



Agenda Item Number

8.

Link Lane Update and Title VI Adoption

Date: June 27, 2024

Presenter: Kate Wilson, LCOG Senior Transportation Planner

Action Recommended: Adopt Link Lane Title VI Plan

BACKGROUND:

LCOG's Link Lane transit services currently operate two routes: Eugene-Florence Connector and Florence-Yachats Connector. Additionally, LCOG is currently partnering with Lane Transit District to offer complementary on demand transit services in South Lane County as a two-year Link Lane pilot program.

The two original Link Lane routes filled major transit gaps in the state's transit network and immediately provided an affordable and reliable transportation option that residents and visitors would not otherwise have. The current south Lane County service, Metro Shuttle, provides service to rural residents who do not have access to fixed route services. Link Lane's fixed route transit routes continue to grow in ridership each year. In Spring 2024, service was added to each route.

Discussion:

To ensure funding stability in future years, it is important that Link Lane meets requirements for both federal and state funding mechanisms. One important requirement is to ensure that Link Lane has an up-to-date Title VI Plan. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 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 assistance.” Subsequently, federal authorities extended these protections to include sex, age, disability, income level, and Limited English Proficiency. As a result, public or private entities that receive federal assistance (called recipients) from any federal agency, including the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), must take concrete steps to ensure nondiscrimination in their programs and activities. Recipients are required to prepare a Title VI Implementation Plan. Title VI plans should describe the roles, responsibilities, and procedures for assuring compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related regulations and directives by the state transportation agency. The attached draft Title VI Plan serves as Link Lane’s Title VI Implementation Plan. ODOT staff have reviewed and approved the draft plan as compliant with federal regulations.

The LCOG Board of Directors serves as the Link Lane Board of Directors. As such, the Title VI Plan outlines that each member of the Board of Directors be asked to voluntarily provide demographic data. These data will be used within the Title VI Plan to show the current ethnic and racial makeup of the Board of Directors.

Recommendations: Voluntary board participation in the Title VI Minority Representation Data Collection Form

Suggested Action: Adopt the Link Lane Title VI Plan

Attachments: A. Title VI Plan
B. Title VI Minority Representation Data Collection Form