

**HILLSBOROUGH TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
OBJECTIVES/POLICY STATEMENT  
TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT**

**TO ALL HART EMPLOYEES AND THE SERVICE COMMUNITY**

As a major provider of public transportation whose employees have extensive daily contact with the public, the Hillsborough Transit Authority (HART) recognizes its responsibility to the community which it serves and is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination. HART works to ensure nondiscriminatory transportation in support of our mission *to provide effective, coordinated and integrated multimodal transportation solutions* to enhance the social and economic quality of life for all Hillsborough County citizens.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the basis of **race, color, or national origin** in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance. Specifically, Title VI provides that “no person in the United States shall, on the 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 Environmental Justice component of Title VI guarantees fair treatment for all people and provides for HART, to identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations, such as undertaking reasonable steps to ensure that Limited English Proficiency (LEP) persons have meaningful access to the programs, services, and information HART provides.

Environmental Justice Regulations are:

- (a) To avoid, minimize, or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects, on minority populations and low-income populations;
- (b) To ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the transportation decision-making process;
- (c) To prevent the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority and low-income populations.

Brenda Mowen, Chief Administrative Officer, has been designated as HART’s Chief Civil Rights Officer responsible for civil rights compliance and monitoring to ensure non-discriminatory provision of transit services and programs. In that capacity, Ms. Mowen is responsible for implementing all aspects of the Title VI Program. However, along with the Chief Executive Officer, All Directors, Managers, and their Staff share in the responsibility for making HART’s Title VI Program a success. Implementation of the Title VI Program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by HART in its financial assistance agreements with DOT.

HART will disseminate this policy statement to the Board of Directors and all components of our organization. HART will also distribute this policy statement to internal and external stakeholders that perform work with us on DOT-assisted and other HART contacts through print and electronic means.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Armijo, Chief Executive Officer

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date