any level) or discriminate in employment practices in connection with any of our projects.

## **6.1 CONTRACT LANGUAGE**

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:

- (1) Compliance with Regulations: The contractor shall comply with the Regulation relative to nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation (hereinafter, "DOT") Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 21, as they may be amended from time to time, (hereinafter referred to as the Regulations), which are herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract.
- (2) **Nondiscrimination:** The contractor, with regard to the work performed by it during the contract, shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in the selection and retention of subcontractors, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment. The contractor shall not participate either directly or indirectly in the discrimination prohibited by section 21.5 of the Regulations, including employment practices when the contract covers a program set forth in Appendix B of the Regulations.
- (3) Solicitations for Subcontractors, 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 shall be notified by the contractor of the contractor's obligations under this contract and the Regulations relative to nondiscrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin.
- (4) Information and Reports: The contractor shall provide all information and reports required by the Regulations or directives issued pursuant thereto, and shall permit access to its books, records, accounts, other sources of information, and its facilities as may be determined by the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) or the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and/or Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to be pertinent to ascertain compliance with such Regulations, orders and instructions. Where any information required of a contractor is in the exclusive possession of another who fails or refuses to furnish this information the contractor shall so certify to the, YVEDDI or the NCDOT, FHWA and/or FTA as appropriate, and shall set forth what efforts it has made to obtain the information.

- (5) Sanctions for Noncompliance: In the event of the contractor's noncompliance with the nondiscrimination provisions of this contract, the YVEDDI shall impose such contract sanctions as it or the NCDOT, FHWA and/or FTA may determine to be appropriate, including, but not limited to:
  - (a) withholding of payments to the contractor under the contract until the contractor complies, and/or
  - (b) Cancellation, termination or suspension of the contract, in whole or in part.
- (6) Incorporation of Provisions: The contractor shall include the provisions of paragraphs (1) through (6) in every subcontract, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment, unless exempt by the Regulations, or directives issued pursuant thereto. The contractor shall take such action with respect to any subcontract or procurement as the YVEDDI or the NCDOT, FHWA and/or FTA may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions including sanctions for noncompliance: Provided, however, that, in the event a contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor or supplier as a result of such direction, the contractor may request the YVEDDI to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the YVEDDI, and, in addition, the contractor may request the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

\*The Contractor has read and is familiar with the terms above:

## **Implementation**

- The nondiscrimination language above (with initials line) will be appended to any existing contracts, purchase orders, and agreements that do not include it, and initialed by the responsible official of the other organization.
- The nondiscrimination language above (without initials line) will be incorporated as standard language before the signature page of our standard contracts, purchase orders, and agreements.
- The Title VI Coordinator will review existing contracts to ensure the language has been added.

## 6.2 Nondiscrimination Notice to Prospective Bidders

Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI), in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related nondiscrimination authorities, and Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 21 and 26, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contact entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority and women business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex in consideration for an award.

## Implementation

- The nondiscrimination language above will be included in all solicitations for bids for work or material and proposals for negotiated agreements to assure interested firms that we provide equal opportunity and do not discriminate.
- Outreach efforts will be made to minority and women-owned firms that work in requested fields, and documented.
- Unless specifically required under Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) or Affirmative Action programs, all
  contractors will be selected without regard to their race, color, national origin, or sex.

#### 7.0 EXTERNAL DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

These discrimination complaint procedures describe the process used by YVEDDI to process and investigate complaints of alleged discrimination filed under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related nondiscrimination laws that are applicable to programs, services, and activities carried out by Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI).

Complaints will be investigated by the appropriate authority. Upon completion of every investigation, Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) will inform the complainant of all avenues of appeal. Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) will make every effort to obtain early resolution of complaints at the lowest level possible. The option of informal mediation between the affected parties and Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) staff may be utilized for resolution.

## **FILING OF COMPLAINTS**

- 1. **Applicability** The complaint procedures apply to the beneficiaries of YVEDDI programs, activities, and services, such as the members of the public and any consultants/contractors hired by YVEDDI.
- 2. Eligibility Any person or class of persons who believes that he/she has been subjected to discrimination or retaliation prohibited by any of the Civil Rights authorities based upon race, color, sex, age, national origin, or disability, may file a written complaint with YVEDDI. The law prohibits intimidation or retaliation of any sort. The complaint may be filed by the affected individual or a representative, and must be in writing.
- 3. Time Limits and Filing Options A complaint must be filed no later than 180 calendar days after the following:
  - > The date of the alleged act of discrimination; or
  - The date when the person(s) became aware of the alleged discrimination; or
  - Where there has been a continuing course of conduct, the date on which that conduct was discontinued or the latest instance of the conduct.

Complaints may be submitted to the following entities:

- > Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI)
  - Title VI Coordinator
  - PO Box 309 Boonville, NC 27011 336-367-7251
- North Carolina Department of Transportation, Office of Equal Opportunity and Workforce Services, External Civil Rights Section, 1511 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1511; 919-508-1830 or toll free 800-522-0453
- ➤ **US Department of Transportation**, Departmental Office of Civil Rights, External Civil Rights Programs Division, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590; 202-366-4070
  - **Federal Transit Administration**, Office of Civil Rights, ATTN: Title VI Program Coordinator, East Bldg. 5<sup>th</sup> Floor TCR, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590
  - **Federal Highway Administration**, Office of Civil Rights, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, 8th Floor, E81-314, Washington, DC 20590, 202-366-0693 / 366-0752
  - **Federal Highway Administration**, North Carolina Division Office, 310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410, Raleigh, NC 27601, 919-747-7010
  - **Federal Aviation Administration**, Office of Civil Rights, 800 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20591, 202-267-3258
- ➤ **US Department of Justice**, Special Litigation Section, Civil Rights Division, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20530, 202-514-6255 or toll free 877-218-5228
- 4. Format for Complaints Complaints shall be in writing and signed by the complainant(s) or a representative and include the complainant's name, address, and telephone number. Complaints received by fax or e-mail will be acknowledged and processed. Allegations received by telephone or in person will be reduced to writing, may be recorded and will be provided to the complainant for confirmation or revision before processing. Complaints will be accepted in other languages, including Braille.
- **5. Discrimination Complaint Form –** The Discrimination Complaint Form is consistent with the Nondiscrimination Assurance in Group 01.D of the FTA Certifications & Assurances.
- **6. Complaint Basis** Allegations must be based on issues involving race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. The term "basis" refers to the complainant's membership in a protected group category.

Protected Categories	Definition	Examples	Applicable Statutes and Regulations	
			FHWA	FTA
Race	An individual belonging to one of the accepted racial groups; or the perception, based usually on physical characteristics that a person is a member of a racial group	Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, White	Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 49 CFR Part 21; 23 CFR 200	Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 49 CFR Part 21; Circular
Color	Color of skin, including shade of skin within a racial group	Black, White, brown, yellow, etc.		4702.1B
National Origin	Place of birth. Citizenship is not a factor. Discrimination based on language or a person's accent is also covered.	Mexican, Cuban, Japanese, Vietnamese, Chinese		
Sex	Gender	Women and Men	1973 Federal- Aid Highway Act	Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
Age	Persons of any age	21 year old person	Age Discrimination Act of 1975	
Disability	Physical or mental impairment, permanent or temporary, or perceived.	Blind, alcoholic, para- amputee, epileptic, diabetic, arthritic	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990	

## **Complaint Processing**

- 1. When a complaint is received by YVEDDI, a written acknowledgment and a Consent Release form will be mailed to the complainant within ten (10) business days by registered mail.
- YVEDDI cannot investigate Title VI complaints filed against itself, but can investigate ADA complaints against
  itself. YVEDDI will consult with the NCDOT External Civil Rights Section to determine the acceptability and jurisdiction
  of all complaints received. (Note: If NCDOT has jurisdiction, the External Civil Rights Section will be responsible for
  the remainder of this process. YVEDDI will record the transfer of responsibility in its complaints log).
- 3. Additional information will be requested if the complaint is incomplete. The complainant will be provided 15 business days to submit any requested information and the signed Consent Release form. Failure to do so may be considered good cause for a determination of no investigative merit.
- 4. Upon receipt of the requested information and determination of jurisdiction, YVEDDI will notify the complainant and respondent of whether the complaint has sufficient merit to warrant investigation.
- 5. If the complaint is investigated, the notification shall state the grounds of the YVEDDI's jurisdiction, while informing the parties that their full cooperation will be required in gathering additional information and assisting the investigator.
- 6. If the complaint does not warrant investigation, the notification to the complainant shall specifically state the reason for the decision.

## **Complaint Log**

- 1. When a complaint is received by YVEDDI, the complaint will be entered into the Discrimination Complaints Log with other pertinent information, and assigned a **Case Number**. (Note: All complaints must be logged).
- 2. The complaints log will be submitted to the NCDOT's Civil Rights office during Title VI compliance reviews. (Note: NCDOT may also request the complaints log during pre-grant approval processes).
- 3. The **Log Year(s)** since the last submittal will be entered (e.g., 2012-2015, 2014-2015, FFY 2015, or 2015) and the complaints log will be signed before submitting the log to NCDOT.
- 4. When reporting **no complaints**, check the **No Complaints or Lawsuits** box and sign the log.

# $\label{thm:complex} \mbox{Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI)} \\ \mbox{DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT FORM}$

Any person who believes that disability may file a written c discrimination occurred.					
Last Name:		Firs	Name:		☐ Male ☐ Female
Mailing Address:			City	State	Zip
Home Telephone:	Work Telephone:	E-1	mail Address	·	
Identify the Category of Discrim	ination:				
RACE	☐ COLOR	□ N	ATIONAL ORIGIN	☐ AGE	
RELIGION	DISABILITY	□s	EX		
*NOTE: Title VI bases are race, color,		ound in the "I	Nondiscrimination Assurance" o	f the FTA Certifications & As	ssurances.
Identify the Race of the Compla					
Black	☐ White		Hispanic	☐ Asian Amer	rican
American Indian	Alaskan Native		Pacific Islander	Other	of discrimination
Date and place of alleged discri	minatory action(s). Please in	ciude earlie	est date of discrimination :	and most recent date c	or discrimination.
Names of individuals responsib	,				
How were you discriminated ag as possible what happened and were treated differently from yo	l why you believe your protec u. (Attach additional page(s	ted status s), if neces	(basis) was a factor in the sary).	e discrimination. Include	e how other persons
The law prohibits intimidation of protected by these laws. If you the circumstances below. Expla	feel that you have been retali	ated again	st, separate from the disc	rimination alleged abov	iction, to secure rights ve, and please explain
Names of persons (witnesses, f your complaint: (Attached addit	. , , ,	s, or others	s) whom we may contact f	or additional information	on to support or clarify
Name 1	<u>Address</u>			<u>Teleph</u>	one
2					
3					
4					

## DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT FORM

Have you filed, or intend to file, a complaint regarding the matter raised with any of the following? If yes, please provide the filing dates. Check all that apply.
□ NC Department of Transportation
☐ Federal Transit Administration
☐ Federal Highway Administration
US Department of Transportation
☐ Federal or State Court
☐ Other
Have you discussed the complaint with any Organization Name or Abbreviation Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) representative? If yes, provide the name, position, and date of discussion.
Please provide any additional information that you believe would assist with an investigation.
The same provide any distance and not make you so not a social min an invocingular.
Briefly explain what remedy, or action, are you seeking for the alleged discrimination.
**WE CANNOT ACCEPT AN UNSIGNED COMPLAINT. PLEASE SIGN AND DATE THE COMPLAINT FORM BELOW.
COMPLAINANT'S SIGNATURE DATE
COMPLAINANT'S SIGNATURE DATE
MAIL COMPLAINT FORM TO
MAIL COMPLAINT FORM TO:  Vadkin Valley Feenemin Dayslenment District Inc. (VVEDDI)
Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI)  Attn: Janet Phillips
PO Box 309 .
Boonville, NC 27011
336-367-7251 or 336-367-3533
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Date Complaint Received:
Processed by:
Case #:
Referred to: NCDOT FTA Date Referred:

## **DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS LOG**

Log Yea	ar(s):			_					
CASE NO.	COMPLAINANT NAME	RACE/ GENDER	RESPONDENT NAME	BASIS	DATE FILED	DATE RECEIVED	ACTION TAKEN	DATE INVESTIG. COMPLETED	DISPOSITION
No Com	plaints or Lawsui	ts 🗌	<u> </u>		<u> </u>				
I certify t	that to the best of n	ny knowledg					iscrimination, or <u>no</u> complai Title VI Program submission		eging discrimination, have
Signat	ure of Title VI Coo	rdinator or	Other Authorize	d Official			Date		
Print N	lame and Title of A	Authorized	Official						

## **INVESTIGATIVE GUIDANCE**

- **A. Scope of Investigation** An investigation should be confined to the issues and facts relevant to the allegations in the complaint, unless evidence shows the need to extend the issues.
- **B.** Developing an Investigative Plan It is recommended that the investigator prepares an Investigative Plan (IP) to define the issues and lay out the blueprint to complete the investigation. The IP should follow the outline below:
  - 1. Complainant(s) Name and Address (Attorney name and address if applicable)
  - 2. Respondent(s) Name and Address (Attorney for the Respondent(s) name and address)
  - 3. Applicable Law(s)
  - 4. Basis/(is)
  - 5. Allegation(s)/Issue(s)
  - 6. Background
  - 7. Name of Persons to be interviewed
    - a. Questions for the complainant(s)
    - b. Questions for the respondent(s)
    - c. Questions for witness(is)
  - 8. Evidence to be obtained during the investigation
    - a. Issue Complainant allege that there are only six African American contractors participating in the highway construction industry in the State and their contract awards are very small.
      - Documents needed: documents which show all DBE firms which currently have contracts and must include the following 1) name and race of DBE firm; 2) Date of initial certification into the DBE program; 3) type of business; 4) contracts awarded anytime during the period to the present; 5) dollar value of contract.
- **C.** Request for Information The investigator should gather data and information pertinent to the issues raised in the complaint.
- D. Interviews Interviews should be conducted with the complainant, respondent, and appropriate witnesses during the investigative process. Interviews are conducted to gain a better understanding of the situation outlined in the complaint of discrimination. The main objective during the interview is to obtain information that will either support or refute the allegations.
- E. Developing an Investigative Report The investigator should prepare an investigative report setting forth all relevant facts obtained during the investigation. The report should include a finding for each issue. A sample investigative report is provided below.

## **TEMPLATE/SAMPLE Investigative Report**

- **I. COMPLAINANT(S) NAME** (or attorney for the complainant(s) name and address if applicable Name, Address, Phone: 999-999-9999
- **II. RESPONDENT(S)** (or attorney for the respondent(s) name and address if applicable) Name, Address, Phone: 999-999-9999

#### III. APPLICABLE LAW/REGULATION

[For example, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d); 49 CFR §21.11; 49 CFR §26.53)]

#### IV. COMPLAINT BASIS/(ES)

[For example, Race, Color, National Origin, Religion, Sex, Age, and Disability)]

## V. ISSUES/ALLEGATIONS

[Describe in logical sequence, each allegation including the prohibited basis for the alleged discriminatory conduct, (e.g., race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability) and the specific statutory or regulatory provision the allegation would violate, if proven to be true.]

Issue #1 – Complainant alleges that transit system failed to inform minority communities of rate increases. Issue #2 – Complainant alleges that transit system has not sufficiently publicized or held public meetings to share information regarding fare increases and route changes that impacts low-income and minority citizens.

## VI. BACKGROUND

[Provide detailed information regarding the complaint, including a historical overview of the case, including any activities or actions taken prior to accepting the complaint for investigation.]

## VII. INVESTIGATIVE PROCEDURE

[Describe in detail, methods used to conduct the investigation, such as document requests, interviews and site visits. Include witnesses' names and addresses, documents received and/or reviewed, emails sent and received.]

## VIII. ISSUES / FINDINGS OF FACT

[Provide a detailed description of the investigator's analysis of each allegation, based on clear and factual findings. Include specific evidence used to support your findings.]

## IX. CONCLUSION

[State whether discrimination did or did not occur. Conclusions must be evidence-based and defensible. Test conclusions by considering all possible rebuttal arguments from the respondent and complainant. Both respondent and the complainant should be given an opportunity to confirm or rebut the assertions of the other party and your findings, but all the evidence you've presented should speak for itself.]

## X. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

[Outline what should be done to remedy the findings or, if necessary, provide justice for the complainant.]

#### **APPENDIX**

[Include in the Appendix any supplemental materials that support your findings and conclusion.]

## 8.0 SERVICE AREA POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

To ensure that Title VI reporting requirements are met, Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) will collect and maintain population data on potential and actual beneficiaries of our programs and services. This section is intended as a compilation of relevant population characteristics from our overall service area. This data will provide context to the Title VI Nondiscrimination Program and be used to ensure nondiscrimination and improve public outreach initiatives and delivery of ongoing programs.

## 8.1 RACE AND ETHNICITY

The following table was completed using data from Census Table QT-P3, Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin: 2010:

Subject County	Davi	е	Stok	es	Surr	,	Yadk	in
Race and Ethnicity	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total Population	41,240	100	47,401	100	73,673	100	38,406	100
White	36,100	87.5	44,021	92.9	64,926	88.1	34,007	88.5
Black or Africa American	2,593	6.3	1,916	4.0	2,749	3.7	1,192	3.1
American Indian or Alaska Native	149	0.4	156	0.3	219	0.3	79	0.2
Asian	239	0.6	125	0.3	347	0.5	78	0.2
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander	6	0.0	7	0.0	18	0.0	12	0.0
Some Other Race	1,458	3.5	589	1.2	4,410	6.0	2,560	6.7
Two or More Races	695	1.7	587	1.2	1,004	1.4	478	1.2
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	2,496	6.1	1,254	2.6	7,155	9.7	3,749	9.8
Mexican	1,653	4.0	845	1.8	6,323	8.6	3,319	8.6
Puerto Rican	109	0.3	143	0.3	132	0.2	57	0.1
Cuban	20	0.0	34	0.1	51	0.1	15	0.0
Other Hispanic or Latino	714	1.7	232	0.5	649	0.9	358	0.9

## 8.2 AGE & SEX

The following table was completed using data from Census Table QT-P1, Age Groups and Sex: 2010:

## **DAVIE COUNTY**

	Number				Percent	
Age	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Total Population	41,240	20,136	21,104	100%	100%	100%
Under 5 years	2,352	1,252	1,100	5.7	6.2	5.2
Under 18 years	9,751	5,050	4,701	23.6	25.1	22.3
18 to 64 years	24,660	12,111	12,549	59.8	60.1	59.5
65 years and over	6,829	2,975	3,854	16.6	14.8	18.3
Median Age	42.5	41.4	43.5			

## **STOKES COUNTY**

	Number				Percent			
Age	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female		
Total Population	47,401	23,124	24,277	100%	100%	100%		
Under 5 years	2,496	1,300	1,196	5.3	5.6	4.9		
Under 18 years	10,521	5,365	5,156	22.2	23.2	21.2		
18 to 64 years	29,305	14,528	14,777	61.8	62.8	60.9		
65 years and over	7,575	3,231	4,344	16.0	14.0	17.9		
Median Age	42.8	41.7	43.8					

## **SURRY COUNTY**

	Number			Percent			
Age	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	
Total Population	73,673	35,971	37,702	100%	100%	100%	
Under 5 years	4,375	2,213	2,162	5.9	6.2	5.7	
Under 18 years	17,217	8,827	8,390	23.4	24.5	22.3	
18 to 64 years	44,206	22,068	22,138	60.0	61.3	58.7	
65 years and over	12,250	5,076	7,174	16.6	14.1	19.0	
Median Age	41.2	39.7	42.8				

## **YADKIN COUNTY**

	Number			Percent			
Age	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	
Total Population	38,406	18,877	19,529	100%	100%	100%	
Under 5 years	2,283	1,174	1,109	5.9	6.2	5.7	
Under 18 years	8,938	4,656	4,282	23.3	24.7	21.9	
18 to 64 years	23,227	11,534	11,693	60.5	61.1	59.9	
65 years and over	6,241	2,687	3,554	16.3	14.2	18.2	
Median Age	41.4	40.3	42.5				

## 8.3 DISABILITY

The following table was completed using data from Census Table S1810, Disability Characteristics:

Surry County Data Only (No Data Available for Davie, Stokes or Yadkin Counties)

	Total		With a D	Disability	Percent with a Disability	
Subject	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-
Total civilian noninstitutionalized population	72,314	+/- 400	14,682	+/- 1,227	20.3	+/- 1.7
Population under 5 years	3,931	+/- 309	61	+/- 102	1.6	+/- 2.6
Population 5 to 17 years	12,324	+/- 312	499	+/- 301	4.0	+/- 2.4
Population 18 to 64 years	42,995	+/- 502	8,507	+/- 1,101	19.8	+/- 2.5
Population 65 years and over	13,064	+/- 581	5,615	+/- 639	43.0	+/- 4.6
SEX						
Male	35,628	+/- 572	7,472	+/- 878	21.0	+/- 2.4
Female	36,686	+/- 601	7,210	+/- 880	19.7	+/- 2.4

RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN						
White	66,846	+/- 883	13,455	+/- 1,191	20.1	+/- 1.8
Black or African American	2,821	+/- 686	1,051	+/- 393	37.3	+/- 11.3
American Indian and Alaska Native	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Some other Race	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic or Latino	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## 8.4 POVERTY

The following table was completed using data from Census Table S1701, Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months:

Surry County Data Only (No Data Available for Davie, Stokes or Yadkin Counties)

Surry County Data Only (NO Data Availa		tal		verty level		low poverty vel
Subject	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-
Population for whom poverty status is determined	72,239	409	15,773	+/- 2,520	21.8	+/- 3.5
AGE						
Under 18	16,180	+/- 154	5,407	+/- 1,345	33.4	+/- 8.3
18 to 64	42,995	+/- 502	8,458	+/- 1,437	19.7	+/- 3.3
65 years and over	13,064	+/- 581	1,908	+/- 763	14.6	+/- 5.6
SEX						
Male	35,593	+/- 579	7,015	+/- 1,447	19.7	+/- 4.0
Female	36,646	+/- 603	8,758	+/- 1,440	23.9	+/-3.9
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN						
White	66,771	+/- 887	13,487	+/- 2,262	20.2	+/- 3.4
Black or African American	2,821	+/- 686	1,703	+/- 766	60.4	+/- 19.3
American Indian and Alaska Native	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Some other Race	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic or Latino	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN(of any race)	7,227	+/- 4	4,040	+/- 1,216	55.9	+/- 16.8
All individuals below:						
50 percent of poverty level	7,363	+/- 2,350	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
125 percent of poverty level	19,379	+/- 2,803	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
150 percent of poverty level	24,003	+/- 2,755	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
185 percent of poverty level	31,064	+/- 2,624	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
200 percent of poverty level	33,818	+/- 2,741	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## 8.5 HOUSEHOLD INCOME

The following table was completed using data from Census Table S1901, Income in the Past 12 Months (In 2013 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars):

Surry County Data Only (No Data Available for Davie, Stokes or Yadkin Counties)

(		eholds
Subject	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-
Total	30,156	+/- 850
Less than \$10,000	9.6	+/- 2.3
\$10,000 to \$14,999	7.7	+/- 2.1
\$15,000 to \$24,999	15.0	+/- 2.4
\$25,000 to \$34,999	16.5	+/- 2.6
\$35,000 to \$49,999	16.4	+/- 2.7
\$50,000 to \$74,999	17.1	+/- 2.9
\$75,000 to \$99,999	8.8	+/- 1.9
\$100,000 to \$149,999	6.6	+/- 1.8
\$150,000 to \$199,999	1.4	+/- 0.9
\$200,000 or more	1.0	+/- 0.6
Median income (dollars)	35,579	+/- 1,882
Mean income (dollars)	46,864	+/- 2,738

## 8.6 LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY POPULATIONS

See Appendix: F Northwest Rural Planning Office Environmental Justice Guide

## 8.7 POPULATION LOCATIONS

Federal-aid recipients are required to know the characteristics and locations of populations they serve, particularly by race/ethnicity, poverty and limited English proficiency. This can be accomplished through maps that overlay boundaries and demographic features on specific communities. See Maps below, Also See Attachment F- Northwest Rural Planning Office Environmental Justice Guide.

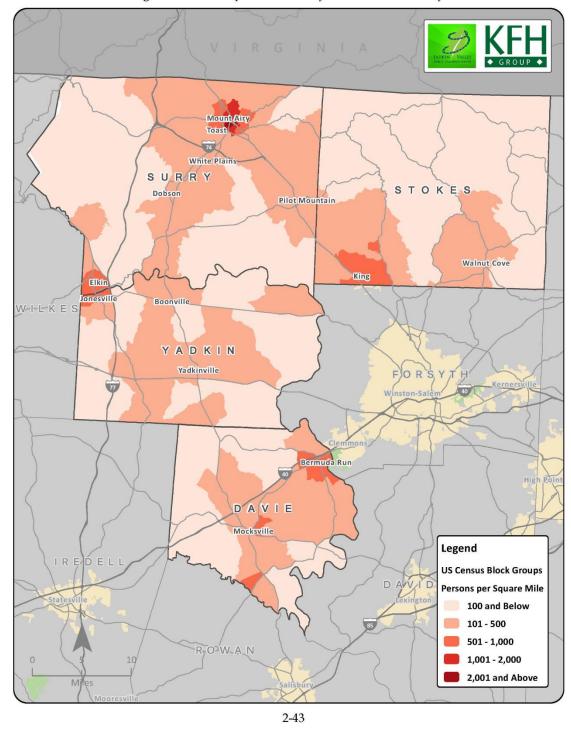


Figure 2-9: 2010 Population Density for the Yadkin Valley

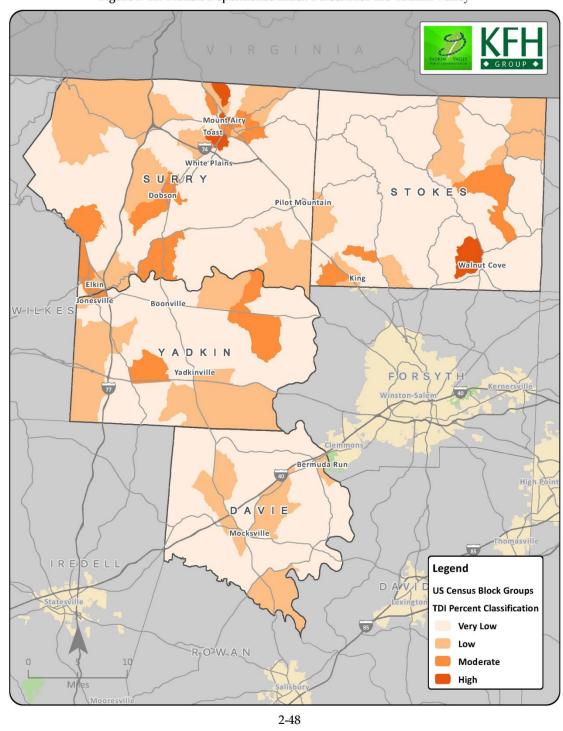


Figure 2-11: Transit Dependence Index Percent for the Yadkin Valley

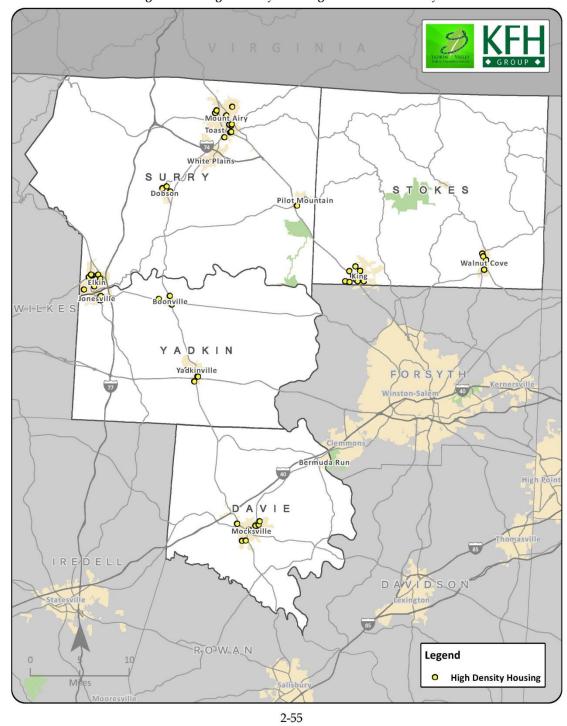


Figure 2-14: High Density Housing in the Yadkin Valley

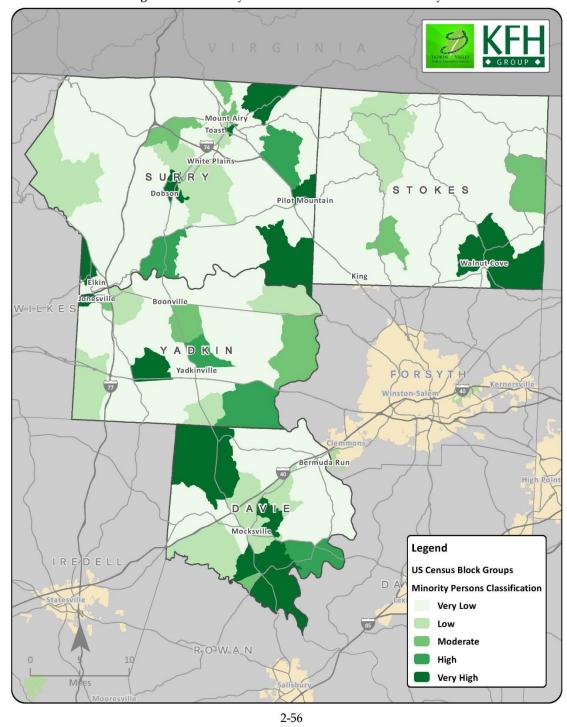


Figure 2-15: Minority Persons Index for the Yadkin Valley

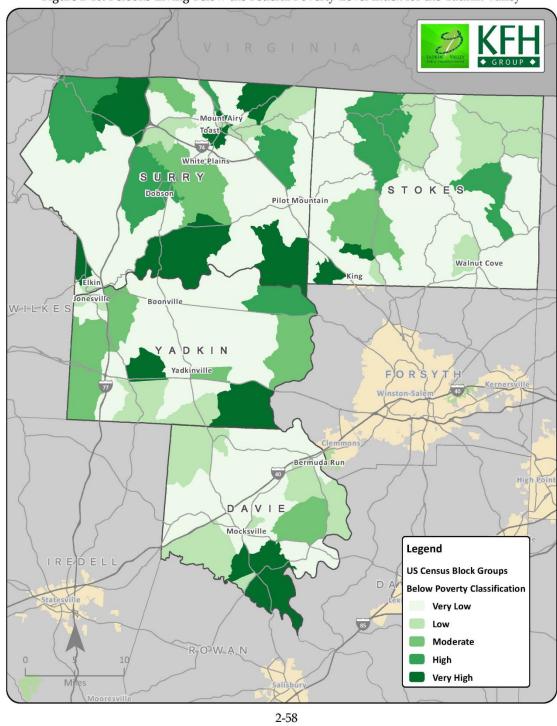


Figure 2-16: Persons Living Below the Federal Poverty Level Index for the Yadkin Valley

## 9.0 TITLE VI EQUITY ANALYSES (AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ASSESSMENTS)

As required under FTA C 4702.1B and 4703.1, Title VI equity and environmental justice (EJ) analyses will be conducted whenever we plan to construct (or modify) a facility, such as a vehicle storage facility, maintenance facility, operation center, etc., or when there will be a change in fares. These studies will be conducted to see if the change could result in either a disparate impact based on race, color or national origin (Title VI) or a disproportionately high and adverse impact to minority and/or low-income populations (EJ). Thus, they will look at various alternatives before selecting a site for the facility. Project-specific demographic data will be collected on potentially affected communities and their involvement in associated decision-making activities will be documented. Specific studies will be made available to oversight agencies during compliance reviews or to evidence our due diligence should a complaint be filed in relation to the location and effect of a proposed facility or fare increases. Project-related equity and EJ studies will remain on file indefinitely.

#### 10.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

#### **10.1 INTRODUCTION**

Effective public involvement is a key element in addressing Title VI in decision-making. Recipients engaged in planning and other decision-making activities must have a documented public participation process that provides adequate notice of public participation activities, and early and continuous opportunities for public review and comment at key decision points. Underlying these efforts is our commitment to determining the most effective outreach methods for a given project or population.

This **Public Participation Plan** describes how Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) will disseminate vital agency information and engage the public by seeking out and considering the needs and input of interested parties and those traditionally underserved by existing transportation systems, such as minority and limited English proficient persons, who may face challenges accessing programs and other services. General public involvement practices will include:

- Scheduling meetings at times and locations that are convenient and accessible for minority and LEP communities.
- Employing different meeting sizes and formats.
- Coordinating with community- and faith-based organizations, educational institutions, and other entities to implement
  public engagement strategies that reach out specifically to members of affected minority and/or LEP communities.
- Providing opportunities for public participation through means other than written communication, such as personal
  interviews or use of audio or video recording devices to capture oral comments.
- Considering radio, television, or newspaper ads on stations and in publications that serve LEP populations. Outreach
  to LEP persons could also include audio programming available on podcasts.

## 10.2 Public Notification

Passengers and other interested persons will be informed of their rights under Title VI and related authorities with regard to our program. The primary means of achieving this will be posting and disseminating the policy statement and notice as stipulated in Sections 3.0 and 4.0, respectively. Additional measures may include openly stating our obligations and the public's rights at meetings, placing flyers at places frequented by targeted populations, and an equal opportunity tag-on at the end of radio announcements. The method of notification will be determined through an initial screening of the area.

## 10.3 DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION

Information on Title VI and other programs will be crafted and disseminated to employees, contractors and sub recipients, stakeholders, and the general public. Public dissemination efforts may vary depending on factors present, but will generally include: posting public statements setting forth our nondiscrimination policy in eye-catching designs and locations; placing brochures in public places, such as government offices, transit facilities, and libraries; having nondiscrimination language

within contracts; including nondiscrimination notices in meeting announcements and handouts; and displaying our Notice of Nondiscrimination at all our public meetings.

At a minimum, nondiscrimination information will be disseminated on our website and on posters in conspicuous areas at our office(s). Project-related information and our most current Title VI-related information will be maintained online.

#### 10.4 MEETINGS AND OUTREACH

There is no one-size-fits-all approach to public involvement. A variety of comprehensive and targeted public participation methods will be used to facilitate meaningful public involvement. Methods for engaging stakeholders and target audiences, including traditionally underserved and excluded populations (i.e., minorities, youth, low-income, the disabled, etc.) will include the following:

## Public Relations and Outreach

Public relations and outreach (PRO) strategies aim to conduct well-planned, inclusive and meaningful public participation events that foster good relations and mutual trust through shared decision-making with the communities we serve.

- We will seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected.
- Public events will aim to be collaborative, fun, and educational for all, rather than confrontational and prescriptive.
- Media plans will typically involve multiple channels of communication like mailings, radio, TV, and newspaper ads.
- Abstract objectives will be avoided in meeting announcements. Specific "attention-grabbing" reasons to attend will be
  used, such as "Help us figure out how to relieve congestion on [corridor name]" or "How much should it cost to ride the
  bus? Let us know on [date]."
- Efforts will be made to show how the input of participants can, or did, influence final decisions.
- We will do our best to form decision-making committees that look like and relate to the populations we serve.
- We will seek out and identify community contacts and partner with local community- and faith-based organizations that can represent, and help us disseminate information to, target constituencies.
- Demographic data will be requested during public meetings, surveys, and from community contacts and committee members.

## **Public Meetings**

"Public meeting" refers to any meeting open to the public, such as hearings, charrettes, open house and board meetings.

- Public meetings will be conducted at times, locations, and facilities that are convenient and accessible.
- Meeting materials will be available in a variety of predetermined formats to serve diverse audiences.
- An assortment of advertising means may be employed to inform the community of public meetings.
- Assistance to persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency will be provided, as required.

## **Small Group Meetings**

A small group meeting is a targeted measure where a meeting is held with a specific group, usually at their request or consent. These are often closed meetings, as they will typically occur on private property at the owner's request.

- If it is determined that a targeted group has not been afforded adequate opportunities to participate, the group will be contacted to inquire about possible participation methods, including a group meeting with them individually.
- Unless unusual circumstances or safety concerns exist, hold the meeting at a location of the target group's choosing.
- Share facilitation duties or relinquish them to members of the target group.
- Small group discussion formats may be integrated into larger group public meetings and workshops. When this
  occurs, the smaller groups will be as diverse as the participants in the room.

## Community Surveying

- Opinion surveys will occasionally be used to obtain input from targeted groups or the general public on their transportation needs, the quality or costs of our services, and feedback on our public outreach efforts.
- Surveys may be conducted via telephone, door-to-door canvassing, at community fairs, by placing drop boxes in ideal locations, or with assistance from other local agencies like social services.

## 10.5 LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

Limited English Proficient (LEP) persons refers to persons for whom English is not their primary language who have a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English. It includes people who reported to the U.S. Census that they speak English less than very well, not well, or not at all.

In an effort to comply with DOT's LEP policy guidance and Executive Order 13166, this section of our public participation plan outlines the steps we will take to ensure meaningful access to all benefits, services, information, and other important portions of our programs and activities by individuals who are limited-English proficient. Accordingly, a four factor analysis was conducted to determine the specific language services appropriate to provide, and to whom, to inform language assistance planning and determine if our communication with LEP persons is effective.

## **Four Factor Analysis**

This Four Factor Analysis is an individualized assessment that balances the following four factors:

- (1) The number or proportion of LEP persons eligible to be served or likely to be encountered by a program, activity, or service of the recipient or grantee;
- (2) The frequency with which LEP individuals come in contact with the program;
- (3) The nature and importance of the program, activity, or service provided by the recipient to people's lives; and
- (4) The resources available to the recipient and costs.

Factor #1: The number or proportion of LEP persons eligible to be served or likely to be encountered by the program, activity, or service of the recipient.

## **Davie County**

LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent of Population	Margin of Error
Total (population 5 years and over):	39,081	+/-65	100%	(X)
Speak only English	36,170	+/- 258	93%	+/- %
Spanish or Spanish Creole:	2,343	+/- 170	6%	+/- %
Speak English "very well"	1,244	+/- 261	3%	+/- %
Speak English less than "very well"	1,099	+/- 225	3%	+/- %
Polish:	113	+/- 141	.29%	+/- %
Speak English "very well"	53	+/- 71	.14%	+/- %
Speak English less than "very well"	60	+/- 71	.15%	+/- %
Arabic:	64	+/- 77	.16%	+/- %
Speak English "very well"	9	+/- 14	.02%	+/- %
Speak English less than "very well"	55	+/- 64	.14%	+/- %

## Stokes County

LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent of Population	Margin of Error
Total (population 5 years and over):	44,647	+/- 103	100%	(X)
Speak only English	43,219	+/- 255	96%	+/- %
Spanish or Spanish Creole:	1,089	+/- 150	2.4%	+/- %
Speak English "very well"	518	+/- 148	1.1%	+/- %
Speak English less than "very well"	571	+/- 153	1.2%	+/- %
German:	78	+/- 68	.17%	+/- %
Speak English "very well"	62	+/- 49	.14%	+/- %
Speak English less than "very well"	16	+/- 27	.04%	+/- %
Hindi:	41	+/- 58	.09%	+/- %
Speak English "very well"	20	+/- 29	.04%	+/- %
Speak English less than "very well"	21	+/- 29	.05%	+/- %

## Surry County

LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent of Population	Margin of Error
Total (population 5 years and over):	69,195	+/- 50	100%	(X)
Speak only English	62,615	+/- 420	90%	+/- %
Spanish or Spanish Creole:	5,839	+/- 368	8.4%	+/- %
Speak English "very well"	2,562	+/- 366	3.7%	+/- %
Speak English less than "very well"	3,277	+/- 341	4.7%	+/- %
Other Indic Languages:	49	+/- 66	.07%	+/- %
Speak English "very well"	0	+/- 29	0%	+/- %
Speak English less than "very well"	49	+/- 66	.07%	+/- %
Arabic:	56	+/- 62	.08%	+/- %
Speak English "very well"	26	+/- 30	.04%	+/- %
Speak English less than "very well"	30	+/- 33	.04%	+/- %

## Yadkin County

LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent of Population	Margin of Error
Total (population 5 years and over):	36,047	+/- 5	100%	(X)
Speak only English	32,717	+/- 374	90%	+/- %
Spanish or Spanish Creole:	3,008	+/- 294	8.3%	+/- %
Speak English "very well"	1,734	+/- 308	4.8%	+/- %
Speak English less than "very well"	1,274	+/- 223	3.5%	+/- %
German:	69	+/- 64	.19%	+/- %
Speak English "very well"	45	+/- 49	.12%	+/- %
Speak English less than "very well"	24	+/- 37	.07%	+/- %
Other Germanic Languages:	170	+/- 171	.47%	+/- %
Speak English "very well"	103	+/- 126	.29%	+/- %
Speak English less than "very well"	67	+/- 82	.19%	+/- %

In three of the four counties in our region one LEP population group, Spanish or Spanish Creole, has a population estimate that exceeds the 5 percent threshold established under Title VI LEP regulations for the number or proportion of LEP

persons eligible to be served or likely to be encountered by the program, activity, or service of the YVEDDI Public Transportation program. The counties that reach this threshold are Davie, Surry and Yadkin counties. Stokes County has an estimated population of Spanish or Spanish Creole that is less than 5 percent with the majority of this population located in the Northeast section of the county. Although there are some pockets of a Spanish speaking population concentration in certain geographic areas in each county, the Spanish or Spanish Creole populations are somewhat evenly distributed throughout each county. Surry and Yadkin counties have the highest percentage of Spanish speaking persons with a higher concentration in Surry County along the highway 601 corridor between Mount Airy and the Yadkin River. YVEDDI Public Transportation does provide a deviated fixed route service along this corridor that is available to any residents in this area. Demand responsive transportation services are available along this corridor. Yadkin County has a higher estimated population along the highway 421 corridor between Forsyth County and Wilkes County. There is a concentration of Germanic speaking people in the Southwest part of Yadkin County. Davie County has an estimated 6 percent Spanish speaking population primarily concentrated in and around the Town of Mocksville. This area is served on a daily basis by the transportation system.

## Factor #2: The frequency with which LEP individuals come in contact with the program.

The majority of the LEP populations that YVEDDI Public Transportation currently serves are participants of the Department of Social Services Non-Emergency Medical Transportation programs in each of the four counties that we serve. Those clients utilize YVEDDI Public Transportation demand response service to have access to Medicaid approved medical appointments. Some of these participants use our service on a daily basis in three of the four counties with trips for LEP passengers less in Stokes County with a contact of two to three times per week. Trips for all Medicaid participants are scheduled through the local DSS transportation coordinators who schedule the LEP participant's trips with the transit system. We do serve members of the LEP population for other than NEMT transportation needs in each county either on a daily basis or on a two to three times per week. Those individuals usually contact our transportation schedulers directly. Most of those LEP participants have at least some English speaking ability or have someone in their family that helps make their trip reservations.

## Factor #3: The nature and importance of the program, activity, or service provided by the recipient to people's lives.

Public transportation services are the only service that YVEDDI Public Transportation provides. The transportation to and from the medical appointments are the most important service. Drivers are the most likely to come in contact with an LEP person.

## Factor #4: The resources available to the recipient and costs.

## LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE PLAN

As a result of the above four factor analysis, a Language Assistance Plan (LAP) was required. This plan outlines organizational practices to monitor, evaluate, and update LEP procedures, and the types of assistance provided to ensure fair treatment and meaningful access to LEP persons.

## Language Assistance Measures

The following general language assistance measures are reasonable and achievable for our organization at this time:

- Translating public notices posted in the local paper and at stations, stops, and in vehicles into the languages of all language groups that met the threshold in Factor 1.
- Making a concerted effort to inform LEP persons of available language assistance via staff, broadcast media, relationship-building with organizations, and our website.

- Posting vital bulletin board information and disseminating community surveys in various languages.
- Providing translation and interpretive services when appropriate (upon request or predetermined) at meetings.
- Determining how best to take public involvement to LEP groups directly, including through small group meetings.
- Language line translation services at our call center.
- Utilizing or hiring staff who speak a language other than English and can provide competent language assistance.
   Note: We will not ask community-based organizations to provide, or serve as, interpreters at our meetings. Relying upon CBOs in that capacity could raise ethics concerns. If a CBO decides (on its own) to translate any materials for its constituents, or bring interpreters it trusts to our meetings, we cannot object. That is their right.
- Using language identification flashcards to determine appropriate services.
- Establishing a process to obtain feedback on our language assistance measures.

## Specific Measures by Language Group

Spanish: Our organization currently uses many of the measures listed above to effectively involve the Hispanic community. All vital information regarding our services is printed in Spanish, and we subscribe to a language translation service as needed when LEP persons call us to schedule reservations or inquire about services.

## Written Translation and Oral Interpretation

Vital documents will be translated for each eligible LEP language group in our service area that constitutes 5% or 1,000, whichever is less, of the population of persons eligible to be served or likely to be encountered. Translated materials will be placed online and in appropriate public (or private) places accessible to LEP persons. The safe harbor provisions apply to the translation of written documents only, and do not affect the requirement to provide meaningful access to LEP individuals through competent oral interpreters where oral language services are needed and are reasonable. When appropriate, translation of any document will be communicated orally in the appropriate language.

In the event that the 5% trigger is reached for a LEP language group that is fewer than 50 persons, written notice will be provided in the primary language of that group of the right to receive competent oral interpretation of vital written materials, free of cost. The most effective method of notice, which could be an ad in the local newspaper or other publication, a radio commercial, or door hangers, will be determined in consideration of the circumstances on the ground and in coordination with language access resource contacts (LARCs).

## Staff Support for Language Assistance

- Agency staff (including call center staff) will be provided a list of referral resources that can assist LEP persons with
  written translation and oral interpretation, including the Title VI Officer and any outside consultant contracted to
  provide language services. This list will be updated as needed to remain current.
- All main offices and vehicles will have on hand a supply of language assistance flashcards and materials translated into the languages of the largest LEP language groups. When encountered by an LEP person, staff (including drivers) should present the individual with a flashcard and let them choose the language. Do not assume you know their preferred language. Drivers are permitted to seek volunteer assistance from other passengers before contacting a referral resource. Document the encounter and report it to the Title VI Coordinator.
- Training: All employees will be instructed on our procedures for providing timely and reasonable assistance to LEP persons. New employee orientation will also explain these procedures to new hires. Staff routinely encountering LEP persons by telephone or in person will receive annual refresher training. All other employees will be reminded of LEP through annual Title VI program acknowledgements (Section 5.0) and basic Title VI trainings (Section 11.0).

## Project-Specific LEP Outreach

A project-specific four factor analysis will be conducted for any project being planned or scheduled outreach event limited to a specific geographical area delineated for that activity (i.e., the project study area or outreach area, respectively). Language assistance will be provided in accordance with the measures already outlined, including translating written materials for each LEP language group that is 5% or 1,000, whichever is less, of the project or outreach area population.

## Monitoring and Updating the LAP

Monitoring of daily interactions with LEP persons will be continuous, thus assistance techniques may be refined at any time. This LAP will be periodically reviewed to determine if our language assistance measures and staff training are working. Resource availability and feedback from agency staff and the general public will be factors in the evaluation and any proposed updates. Among other practices, this process will include working with LEP community contacts to determine if our employees are responding appropriately to requests made with limited English or in languages other than English, and observing how agency staff responds to requests, including observing drivers or surveying riders. To the best of our ability, we will attempt to never eliminate a successful existing LEP service. Significant LEP program revisions will be approved or adopted by our board or designated official and dated accordingly. LEP data and procedures will be reviewed and updated at least once every three years.

## 10.6 DEMOGRAPHIC REQUEST

The following form was used to collect required data on Key Community Contacts and nonelected committee members. A single copy of the "Demographic Request" form is located in Appendix...E:

Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. /YVEDDI Public Transportation is required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related authorities to record demographic information on members of its boards and committees. Please provide the following information:

Race/Ethnicity:	National Origin: (if born outside the U.S.)
White	☐ Mexican
☐ Black/African American	Central American:
Asian	South American:
American Indian/Alaskan Native	☐ Puerto Rican
☐ Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	Chinese
☐ Hispanic/Latino	☐ Vietnamese
Other (please specify):	☐ Korean
	Other (please specify):
Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female	Age:
Gender: Male Female	☐ Less than 18 ☐ 45-64
	☐ 18-29 ☐ 65 and older
Disability: Yes No	□ 30-44
I choose not to provide any of the information req	uested above:

Completed forms will remain on file as part of the public record. For more information regarding Title VI or this request, please contact the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. /YVEDDI Public Transportation at 336-367-7251 or by email at <a href="mailto:jphillips@yveddi.com">jphillips@yveddi.com</a>...

Please sign below acknowledging that you have completed this form.

Thank you for y	your participation!
Name (print):	
Signature:	

## Implementation

- Forms will be completed prior to triennial Title VI compliance reviews and remain on file for three years.
- All new and existing members of appointed decision-making boards or committees will be **required** to complete this form for reporting purposes.
- If a member, for whatever reason, selects "I choose not to provide any of the information requested above," they will have also **completed** the form.
- If a member chooses not to provide any of the information on the form, the Title VI Coordinator will be permitted to indicate that member's race and gender, based on the Coordinator's best guess.
- Data from these forms will be used to complete the Demographic Request Table in Appendix E.
- Once a new member submits this form, the Demographic Request Table for the associated committee will be updated.

## **10.7 KEY COMMUNITY CONTACTS**

Contact Name	Community Name	Interest or Affiliation	Also a Committee Member? (Y/N)
Jimmy Walker	King, NC	Stokes County / Commissioner Board Member	Υ
Suzanne Wright	Mocksville, NC	Board Member/Health Director	Υ
Juan Fr.Enrique Gonzalez- Gaytan	Boonville, NC	Pastor, Divine Redeemer Catholic Church, Latino Community Leader	N
Richard Lasky	Boonville, NC	Board Member	Y
Shelby King	Mount Airy, NC	Board Member, African American community advocate	Y
Alicia Vera-Trujillo	Yadkinville, NC	Board Member/Latino Advocate	Υ

Contact information for key community contacts is not public information and is maintained outside of this document. Any staff member who wishes to contact anyone listed above must request that information from the Title VI Coordinator.

## 10.8 SUMMARY OF OUTREACH EFFORTS MADE SINCE THE LAST TITLE VI PROGRAM SUBMISSION

The following format will be used to report all outreach efforts made since our last NCDOT Title VI Compliance Review. All meetings and disseminations of information shall enable collection of information for the table below:

Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Meeting Purpose	Target Audience	Information Disseminated

#### 11.0 STAFF TRAINING

All employees will receive basic Title VI training at least once every three years. New hires will receive this training within 15 days of their start date. Basic training will cover all sections of this Plan and our overall Title VI obligations. Staff may receive specialized training on the application of Title VI in their specific work areas. Those who routinely encounter the public, such as office personnel, call center staff, and vehicle drivers, will receive annual refresher training. Trainings will be provided or organized by the Title VI Coordinator, and will often coincide with updates to our nondiscrimination policies and procedures. Records of staff trainings will be remain on file for at least three years (and in personnel files), and will include agendas, sign-in sheets, copies of calendars, and any certificates issued.

## 12.0 NON-ELECTED BOARDS AND COMMITTEES - BY RACE AND GENDER

The table below depicts race and gender compositions for each of our nonelected (appointed) decision-making bodies. Refer to Appendix E for member names and full demographics for each committee.

Body	Male %	Female %	Caucasian %	African American %	Asian American %	Native American %	Other %	Hispanic %
Service Area Population	49%	51%	89%	4%	.39%	.30%	4%	7.3%
YVEDDI Transit Advisory Board								
YVEDDI Board of Directors Committee Name								

## Strategies for Representative Committees

We will seek minority participation and strive for committees that are representative of our constituencies by:

- Openly asking public and small group meeting participants if they would be interested in serving on a committee.
- Seeking referrals from local organizations and key community contacts that serve or represent minorities.

- Exploring different types of committees, such as ad hoc minority- or youth-only Citizen Advisory Committees.
- Outreach efforts and responses (or lack thereof from those asked to serve or refer others) will be documented.

#### 13.0 RECORD-KEEPING AND REPORTS

Records will be kept to document compliance with the requirements of the Title VI Program. Unless otherwise specified, Title VI-related records shall be retained indefinitely. These records will made available for inspection by authorized officials of the NCDOT and/or FTA. As a sub recipient of FTA funds through NCDOT, we are required to submit a Title VI Program update to NCDOT every three years, the next of which is due in year 2020. Reports on Title VI-related activities and progress to address findings identified in civil rights compliance reviews and assessments may also be submitted on an as-requested basis. It will occasionally be necessary to update this program plan and its component parts (e.g., complaints, Public Involvement, and LEP), applicable documents, and responsible officials. Updates will be submitted to NCDOT for review and approval.

**In addition to other items throughout this plan**, records and reports due at the time of compliance reviews or investigations will include:

## Compliance Reviews

- Title VI Program Plan
- List of civil rights trainings provided or received
- Summaries from any internal reviews conducted
- Ads and notices for specific meetings
- Findings from reviews by any other external agencies
- Title VI equity analyses and EJ assessments
- Discrimination Complaints Log

## Complaint Investigations

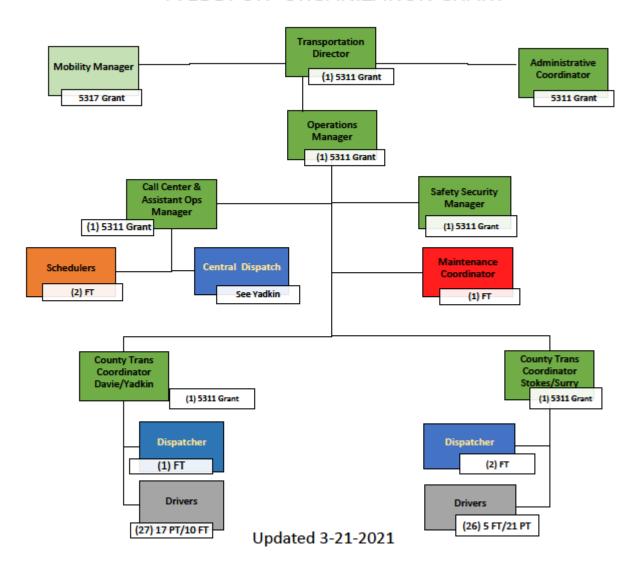
- Investigative Reports
- Discrimination complaint, as filed
- List of interviewees (names and affiliations)
- Supporting Documentation (e.g., requested items, photos taken, dates and methods of contact, etc.)

# Applicable Nondiscrimination Authorities

During the implementation of this Title VI Program, the organization, for itself, its assignees and successors in interest, is reminded that it has agreed to comply with the following non-discrimination statutes and authorities, including but not limited to:

- 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);
- 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);
- 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 Federalaid 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.P.R.
  parts 37 and 38;
- 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 seg).
- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000e *et seq.*, Pub. L. 88-352), (prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin);
- 49 CFR Part 26, regulation to ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts in the Department's highway, transit, and airport financial assistance programs;
- 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);
- Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973, (23 U.S.C. § 324 et seq.), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex);
- 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 Federal Aviation Administration's Non-discrimination statute (49 U.S.C. § 47123) (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, and sex).

## YVEDDI CTP ORGANIZATION CHART



# Appendix C NCDOT's Compliance Review Checklist for Transit

## I. Program Administration (General Requirements) Requirement: FTA C 4702.1B - Title VI Requirements and Guidelines for FTA Recipients, Chapter III - General Requirements and Guidelines. Note: Every NCDOT sub recipient receiving any of the FTA Formula Grants listed above must complete this section. **Requested Items** (Please attach electronic documents (.pdf, .doc, etc.) or provide links to online versions) Completed 1. A copy of the recipient's signed NCDOT's Title VI Nondiscrimination Agreement Title VI Policy Statement (signed) 3. Title VI Notice to the Public, including a list of locations where the notice is posted 4. Type the name and title of your Title VI Coordinator and attach a list of their Title VI duties Name/Title: 5. Title VI Complaint Procedures (i.e., instructions to the public regarding how to file a Title VI discrimination complaint) 6. Title VI Complaint Form 7. List of transit-related Title VI investigations, complaints, and lawsuits (i.e., discrimination complaints log) 8. Public Participation Plan, including information about outreach methods to engage traditionally underserved constituencies (e.g., minorities, limited English proficient populations (LEP), low-income, disabled), as well as a summary of outreach efforts made since the last Title VI Program submission 9. Language Assistance Plan for providing language assistance to persons with limited English proficiency (LEP), based on the DOT LEP Guidance, which requires conducting four-factor analyses 10. A table depicting the membership of non-elected committees and councils, the membership of which is selected by the recipient, broken down by race, and a description of the process the agency uses to encourage the participation of minorities on such committees 11. A copy of board meeting minutes, resolution, or other appropriate documentation showing the board of directors or appropriate governing entity or official(s) responsible for policy decisions reviewed and approved the Title VI Program 12. A description of the procedures the agency uses to ensure nondiscriminatory administration of programs and services 13. If you pass through FTA funds to other organizations, include a description of how you monitor your sub recipients for compliance with Title VI, and a schedule for your sub recipients' Title VI Program submissions. ➤ No Sub recipients 14. A Title VI equity analysis if you have constructed or conducted planning for a facility, such as a vehicle storage facility, maintenance facility, operation center, etc. ➤ No Facilities Planned or Constructed ☐ 15. Copies of environmental justice assessments conducted for any construction projects during the past three years and, if needed based on the results, a description of the program or other measures used or planned to mitigate any identified adverse impact on the minority or lowincome communities **➤** No Construction Projects □

16. If the recipient has undergone a Title VI Compliance Review in the last 3 years, please indicate the year of the last review and who conducted it. <b>Year/Agency:</b>	
II. Transit Providers	
<b>Requirement:</b> FTA C 4702.1B, Chapter IV – Requirements and Guidelines for Fixed Route Transit Providers.	
<b>Note:</b> All NCDOT sub recipients that provide <u>fixed route</u> public transportation services (e.g., local, express or commuter b transit; commuter rail; passenger ferry) must complete this section.	us; bus rapid
Not Applicable (Check this box if you do not provide <u>fixed route</u> services, and skip questions 17 and 18 does not apply to you if you <i>only</i> provide demand response services.)	This section
Requested Items	
(Please attach electronic documents (.pdf, .doc, etc.) or provide links to online versions)	Completed
17. Service standards ( <b>quantitative measures</b> ) developed for <i>each specific fixed route mode</i> that the recipient provides (standards may vary by mode) must be submitted for each of the following indicators:	
<ul> <li>Vehicle load for each mode (Can be expressed as the ratio of passengers to the total number of seats on a vehicle. For example, on a 40-seat bus, a vehicle load of 1.3 means all seats are filled and there are approximately 12 standees.)</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Vehicle headway for each mode (Measured in minutes (e.g., every 15 minutes), headway refers to the amount of time between two vehicles traveling in the same direction on a given line or combination of lines. A shorter headway corresponds to more frequent service. Service frequency is measured in vehicles per hour (e.g., 4 buses per hour).)</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>On time performance for each mode (Expressed as a percentage, this is a measure of runs completed as scheduled. The recipient must define what is considered to be "on time." Performance can be measured against route origins and destinations only, or against origins and destinations as well as specified time points along a route.)</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Service availability for each mode (Refers to a general measure of the distribution of routes within a transit provider's service area, such as setting the maximum distance between bus stops or train stations, or requiring that a percentage of all residents in the service area be within a one-quarter mile walk of bus service.)</li> </ul>	
18. Service policies ( <b>system-wide policies</b> ) adopted to ensure that service design and operations practices do not result in discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin, must be submitted for each of the following:	
<ul> <li>Transit amenities for each mode (e.g., benches, shelters/canopies, printed materials, escalators/elevators, and waste receptacles. NOTE: Attach this information <u>only</u> if you have decision-making authority over siting transit amenities or you set policies to determine the siting of amenities.)</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Vehicle assignment for each mode (Refers to the process by which transit vehicles are placed into service throughout a system. Policies for vehicle assignment may be based on the type or age of the vehicle, where age would be a proxy for condition, or on the type of service offered.)</li> </ul>	

# Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) Annual Education and Acknowledgement Form

## **Title VI Nondiscrimination Policy**

(Title VI and related nondiscrimination authorities)

No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity of a Federal-aid recipient.

All employees and representatives of Agency Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) are expected to consider, respect, and observe this policy in their daily work and duties. If any person approaches you with a civil rights-related question or complaint, please direct him or her to Name of Title VI Coordinator Janet Phillips at Contact Info phone: 336-367-3533, postal mail: PO Box 309 Boonville, NC 27011 or email: jphillips@yveddi.com.

In all dealings with the public, use courtesy titles (e.g., Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr.) to address or refer to them without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

## Acknowledgement of Receipt of Title VI Program

I hereby acknowledge receipt of Agency's Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) Title VI Program and other nondiscrimination guidelines. I have read the Title VI Program and I am committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in or denied the benefits of Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. (YVEDDI) programs, policies, services and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related nondiscrimination statutes.

Signature	Date

## Appendix E

Detailed List of Board and TAB Members with Demographic Information

Appendix F

Northwest RPO Environmental Justice Guide