

Title VI Program for Transportation Planning Activities

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BERKELEY-CHARLESTON-DORCHESTER
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

PLANNING, PARTNERSHIP & PROSPERITY



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INTRODUCTION

Planning activities, program administration and oversight, and federally-funded program activities must be conducted equitably with the involvement of and for the benefit of all the region's residents. The Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG) is guided by Federal Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and environmental justice mandates. BCDCOG not only strives to meet these mandates, but works to create an overall transparent, inclusive planning process. BCDCOG administers the Charleston Area Transportation Study (CHATS), which is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), regional planning council for the three-county region, and is designated recipient for FTA-administered funding programs for the Charleston-North Charleston Urbanized Area (UZA). BCDCOG/CHATS MPO are committed to integrating Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as part of the planning process in all its programs so that it may serve as a guide for public participation efforts.

TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, protects any person in the United States on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, or disability from being excluded from participation, being denied the benefits of, or being otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance from the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT). The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 further prohibits exclusion based on age, and Title 23 USC 324 added that no person should be excluded from participation on the basis of sex (gender). The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 re-emphasized all of the anti-discrimination laws and the applicability to federal programs.

By participating in US Department of Transportation (USDOT) programs, recipients provide the following assurance: No person, on the grounds of race, color, creed, national origin, gender, age, or disability shall be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any project, program or activity funded in whole or in part by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and/or Federal Transit Administration (FTA). In addition, joint participation agreements must contain the assurance that subrecipients shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

Nondiscrimination requirements apply to activities such as, but not limited to, land acquisition and relocation of residences and businesses, impacts of construction and alignment transportation facilities, transit routes or fixed guideways, vehicle assignments, and transit amenities available such as bus shelters, headways, passenger loads, environmental considerations, public involvement, and multilingual communication. It is critical that these activities be conducted or provided in the context of Title VI. In carrying out the provisions of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Title VI Regulations at 49 CFR Part 21, additional documents referenced that incorporate Title VI principles are listed below:

- a. *DOT Order 5610.2, the Department of Transportation's Order on Environmental Justice, establishes the procedures used by the Department to comply with Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-moderate income Populations," dated February 11, 1994.*
- b. *The Department of Transportation's Policy Guidance Concerning Recipients' Responsibilities to Limited English Proficient Persons ("DOTLEP Guidance"), 70 FR 74087, (December 14, 2005). This guidance is based on the prohibition against national origin discrimination in Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as it affects limited English proficient persons.*
- c. *Section 12 of the FTA Master Agreement, which provides, in pertinent part, that the recipient agrees to comply, and assures the compliance of each third-party contractor at any tier and each subrecipient at any tier of the project, with the provisions of 49 U.S.C. Section 5332, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, disability, gender, or age, and prohibits discrimination in employment or business opportunity. Furthermore, the recipient agrees to comply, and assures the compliance of each third-party contractor at any tier and each subrecipient at any tier of the project, with all provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin of Title*



VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. Sections 2000d et seq., and with 49 CFR part 21, “Nondiscrimination in Federally-Assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation—Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.” Unless FTA states otherwise in writing, all recipients shall comply with all applicable Federal directives, current or future, not listed herein.

- d. *FTA C4702.1B Title VI Requirement and Guidelines for Federal Transit Administration (FTA), October 1, 2012, financial assistance with guidance and instructions necessary to carry out U.S. Department of Transportation Title VI regulations (49 CFR part 21) and to integrate in their programs and activities expressed in the Department’s Policy Guidance Concerning Recipients’ Responsibilities to Limited English Proficient (“LEP”) Persons (70 FR 74087, December 14, 2005). This circular supersedes FTA Circular 4702.1A dated May 17, 2007.*
- e. *Standard U.S. DOT Title VI Assurances are incorporated into this Title VI plan as Attachment E.*

BCDCOG/MPO POLICY STATEMENT

The BCDCOG, as the MPO and regional council for the tri-county region, serves as the primary forum where the state department of transportation, transit providers, local agencies, and the public collaborate to develop local plans and programs that address the region’s transportation needs. To meet the requirements of Title VI, the BCDCOG strives to do the following:

- » Enhance its analytical capabilities to ensure that Long-Range Transportation Plans and the Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP) are developed in compliance with Title VI.
- » Identify transportation patterns between residences and medical, employment, and basic services of low-moderate income, minority, and other disadvantaged populations so that their needs may be identified and addressed, and the benefits and burdens of transportation are fairly distributed.
- » Evaluate and, where necessary, improve the public involvement process to eliminate barriers to the engagement of minority, disabled, elderly, low-moderate income and LEP populations in regional decision-making.
- » Provide transit service to all citizens regardless of their race, color, creed, national origin, gender, age, or disability.
- » Not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, gender, disability, or national origin, and take action to ensure that applicants and employees are not discriminated against during employment.
- » Make special efforts to provide transportation for persons with disabilities, and ensure compliance with 49 CFR 27, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability.
- » Ensure that the level and quality of transportation facilities and services are developed and provided without regard to the race, color, creed, or national origin of those who will benefit or be burdened.
- » Identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects of programs and activities on minority and low-moderate income populations.
- » Promote the full and fair participation of all affected populations in transportation decision making and prevent the denial, reduction, or delay in benefits related to programs and activities that benefit minority, low-moderate income, or other disadvantaged populations
- » Ensure meaningful access to programs/activities for those with limited English proficiency.

A signed copy of the BCDCOGs official Title VI Policy Statement is provided herein as Appendix A.



REQUIREMENT TO MAINTAIN A TITLE VI PROGRAM

This document ensures compliance with 49 CFR Section 21. This program will be updated and amended as needed or required, at a minimum every three (3) years or whenever significant changes have occurred in the recipient's organization.

The BCDCOG will record, retain, and submit information as necessary or required to document compliance with Standard DOT Assurances per USDOT Order No. 1050.2A attached hereto in the appendices of this document. Title VI certification and assurances shall likewise be required of subrecipients on an annual basis. A report summarizing compliance by the BCDCOG and any subrecipients shall be submitted to the responsible FHWA/FTA/SCDOT office every three years. Compliance with requirements or elements in Chapters III, IV, and VI and appendices of the FTA Circular 4702.1B are to be included in these reports.

TRANSIT PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

The BCDCOG uses a project selection process or a formula allocation of funds, depending on the FTA program, which ensures and monitors that financial assistance is passed-through to subrecipients in a non-discriminatory manner. The BCDCOGs competitive process for selecting transit providers as subrecipients for federal funding was developed with guidance from a regional work group that developed the BCD Regional Human Service Transportation Coordination Plan in accord with the adopted Program Management Plan (PMP). Subsequent to work group recommendations, the BCDCOG Board of Directors adopted the process for use in sub-allocating FTA funds. The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) uses this same competitive selection process to allocate funds for the rural portion of these programs.

Selection Criteria

In accord with the FTA approved Program Management Plan of the BCDCOG, the BCDCOG applies the following criteria in selecting transportation providers to participate in FTA programs as subrecipients:

- » Must meet all criteria outlined in the FTA Master Agreement for FTA Sections 5307, 5310 and other FTA programs.
- » Must meet all criteria presented in the FTA Certifications and Assurances, including Title VI and DBE certifications.
- » Must propose a project that meets the objectives of the program for which funding is sought, including equitable distribution of service to minority and low-moderate income populations.
- » Must propose a project that conforms to the objectives developed in the BCD Regional Human Service Transportation Coordination Plan.
- » Must meet the selection criteria outlined in the project selection process, such as financial and organizational capacity to execute the project.
- » Must complete Form 424-Application for Federal Assistance (FTA Section 5310 program).
- » All types of agencies are eligible to apply for the programs; including private operators of public transportation services; however, they cannot be a direct subrecipient.

Documentation of Applicants

In an effort to document and monitor performance of the BCDCOGs' sub-allocation program, a record of requests for all FTA funding will be maintained. The record will identify those applicants that proposed to use grant program funds to aid predominantly minority and/or low-moderate income or senior and/or disabled populations. The record will also indicate whether those applications were accepted or rejected for funding. In accordance with the appropriate guidelines, the BCDCOG will submit its annual Title VI certification and assurances in FTA's web-based reporting system.



The BCDCOG will assist, to the extent of its abilities and without incurring legal liability, to any applicant interested in applying as a subrecipient for Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities, Rural and Small Urban Area Formula Funding and other FTA funding. BCDCOG staff will be available to meet with, visit, and/or otherwise discuss the parameters of the programs. This assistance includes information regarding the process, requirements, and oversight procedures for any potential applicants. Mapping and demographic data will be made available that describes the areas of the region that are predominantly minority and low-moderate income populations. Minority and low-moderate income population areas are defined as Census tracts that contain 50% or greater of these individuals. Maps of the region indicating these areas are provided in Appendix B. Applicants that provide service to employment centers that potentially employ minority or low-moderate income individuals will be considered as serving these populations.

Monitoring Subrecipients

The BCDCOG will document its process for ensuring that all subrecipients are complying with the general reporting requirements of FTA Circular 4702.1B. Subrecipients will be required to sign an affirmation of compliance with the Title VI requirement in any application package for FTA funding. Upon award of funding, subrecipients will be required to sign and operate within the FTA certifications and assurances. Performance monitoring will occur via oversight reviews and established reporting requirements in accord with schedules established by the BCDCOG within subrecipient agreements. Summaries of such monitoring will be addressed in BCDCOG/CHATS reports to SCDOT and FTA.

At the request of FTA, in response to a complaint of discrimination or as otherwise deemed necessary by the SCDOT, the BCDCOG shall request that subrecipients who provide transportation services verify that their level and quality of service is provided on an equitable basis. Subrecipients will be asked to develop system-wide service standards and verify that services provided to predominantly minority and low-moderate income communities meet these standards.

Assistance Provided to Subrecipients

The following sample notice to the public informing beneficiaries of their rights under Title VI and procedures on how to file a Title VI complaint will be provided to all subrecipients:

Public Information Concerning Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended

“The transportation provider is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of its transit services on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you believe you have been subjected to discrimination under Title VI, you may file a written complaint with the transportation provider, _____(mailing address), or call the transit information center at _____(phone number, Toll Free phone number, TTY number), or by e-mail on this website under “Contact Us.” A complainant may file a complaint directly with the Federal Transit Administration or Federal Highways Administration by filing a complaint with the U.S. DOT Office of Civil Rights, Attention: Title VI Program Coordinator, East Building, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20590.”

All subrecipients will be required to place notices of Title VI rights in a prominent location where members of the public access the subrecipients' services, e.g., customer service desks, foyers, and/or office bulletin boards, on their website, and in transit vehicles, as applicable.



GENERAL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

BCDCOG and CHATS produce three major planning documents: the Unified Planning Work Programs (UPWP, RPWP), Transportation Improvement Programs (MTIP, RTIP), and the Long-Range Transportation Plans (LRTP, RL RTP) and conduct a number of transportation planning initiatives, including the preparation of special areas and/or corridor plans. Protections provided under Title VI are incorporated into each planning or work program document to ensure programs, policies, services, or activities do not result in discrimination towards any person or group of persons on the basis of race, color, or national origin. Transportation Improvement Projects selected for execution consider the needs as well as the impacts on those traditionally underserved by the transportation systems, such as low income and minority populations who may face challenges accessing employment, medical and other services. Service equity analyses are conducted in conjunction with any transportation project, particularly transit service adjustments, to determine who is benefitting and who is burdened by the proposed change. The BCDCOG/CHATS do not construct new transportation facilities and/or operate a transit system whereby a Title VI Equity Analysis has been required. There have been no Equity Analyses conducted in the past three years.

Defining Community Needs

The BCDCOG and CHATS MPO strive to consider the needs of low-moderate income communities and minority communities in all its plans, studies, projects, documents, and processes. The BCDCOG/CHATS MPO's planning processes reach out to community organizations such as community development corporations (CDCs), neighborhood associations, advocacy organizations, disabled community representatives, and the regional transit agencies to form a more comprehensive understanding of the needs of these communities.

The BCDCOG/CHATS MPO's planning processes seek to utilize demographic information to examine the distribution of transportation improvements and burdens associated with projects across all communities within its planning area. The BCDCOG/CHATS MPO examine the location of projects in its major transportation plans and programs in relation to the geographic location of underserved communities to improve transportation accessibility and mobility for these communities. Among the methods used to identify potential imbalances in transportation improvements and studies are:

The creation of maps using GIS to analyze the most current U.S. Census data and identify low-moderate income and minority populations within the project's study area (examples in Appendix B);

The incorporation of income information from the U.S. Census into the travel demand forecasting model to assess the benefits to and burdens of existing and planned transportation system investments on low-moderate income populations and minority populations;

The use of mapping and data analysis to strengthen outreach efforts in the communities most directly impacted by transportation projects.

Identifying concentrations of low-moderate income communities and minority communities is an important first step towards assessing whether transportation system investments disproportionately burden or fail to meet the needs of any segment of the population. Socio-economic data is utilized in the regional travel demand model to analyze demand for transit service.

Using Census data, the BCDCOG/CHATS MPO calculates the percentages of minority, limited English proficient, seniors, low-moderate income persons and persons with a disability for geographic areas/boundaries defined by the Census within the planning area. The MPO uses an internally established threshold to determine whether a particular geography contains a significant number of people of color, persons with Limited English Proficiency, persons aged 65 and older, low-moderate income individuals, or persons with disabilities. Staff uses the regional average percentages of minority populations, LEP, seniors, low-moderate income persons, and persons with a disability to determine a disparate impact. These percentages may be subject to change based on updated Census data.



Disparate Impact Analysis

According to the FTA's Circular 4702.1B: "Disparate impact refers to a facially neutral policy or practice that disproportionately affects members of a group identified by race, color, or national origin, where the recipient's policy or practice lacks a substantial legitimate justification and where there exists one or more alternatives that would serve the same legitimate objectives but with less disproportionate effect on the basis of race, color, or national origin."

Avoiding such unintended discrimination is a priority of the BCDCOG and CHATS MPO when evaluating and prioritizing transportation projects. In the development of the MTIP, the CHATS MPO conducts an analysis of the benefits and burdens associated with each potential MTIP project and assesses potential impacts that these projects are anticipated to have on the diverse communities within the MPO's service area. The MPO examines the location of projects in its major transportation plans and programs in relation to the geographic location of underserved communities to improve transportation accessibility and mobility for Title VI protected communities. As listed below, methods used to identify potential inequities in transportation improvements and studies include:

- » Creating maps using GIS to analyze the most current U.S. Census data and identify low-moderate income and minority populations within the project's study area;
- » Incorporating age, and income information from the U.S. Census into the travel-demand forecasting model to assess the impacts of existing and planned transportation system investments on low-moderate income populations and minority populations;
- » Using mapping and data analysis to strengthen outreach efforts in the communities most directly impacted by transportation projects.

While the BCDCOG/CHATS MPO work closely with the urban transit providers (CARTA and TCL) when conducting and developing certain transit-related studies or plans, the responsibility of initiating service expansion or modifications ultimately lies with the transit agencies and the municipalities contributing funds for transit services. Throughout the NEPA process, various design alternatives, including a "No-Build Alternative," are evaluated. In instances in which a project is anticipated to have a negative impact(s) on a community or area, the NEPA process provides the community with the projected impacts of the project and/or legal documentation verifying that no other alternatives offer fewer adverse impacts while still addressing the project's needs.

REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Demographic information available from the US Census, including average household income, concentrations of special groups (minority and LEP), elderly persons, and low-moderate income populations will be employed to evaluate the level of transit and non-transit transportation services provided to these groups. Information gathered will provide objective data as to the service being delivered. Data, to include but not limited to that noted below, will be collected and analyzed annually, as available, to update the following:

	BERKELEY COUNTY	CHARLESTON COUNTY	DORCHESTER COUNTY
Total Population (2021 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates)	224,806	404,906	160,180
Low to Moderate Income (LMI) (2020 US Census)	37.4%	40.4%	33.1%
Regional Census Data - Minority (2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates)	34.9%	32.6%	34.6%
Regional Census Data - Ethnicity: (Populations of Hispanic or Latino origin (any race): 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates)	7.1%	5.3%	5.9%



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In accordance with federal guidelines, BCDCOG/CHATS MPO has developed and adopted a Public Participation Plan (PPP) (www.bcdco.com/transportation) that seeks to involve all stakeholders in the planning process while recognizing that minorities, low income and other populations need additional outreach. The approved PPP documents actions to be carried out by BCDCOG/CHATS MPO to ensure that opportunities exist for the public to be involved in transportation planning activities, pursuant to Title 23 CFR 450.316 of Statewide Planning; Metropolitan Planning and 40 CFR 93.100 Criteria and Procedures for Determining Conformity to State or Federal Implementation Plans of Transportation Plans, Programs, and Projects and Section VI-A 2CCR604-2 Statewide Transportation Planning rules. The public participation process is designed to ensure opportunities for all segments of the public to express views on transportation issues and to become active participants in the decision-making process.

By providing the opportunity for everyone to participate in the transportation planning process, the BCDCOG/CHATS MPO ensure that the needs of all people can be met and that their desires for how the whole community should function and develop will be considered. To accomplish this, BCDCOG/CHATS MPO staff use Census data to determine where concentrations of the underserved or underrepresented reside. Using this data, staff does the following:

- » Holds public meetings in locations that are convenient to geographic concentrations of low-moderate income and minority populations in terms of walk-ability and available transit options, which tend to be used more by low-moderate income individuals than other forms of transportation;
- » Makes all draft documents available for public review via a variety of media as described below;
- » Includes residents or organizations, that express an interest by attending public meetings or notifying the BCDCOG by other means, in the direct mailing list to receive information about future events and plan development;
- » Continues to research creative methods of reaching these populations with information, documents, and invitations other than the techniques listed within this document;
- » Seeks out community leaders or representatives of these groups to participate in planning processes as appropriate; and
- » Meets and makes presentations to organizations that represent these segments of the population as requested.

Public Meeting Principles

Public meetings are held for a variety of transportation planning and programming purposes and different levels of public input are expected. The purpose of these meetings is threefold: to confirm the purpose and intent of a plan or project; to present population and transportation trends and forecasts for the region; and to gather public input on proposed plans. Actions of meetings may result in the adoption or approval/disapproval of the Unified Planning Work Programs (UPWP/RPWP), Transportation Improvement Programs (MTIP, RTIP), Long Range Transportation Plans (LRTP, RL RTP), and/or suballocation of FTA programs. Other actions that may occur as a result of public input include adoption of resolutions for amendments, adjustments, endorsements, special plans, and reports

- » **Early Involvement:** Early involvement with local community leaders will help to determine suitable meeting forums and information formats to foster valuable input, especially when soliciting input from disadvantaged populations.
- » **Understandable and Interesting Language/No Jargon:** The BCDCOG/MPO will make reasonable efforts to address identified language barriers in order to provide meaningful access to information on its plans and programs. Meeting notices and materials will use appropriate, understandable language — acronyms and other technical jargon will be avoided to the extent that is possible to the subject matter. Efforts will be made to tailor advertising, project campaigns and slogans to generate the most interest possible.



- » Accessibility: BCDCOG/CHATS MPO meetings and public review meetings shall be held at locations and times that are convenient and accessible. When there are a series of public meetings being held throughout the region on a certain plan or program, at least one-quarter of these meetings shall be held at a time and location that is accessible by public transportation.

Outreach Tools and Techniques

Extensive outreach efforts throughout all areas of the region are conducted in order to assemble a broad cross-section of input into the decision-making process, including traditionally underserved areas. BCDCOG/CHATS MPO outreach efforts in these areas will continue to provide these residents with an opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns. The type of public outreach efforts employed for a particular project will be determined based on the project's overall regional and local impact. Highly localized planning initiatives or projects may require more specialized outreach within the project's area of influence, rather than the broad outreach efforts required by others. The BCDCOG/CHATS will continue to conduct, sponsor, and participate in special and community events that reinforce the mission and strategic plan of the organization, educate the public, and provide opportunities for public input.

Minimum Public Notification Procedures

Notices of upcoming meetings shall be posted on the BCDCOG website and social media outlets. Documents shall be made available in draft form for public review and comment (in the offices of the BCDCOG) and on the BCDCOG website (www.bcdco.com) at least twenty-one (21) days prior to a Board of Directors and/or MPO Policy Committee Meeting where action is scheduled. Notices will also be sent to other media outlets that focus on minority population in the community. These outlets include, but are not limited to, the following:

- » » WAZS 98.9 El Sol
- » » Jabr Communications
- » » WJEA Channel 12
- » » Hola News!

Outreach Tools

The BCDCOG/CHATS MPO approach in publicizing public meetings may also include one or more of the following outreach methods:

- » Public Notices: Public notices and/or advertisements will be placed in local or subregional newspapers, in addition to major regional newspapers deemed appropriate for the project. Public service announcements and meeting advertisements will be sent to popular minority and ethnic radio stations. Whenever possible and appropriate, public service announcements and meeting advertisements will be sent to the public access cable television station, in addition to regional network stations. A distribution list of regional newspapers maintained by the BCDCOG staff will be available on request. Notice of all public meetings or documents for review will be provided on the BCDCOG website.
- » Paid Advertising: Various projects may require additional paid advertising in the form of newspaper display, radio, or television ads. These will be more detailed than a standard Public Notice.
- » Newsletters: BCDCOG produces and distributes a periodic e-newsletter that includes articles and other information of interest on BCDCOG plans, programs, and studies, including upcoming meeting dates, times, and locations.
- » Flyers/Posters: When appropriate, participation from target populations will be sought by posting flyers/posters and meeting notices in locations such as government centers, neighborhood shops, religious institutions, social service agencies, employment centers, bus stops/transit hubs, senior centers, public health clinics, public libraries, community centers and popular meeting places. Postcards and flyers may also be distributed directly to residents.
- » Traditional Letters: When appropriate, traditional letters about plans, studies, projects, or any other information deemed important for public input will be mailed out to interested parties, stakeholders, and members of the advisory committees.



- » Press Releases: Press releases will be distributed to ensure interested parties and the press is up-to-date on news and information concerning BCDCOG/CHATS activities.
- » The BCDCOG/CHATS website, (<https://bcdcog.com/transportation-planning/>) will be employed as a tool for disseminating information on meetings, project updates and background. A calendar of scheduled committee meetings is included on the BCDCOG website. The website is also a tool to describe and visually represent transportation plans, programs, meetings, and other appropriate information. Staff shall post draft documents on the website for public review and comment. The website shall contain, but not be limited to:
 - Work products and publications — TIP, UPWP, LRTP, etc.
 - Links to related agencies and planning partners — SCDOT, FHWA, CARTA, TCL, etc.
 - Current Operating Procedures — including the adopted Public Participation Plan and Program Management Plan
 - A listing of current member jurisdictions
 - Meeting calendars with agendas as soon as available
 - Contact information — mailing address, phone, fax and e-mail
 - Profiles of staff with current responsibilities
- » Mailing databases: The assembly and maintenance of a database comprised of names and addresses of social and civic groups, neighborhood and community associations and interested individuals will assist in the public outreach for implementation of the BCDCOG/MPO Public Participation Plan and other plans. The electronic list of names will serve as a mailing list for notification of meetings. Particular efforts will be made to include community leaders representing low-moderate income, minority, disabled and non-English-speaking populations. To supplement the database, members of the public will be asked if they would like to be included on a mailing list as a part of comment forms dispensed and collected at public meetings and requested to provide mailing and e-mail addresses. E-mail messages and/or post cards will be sent to individuals and groups notifying them of meetings, in addition to the notices that are distributed to the local media.

Information Gathering Techniques

Outreach Tools listed above will serve to initiate a two-way dialogue and therefore also act as Information Gathering Tools. Other techniques that may be employed are, but are not limited to:

Internet	As internet usage and availability continues to increase so will the BCDCOG's utilization of this technology to gather input. Online surveys are obvious tools to gather public sentiment along with website "hit" counts to analyze which plans or projects are garnering interest.
Surveys	Common input gathering tools include statistically valid telephone surveys, user surveys, traditional postage -paid comment cards, and online surveys.
Comment Card	Comment cards will be available at every public meeting. All participants will be encouraged to fill out a comment card. In addition to gaining feedback, the BCDCOG will use participation to expand its interested party's database, with participant agreement.
Advisory Committees	Advisory/Steering Committees will be diversified to assist with reaching disadvantaged population groups and to advise staff/review plans in regards to Environmental Justice.
Door-to-Door Campaigns	Highly localized projects benefiting from door-to-door (business and/or residential) campaigns will be set up for distribution of information, project updates, and gather input and comments.
Social Events	To reach minority and low-moderate income populations, the BCDCOG has and will continue to participate in regional social activities such as, but not limited to, the regional Black Expo held in the City of North Charleston, the Charleston Green Fair, the North Charleston Earth Day Festival, the Latin-American Festival and other opportunities as they arise.



Coordination with Partners

The BCDCOG/CHATS MPO will also continue to partner with the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC), the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), the University of South Carolina School of Public Health and others on ways to develop programs and policies that address the needs of the disadvantaged groups. The BCDCOG administers the SC Works Employment Centers as part of its agency which adds an additional opportunity to access the needs of those disadvantaged populations needing transportation services for employment. The BCDCOG/CHATS MPO will continue to maintain coordination with, and to strive to locate more, partners by focusing on the following methods of outreach:

- » Email notification, to organizations such as rural migrant mission
- » Use of Facebook, Twitter and other social media
- » Use of ads on buses with a service change
- » Coordination with human service transit providers
- » Engagement of community leaders and churches in affected geographic area as information resources
- » Mobility management one-on-one phone line
- » 211 (United Way) transportation information & coordinate for updates
- » Low-moderate income bus pass program, operated by SC Works
- » Use of Environmental Justice as a scoring criterion in LRTP/TIP project selection
- » Continued maintenance of GIS data on minority & low-moderate income populations

COMPLAINT/RESPONSE PROCEDURE

Any person who believes that he or she or any specific class of persons has been subjected to discrimination or retaliation prohibited by Civil Rights authorities, based upon race, color or national origin may file a written complaint to the BCDCOG's Title VI Program Coordinator. All Title VI complaints must be filed no later than 180 days after the alleged discrimination.

Any written or oral complaint alleging discrimination on the grounds covered by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, must meet the following requirements:

- » Complaints must be in writing and signed by the complainant(s).
- » Complaints must include the date of the alleged act(s) of discrimination (date when the complainant(s) became aware of the alleged discrimination; or date on which the conduct was discontinued or the latest instance of the conduct).
- » Complaint must present a detailed description of the issues, including names, job titles, and addresses of those individuals perceived as parties in the action complained against.

BCDCOG staff will provide appropriate assistance to complainants, including those persons with disabilities, or who are limited in their ability to communicate in English in filling out the complaint form.

The following procedure is employed by the BCDCOG in tracking and investigating Title VI complaints relating to any program and/or activity administered by the BCDCOG or its sub-recipients, consultants, and/or contractors. This procedure will also be provided to subrecipients as a sample process to employ. Intimidation or retaliation of any kind is prohibited by law.



1. The Deputy Director of Finance and Administration, Ms. Robin Mitchum, has been designated the Title VI Liaison. In that capacity, the Deputy Director of Finance and Administration is responsible for managing the complaint process from initial contact to resolution of the issue. Implementation of the Title VI Program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by BCDCOG in its financial assistance agreements with USDOT.
2. Upon receipt of the complaint, the Title VI Program Coordinator will determine its jurisdiction and need for additional information. In instances where additional information is needed for assessment or investigation of the complaint, the complainant will be contacted in writing within 5 working days.
3. Any written or oral complaint alleging discrimination on the ground covered by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, will be recorded upon receipt on a log sheet maintained by the BCDCOG (Reference Appendix C). The log will include the following:
 - » Name of complainant(s)
 - » Date complaint was received
 - » Nature of complaint
 - » Action taken by agency
 - » Initial/signature of the agency representative handling the complaint
4. Once a complaint is recorded on the log sheet, it will be forwarded within fifteen (15) business days with a cover letter to the SCDOT, Title VI Coordinator, P.O. Box 191, Columbia, SC 29201-0191. A copy of the cover letter will be provided concurrently to the complainant to advise them that the complaint was forwarded to SCDOT for investigation.
5. SCDOT will process the complaint in accordance with its approved Title VI Complaint Processing Procedures. In addition to the complaint process stated above, a complainant may file a Title VI complaint with the U.S. Department of Transportation as required by the federal agency.
6. The BCDCOG Title VI Coordinator will continue to monitor the dispensation of any complaint filed with the BCDCOG by the SCDOT Title VI Coordinator, including investigation of allegations, final investigative reports, and conclusions.
7. The BCDCOG Title VI Coordinator will attend Title VI training when training is available to ensure these procedures continue to align with those of SCDOT and/or FTA and/or FHWA.

The Deputy Director of Finance and Administration is the BCDCOG Title VI Coordinator. Current contact information and duties are as follows:

Ms. Robin Mitchum
Deputy Director of Finance & Administration
Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments
5790 Casper Padgett Way
North Charleston, SC 29406
Phone: 843.529.0400 Fax: 843.529.0305
E-mail: robinm@bcdcog.com (www.bcdcog.com)



General Statement of Job

Under the supervision of the Executive Director, the Deputy Director of Finance and Administration oversees financial management of the agency. The position provides legal and regulatory compliance for all accounting and finance reporting functions. The Deputy Director of Finance and Administration also oversees human resource administration, procurement activities, and facilities maintenance.

Essential Functions

Essential Functions: These are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work performed. The omission of specific duties does not exclude them from the position.

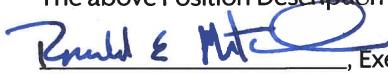
- » Establishes and maintains the fiscal accounting programs and activities of the agency by enforcing policies and procedures. Manage agency cash flow.
- » Regulates asset management by establishing and implementing internal controls.
- » Manages various budgets and provides status of financial condition of the agency to Executive Director and Board Members. Creates process to manage outside grants and other funding.
- » Coordinates and leads the annual audit process, establishes and maintains relationship with auditors.
- » Review all legal and tax documents from banks, attorneys, federal and state government. Oversee all contracts and legal agreements. Manage banking relationships, reconciliations and reporting.
- » Provides effective leadership to staff and establishes internal work processes for the Finance Department and monitors progress.
- » Provides leadership on human resource initiatives such as employee relations, compliance, training, recruitment, payroll and benefits. Ensures human resource policies, programs and processes comply with applicable laws and regulations.
- » Lead procurement department to ensure that processes and systems are in place for effective purchasing. Coordinates with other departments to implement strategies to ensure consistent communication and delivery of quality goods. Monitor compliance of procurement processes and policies.
- » Responsible for the development, management and delivery of the facility maintenance department. Provides an efficient work order system for service and ensures work order is completed in a timely fashion. Oversees maintenance vendors. Ensures compliance with OSHA and State standards.
- » Responsible for transit provider contract.
- » Directly involved with the Lake Marion board.
- » Monitor compliance with local, state and federal requirements.
- » Serves as the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Liaison Officer for the agency entails approximately 10% of job responsibilities.
- » Serves as Title VI Coordinator responsible for the following:
 - Creating and distributing Title VI Public Notices including list of locations where notices are posted
 - Establish Title VI complaint process, procedures, forms and a list of transit related investigations, complaints and lawsuits.
 - Establish monitoring system for subrecipients for compliance with Title VI and schedule of subrecipient Title VI Program submissions
 - Coordinates with internal departments for the collection and storage of all other procedures and documents related to Title VI compliance.
 - Responsible for all other tasks associated with compliance under Federal Transit Administration Circular FTA C 4702.1B requirements of MPO's.



Additional Duties:

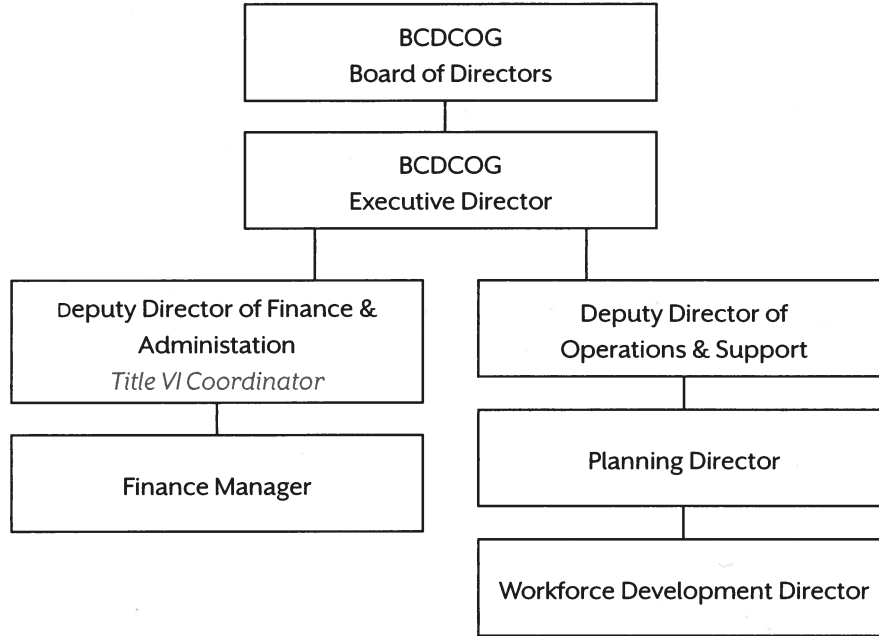
Performs other duties as required by the Executive Director.

The above Position Description is an accurate statement of the Deputy Director of Finance and Administration's duties

 Executive Director

Ronald E. Mitchum

BCDCOG Organizational Chart



LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY PLAN (LEP)

As defined in Executive Order 13166, Limited English Proficiency (LEP) persons are those who do not speak English as their primary language and have limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English. Executive Order 13166, titled Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency, dictates that differing treatment based upon a person's inability to speak, read, write, or understand English is a type of national origin discrimination. It directs each agency to publish guidance for its respective recipients clarifying their obligation to ensure that such discrimination does not take place. This order applies to all state and local agencies which receive federal funds.

LEP Plan/Policy Summary

The BCDCOG/CHATS MPO has developed and adopted a Limited English Proficiency Plan to help identify reasonable steps for providing language assistance to persons with limited English proficiency (LEP) who wish to access services provided. The LEP Plan outlines policies for how to identify a person who may need language assistance, the ways in which assistance may be provided, staff training that may be required, and how to notify LEP persons that assistance is available. In order to prepare the LEP policies, the BCDCOG used the four-factor LEP analysis which considers the following factors:

- » The number or proportion of LEP persons in the service area who may be served by BCDCOG plans and programs.



- » The frequency with which LEP persons come in contact with BCDCOG services.
- » The nature and importance of services provided by the BCDCOG to the LEP population.
- » The interpretation services available to the BCDCOG and overall cost to provide LEP assistance.

Meaningful Access: Four-Factor Analysis

1. The number or proportion of LEP persons in the service area who may be served or are likely to require BCDCOG services according to 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates:

Ability to Speak English at Home for the Population of 5 Years and Over

	BERKELEY COUNTY	CHARLESTON COUNTY	DORCHESTER COUNTY
Total Population (5 Years of Age & Older):	210,609	381,578	150,858
Speak English less than “very well”	6,612	11,772	4,510
Percentage	3.1%	3.1%	3.0%

**Per Appendix F, the majority of persons speaking a language other than English who do not speak English well, speak Spanish.*

2. The frequency with which LEP persons come in contact with BCDCOG services. The BCDCOG staff will review the frequency with which the Executive Board and office staff have, or could have, contact with LEP persons. This includes documenting phone inquiries or office visits with/by LEP persons. To date, the BCDCOG has had no requests for interpreters and no requests for translated program documents. The administrative office staff have had limited contact with LEP persons.
3. The nature and importance of services provided by the BCDCOG to the LEP population. As part of the public outreach to LEP populations, the BCDCOG participates in the regional Black Expo held in the City of North Charleston, the Charleston Green Fair, the North Charleston Earth Day Festival, and other opportunities, such as the Latin-American Festival, as they arise. BCDCOG contracts the services of a Spanish-speaker interpreter to accompany staff at these events.
4. The resources available to the BCDCOG and overall costs to provide LEP assistance. The BCDCOG will review available resources for providing LEP assistance, which of its documents would be most valuable to be translated if the need should arise, and contract with an on-call translation/interpreter service to provide Spanish and other language translation or large print if needed within a reasonable time period.

Language Assistance

A person who does not speak English as their primary language and who has a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English may be a Limited English Proficient (LEP) person and may be entitled to language assistance with respect to BCDCOG services. Language assistance can include interpretation, which means oral or spoken transfer of a message from one language into another language and/or translation, which means the written transfer of a message from one language into another language. Measures by which the BCDCOG staff may assist and document interactions with an LEP person who needs language assistance, include but are not limited to:

- » Posting notice of LEP Policies and the availability of interpretation or translation services free of charge in languages LEP persons would understand.
- » Providing all BCDCOG staff with “I Speak” cards to assist in identifying the language interpretation needed if the occasion arises.



- » Surveying all BCDCOG staff annually on their experience concerning any contacts with LEP persons during the previous year and adjusting methods of communication as needed
- » Publishing advanced public notice of an informational meeting or event sponsored by the BCDCOG/MPO including the ability to offer a translator (LEP) or interpreter (sign language for hearing impaired individuals). Additionally, staff persons greeting participants as they arrive at meetings will informally engage participants in conversation such that it is possible to gauge each attendee's ability to speak and understand English. Although translation may not be able to be provided at the event it will help identify the need for future events.
- » Providing meeting notices, fliers, advertisements, and agendas printed in an alternative language, such as Spanish, when staff knows that they will be presenting a topic that could be of potential importance to an LEP person or will be hosting a meeting or a workshop in a geographic location with a known concentration of LEP persons,
- » Inserting the clause **“Un traductor del idioma español estará disponible”** which means **“A Spanish translator will be available”**, or if not sure of the need, inserting the clause, **“Si usted necesita la ayuda de un traductor del idioma español, por favor comuníquese con la BCDCOG al teléfono (843) 529-2574 o envíe un correo electrónico a publiccomment@bcdco.com, cuando menos 48 horas antes de la junta”** which asks persons who need Spanish language assistance to make arrangements with the BCDCOG within two days of a public meeting notice being published..
- » Including this statement when running a general public meeting notice. **“Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact (insert staff name) at least two working days of the publication notice.”**

Language Assistance Measures:

When requested, the BCDCOG staff will take reasonable steps to provide opportunity for meaningful participation by LEP clients who have difficulty communicating in English or have a disability that prevents them from fully participating in the public process. The following resources will be made available within a reasonable time period to accommodate LEP persons:

- » Volunteer interpreters for the Spanish language and hearing impaired
- » Translated written communications of small BCDCOG documents. The BDCOG website content may now be easily converted to Spanish and 49 other languages through the use of the Babble Fish software on the website.

Translation of Documents

Considering the expense of translating all BCDCOG/MPO documents, the likelihood of frequent changes in documents and other relevant factors, at this time it is not necessary to have all documents translated. The following BCDCOG documents are currently available in Spanish: bicycle safety poster, pedestrian crosswalk safety flyer, pedestrian sidewalk safety flyer, bicycle safety flyer, Transportation Disadvantaged Program brochure and application, and the Title VI complaint form.

Training

The following training will be provided to all BCDCOG staff:

- » Information on the Title VI Policy and LEP responsibilities.
- » Description of language assistance services offered to the public.
- » Documentation of language assistance requests.
- » How to handle a potential Title VI/LEP complaint.

Subrecipients, Subcontractors and LEP Policies

All subrecipients, contractors or subcontractors performing work for the BCDCOG will be informed of their responsibility to follow the Title VI/LEP guidelines special requests.



Awareness of LEP has grown in recent years and BCDCOG is committed to assisting all persons achieve mobility. All fare information is posted on each bus and at the Transit Center in Spanish, for recipients of operating assistance. Schedule information incorporates international symbols to improve the readability of transit information. Route signs have been installed throughout the system to aid navigation. BCDCOG will work with subrecipients to provide information on their services in the requested format.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Environmental justice is a program to ensure that one group is not unjustly subjected to burdens by negative impacts of a transportation project or general impact of an organizational decision. BCDCOG will include environmental justice considerations in capital investment projects and transit service delivery

1. **Monitoring of Transit Service:** In order to comply with 49 CFR Section 21.5(2), 49 CFR Section 21.5(b) (7) and Appendix C to 49 CFR part 21, monitoring of transit service provided throughout the service area will occur on an ongoing basis to compare the level and quality of service provided to predominantly minority areas with service provided in other areas to ensure that the end result of policies and decision-making is equitable. If the monitoring determines that prior decisions have resulted in disparate impacts, corrective action to remedy the disparities will be recommended to the transit service provider.
2. **CHATS Metropolitan Planning Organization Documents:** CHATS produces three major planning documents: the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The BCDCOG similarly produces comparable documents for the region's non-urbanized areas (RPWP, RTIP, RL RTP). Protections provided under Title VI are incorporated into each of these documents. The projects selected for execution consider the needs as well as the impacts on those traditionally underserved by the transportation systems, such as low income and minority populations who may face challenges accessing employment, medical and other services. The MTIP and LRTP project selection criteria include environmental justice as a criterion. All of these efforts and procedures are detailed in the CHATS PPP, which is followed by the BCDCOG. The BCDCOG region's MTIP is provided to SCDOT to be included in the statewide transportation Improvement program (STIP).
3. **Programming of Capital Investment Projects:** Prior to scoring of a project for inclusion in the LRTP, MTIP, Rural LRTP, and Rural TIP, all proposed capital investment transportation projects involving new construction, right of way acquisition and other activities will be evaluated for impact on minority, low-moderate income, and LEP populations.
4. **Public Outreach and Involvement Activities:** In order to integrate into community outreach activities, the viewpoints of minority, low-moderate income, and LEP populations will be sought out and considered in the course of conducting public outreach and involvement activities related to a transportation and/or transit planning activity in accord with the BCDCOG Public Participation Plan (PPP) updated in 2018. Multiple methods of communication are offered to our customers and citizens. Staff is accessible by telephone, e-mail, and in person. The agency contact information is published on the website, transit vehicle interior, route schedules, and all publications. Also, public participation is encouraged through the Metropolitan Planning Organization and organization-wide BCDCOG events.

DISTRIBUTION, MONITORING AND UPDATING THE TITLE VI AND LEP POLICIES

The BCDCOG will post the Title VI Civil Rights and LEP Policy Updates on its website at www.bcdcog.com. Any persons, including social service, non-profit, and law enforcement agencies and other community partners with internet access will be able to access the plan. For those without personal internet service, all Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester County libraries offer free internet access. Copies of the Title VI Civil Rights Update will be provided to any person or agency requesting a copy. All LEP persons may obtain copies/translations of the plan upon request. Any questions or comments regarding this plan should be directed to the BCDCOG Title VI Coordinator:

Robin W. Mitchum, Deputy Director, BCDCOG

5790 Casper Padgett Way

North Charleston, SC 9406 Phone: 843.529.0400

Fax: 843.529.0305

E-mail: robinm@bcdcog.com



The Title VI Plan is designed to be a working document and is one that can be easily updated. At a minimum, the BCDCOG will follow the Title VI Program update schedule for MPOs. The next required Title VI Program update must be forwarded to the FTA by April 1, 2023. The Title VI Plan will be updated if needed or if required by FHWA or FTA before April 2023.

PUBLIC INFORMATION CONCERNING TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964, AS AMENDED

The Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG) is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of its services on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information or to file a written complaint if you believe you have been subjected to discrimination under Title VI, you may contact the BCDCOG by mail 5790 Casper Padgett Way, North Charleston, SC 29406, or by phone at (843) 529-0400, TTY 1-800-735-8583, or by e-mail to robinm@bcdco.com, or directly to the Office of Civil Rights, Federal Transit Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, D.C. 20590. For more information on the procedure to file a complaint, please refer to the Title VI Program.

Para obtener más información sobre la Política del Título VI de BCDCOG y los procedimientos para presentar una queja, comuníquese con el Designado del Título VI al (843) 5292574; correo electrónico a publiccomment@bcdco.com; o escriba al Coordinador del Título VI en 5790 Casper Padgett way, North Charleston, SC 29406

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

In order to integrate into community outreach activities, viewpoints of minority, low-moderate income, and LEP populations are sought out and considered in the course of conducting public outreach and involvement activities. An agency's public participation strategy shall offer early and continuous opportunities for the public to be involved in the identification of social, economic, and environmental impacts of proposed transportation decisions. This is accomplished by conducting meetings in an open and welcoming manner. Meetings are held in transit accessible locations, with notices circulated in the newspaper of general circulation. Meetings are also published in minority papers per the CHATS Public Participation Plan (PPP). Examples of recent outreach activities include small group meetings with medical service providers, the Veterans' Administration Hospital Staff, hosting a booth at the Black Business Exposition, North Charleston Business Expo, and Latin-American Festival, outreach at individual senior centers, and attendance of events hosted by the community in addition to public meeting in the community.

Multiple methods of communication are offered to our customers and citizens. Staff is accessible by telephone, e-mail, and in person. The agency contact information is published on the website, transit vehicle interiors, route schedules, and all publications. Also, public participation is encouraged through the Metropolitan Planning Organization and organization-wide events.

DETERMINATION OF SITE OR LOCATION OF FACILITIES

Title 49 CFR Section 21.9(b)(3) states, "In determining the site or location of facilities, a recipient or applicant may not make selections with the purpose or effect of excluding persons from, denying them the benefits of, or subjecting them to discrimination under any program to which this regulation applies, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin; or with the purpose or effect of defeating or substantially impairing the accomplishment of the objectives of the Act or this part." Title 49 CFR part 21, Appendix C, Section (3)(iv) provides, "The location of projects requiring land acquisition and the displacement of persons from their residences and businesses may not be determined on the basis of race, color, or national origin." For purposes of this requirement, "facilities" does not include bus shelters, as these are transit amenities and are covered in Chapter IV, nor does it include transit stations, power substations, etc., as those are evaluated during project development and the NEPA process. Facilities included in this provision include, but are not limited to, storage facilities, maintenance facilities, operations centers, etc. In order to comply with the regulations:

1. BCDCOG will complete a Title VI equity analysis during the planning stage with regard to where a project is located or sited to ensure the location is selected without regard to race, color, or national origin. Recipients shall engage in outreach to persons potentially impacted by the siting of facilities. The Title VI equity analysis must compare the equity impacts of various siting alternatives, and the analysis must occur before the selection of the preferred site.
2. When evaluating locations of facilities, BCDCOG will give attention to other facilities with similar impacts in the area to



determine if any cumulative adverse impacts might result. Analysis should be done at the Census tract or block group where appropriate to ensure that proper perspective is given to localized impacts.

3. If the BCDCOG determines that the location of the project will result in a disparate impact on the basis of race, color, or national origin, the recipient may only locate the project in that location if there is a substantial legitimate justification for locating the project there, and where there are no alternative locations that would have a less disparate impact on the basis of race, color, or national origin. The recipient must show how both tests are met; it is important to understand that in order to make this showing, the recipient must consider and analyze alternatives to determine whether those alternatives would have less of a disparate impact on the basis of race, color, or national origin, and then implement the least discriminatory alternative.
 - » Statement on Construction Projects undertaken during the Report Period
 - » During the reporting period, there have been no federally-funded construction projects undertaken by the recipient or any of its subrecipients.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, MITIGATION, AND RECOVERY ACTIVITIES

Recipients of federal financial assistance that provide information or services in connection with disasters must also comply with all other federal anti-discrimination provisions. Title VI and its implementing regulations obligate recipients of federal financial assistance to ensure nondiscrimination in federally-assisted emergency preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery programs and activities. All recipients must comply with Title VI, as well as other antidiscrimination laws, at all times including during emergencies. Title VI provides that “[n]o 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.” Additionally, Title VI requires recipients to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to programs or activities, benefits, services, and vital information. Identifying the needs of the transit-dependent community and then addressing those needs in emergency planning can reduce or eliminate racial and ethnic, as well as economic, disparities in emergency response and recovery activities.

While the State and Counties are the responsible agencies for planning, oversight, and execution of the emergency preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery activities, CARTA plays a role in evacuation and return to normalcy. CARTA affirms its commitment to nondiscrimination protections as promulgated in this Plan. Preparedness materials will be provided to the community through the same outlets CARTA uses to inform citizens about transit service. The LEP population will be engaged in the process using the same means discussed in the four-step process. Collecting and analyzing information about the race, color, national origin, languages spoken by LEP populations, and other demographic information of communities served by a federally assisted program, activity, or service is vital to addressing potential barriers that may have an unlawful discriminatory impact in emergency preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

The BCDCOG values diversity and actively seeks representation on boards, regardless of cultural identity, background, or income level. On April 12, 2010, the BCDCOG amended the By Laws to enhance diversity on the board as follows:

“In accordance with the membership provisions set forth in Article II of the Agreement, the terms of membership of elected officials shall be coterminous with the term of elected office...The membership provisions set forth in Article II of the Agreement have been revised to include two additional minority representatives from each of the three county councils (Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester). The new representatives do not have to be elected representatives, they could be citizens but they must be minorities.”

A complete list of the BCDCOG Board of Directors, the CHATS MPO and Study Team memberships by gender and race is attached in Appendix D.

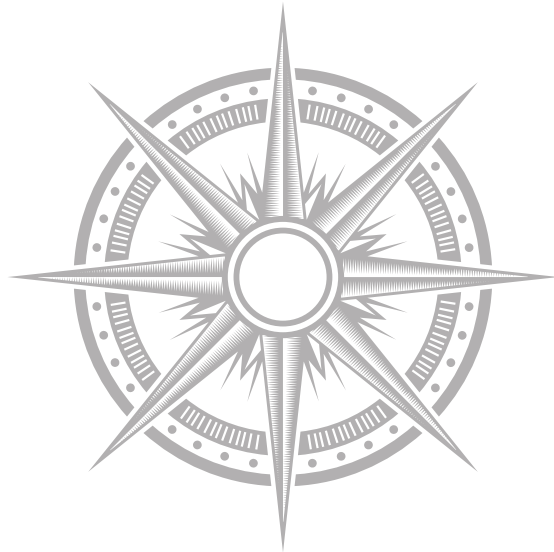
CONCLUSION

The Civil Rights Act was established in the spirit of fair and equitable treatment of all persons. The preceding policies and performance measures seek to objectively indicate that BCDCOG has complied with the intent of the legislation. The data presented in the tables, text, and maps offer evidence that these requirements have been met. Transit service and other transportation facilities are a benefit for all citizens of this community and legislations, such as Title VI ensures that it is allocated equitably.





APPENDICES



APPENDIX A
Title VI Policy Statement



BERKELEY-CHARLESTON-DORCHESTER
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

www.bcdco.com



CHAIR: Caldwell Pinckney • **VICE CHAIR:** John Tecklenburg • **SECRETARY:** Gary Brewer • **TREASURER:** David Dennis • **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** Ronald E. Mitchum

Title VI Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG) to comply with all federal and state authorities requiring nondiscrimination including, but not limited to, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Age Discrimination Act of 1973 and Executive Orders 12898 (Environmental Justice) and 13166 (Limited English Proficiency) and any amendments thereto.

Thus the BCDCOG does not and will not exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject anyone to discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin.

All programs will be administered in a manner to guarantee that the Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG), other recipients, sub-recipients, contractors, subcontractors, transferees, and other recipients, contractors, subcontractors, transferees, successors in interest, and other participants in BCDCOG programs comply with all requirements imposed by or pursuant to the civil rights acts and Department of Transportation regulations.

The Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG) is responsible for initiating and monitoring Title VI activities, preparing required reports and other BCDCOG responsibilities as required by 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200 and 49 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 21.

*Those requiring information in alternative formats or in a language subject to the Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments' (BCDCOG) Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan, should contact the designated Title VI liaison.

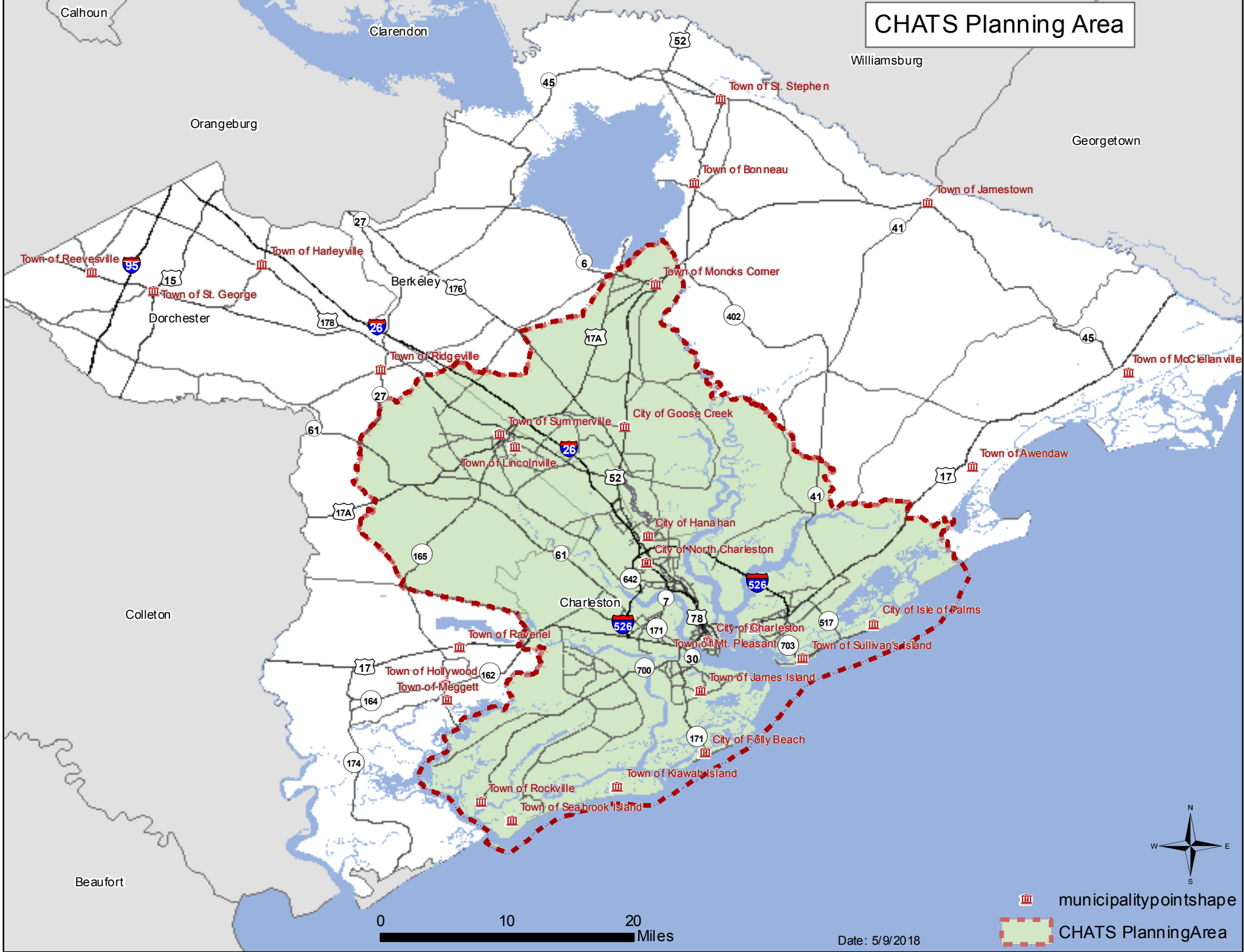
Ronald E. Mitchum, Executive Director
Authorized Official

09/06/23

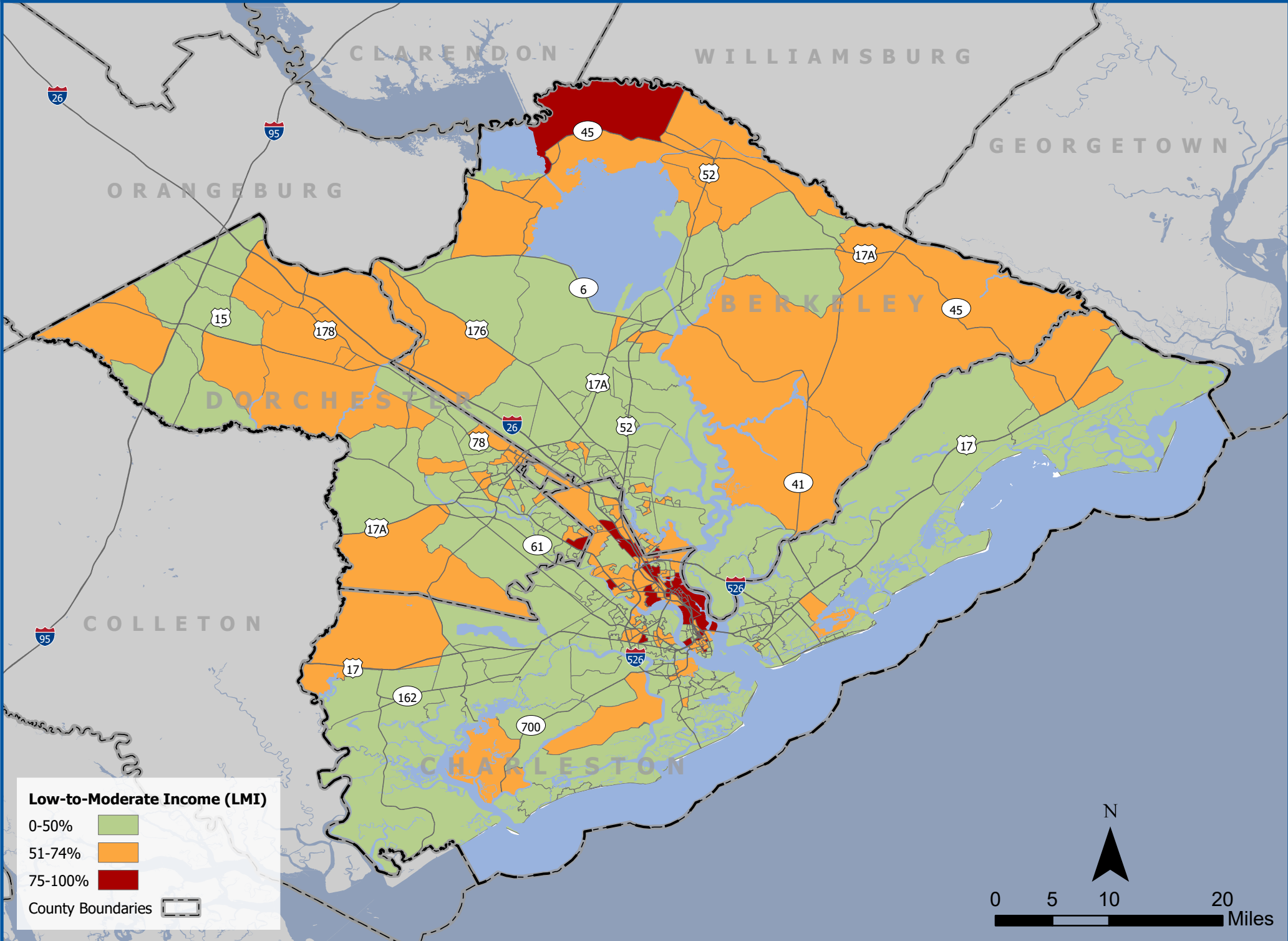
Date

APPENDIX B
Maps

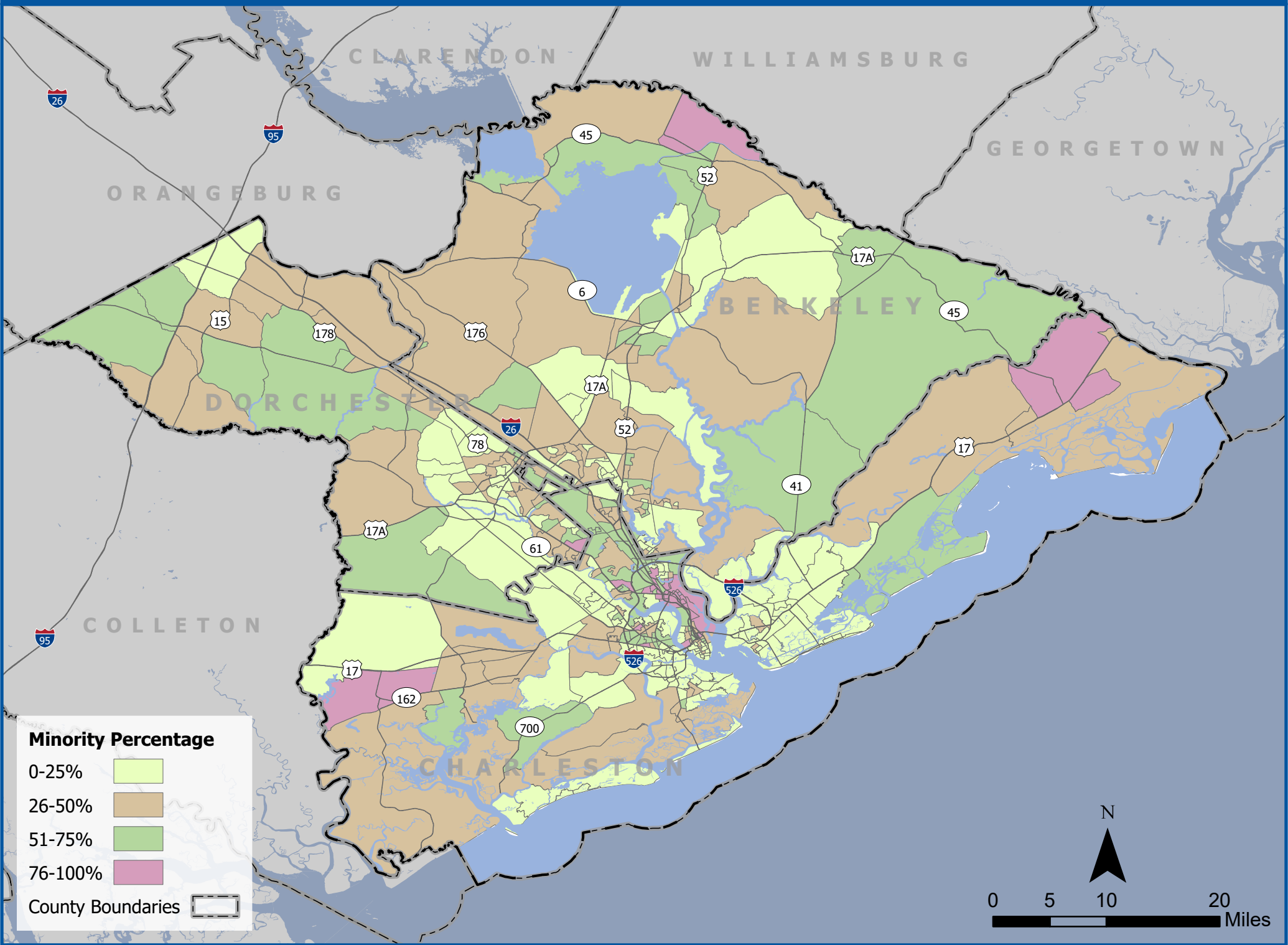
CHATS Planning Area



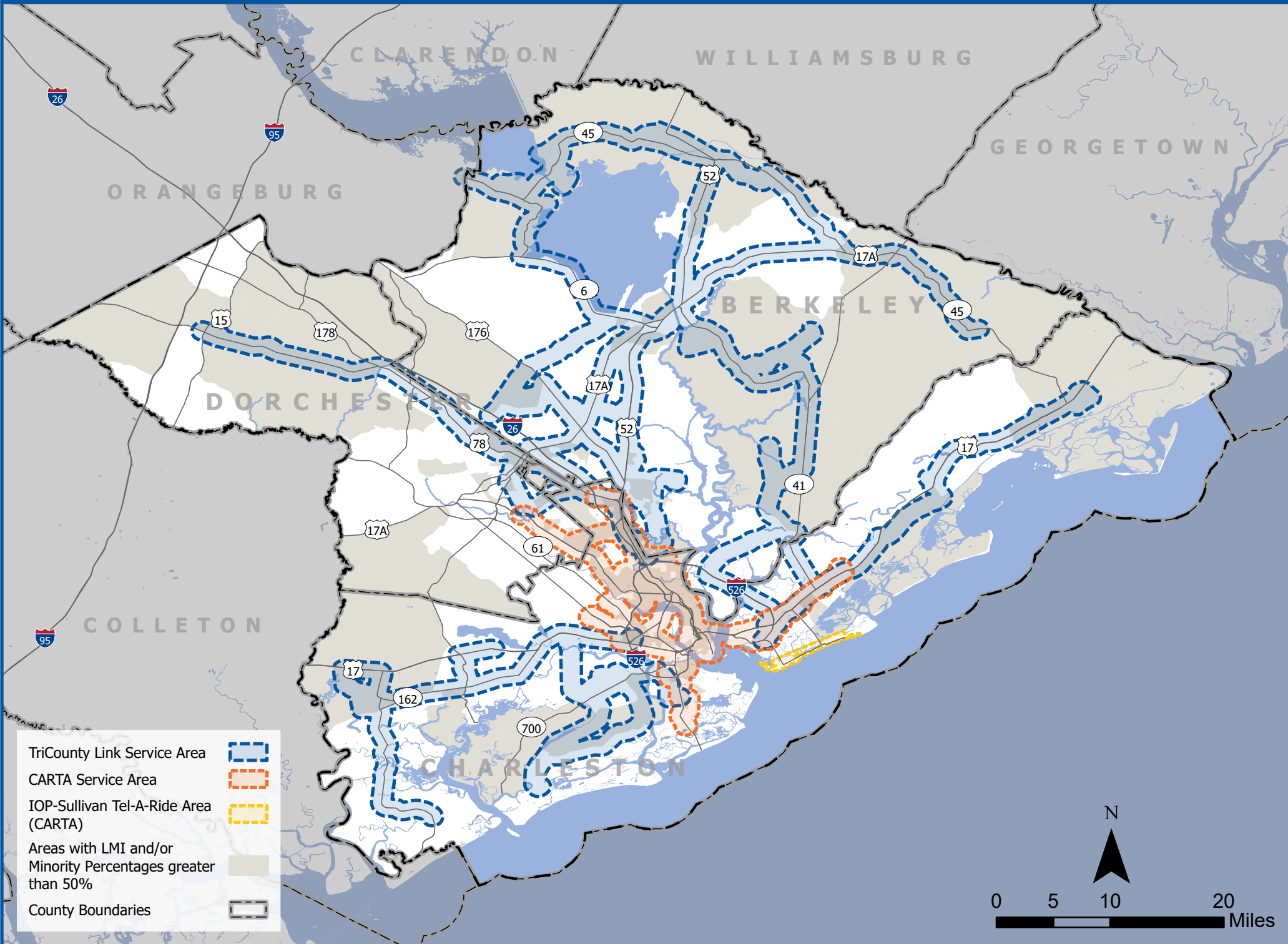
Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Percentage of Low-to-Moderate Income by Block Groups



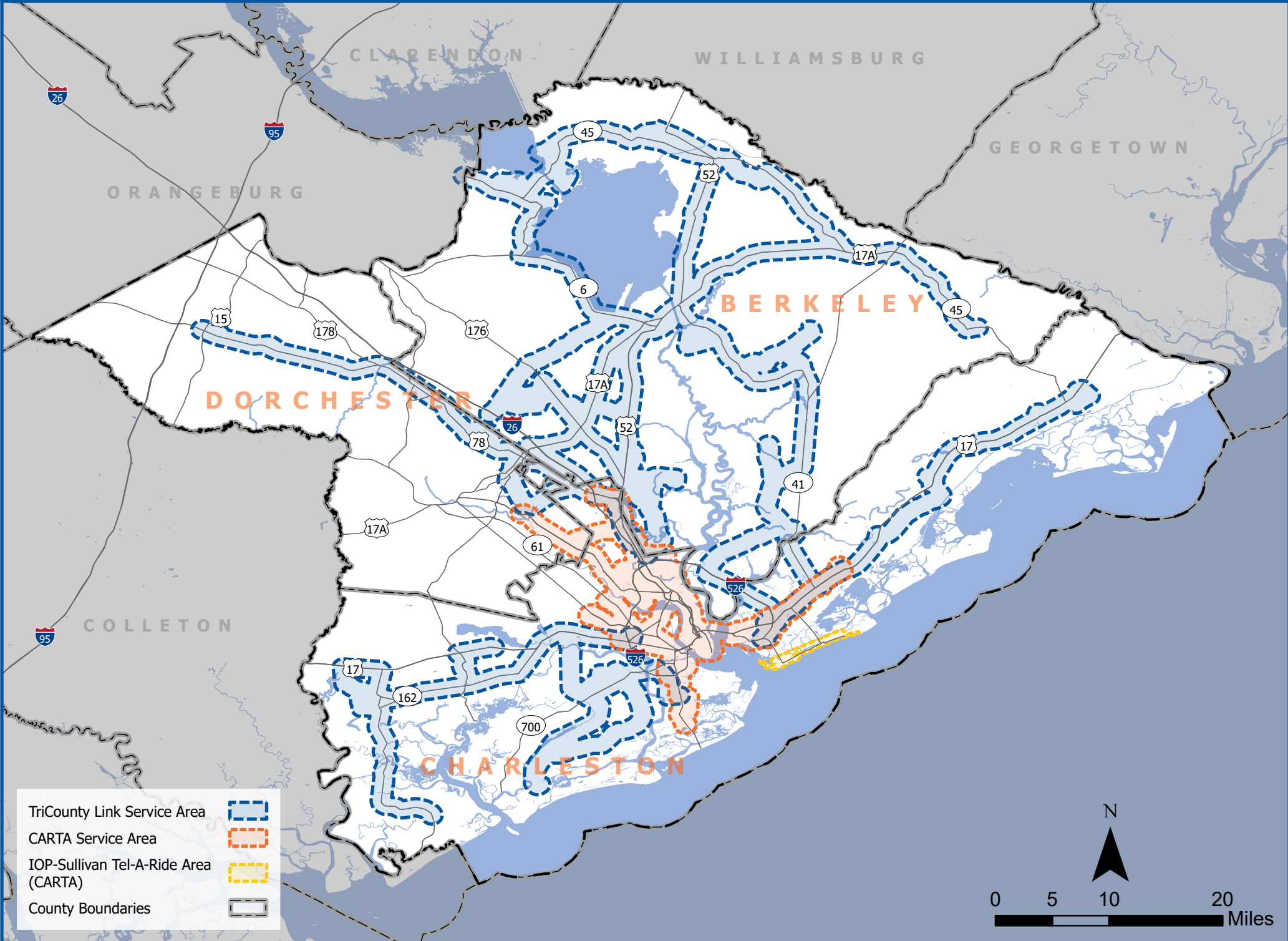
Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Percentage of Minorities by Block Groups



Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Environmental Justice Areas



BCDCOG Public Transportation Funding Distribution



APPENDIX C

**TITLE VI COMPLAINT FORM AND INVESTIGATION
LOG**

BCD Council of Governments

Log of Title VI Complaints, Investigations and Lawsuits

The BCDCOG maintains a log for documentation of any Title VI complaint, investigation and/or lawsuit that is filed. To date, there have been no Title VI complaints, investigations or lawsuits filed against the BCDCOG. Below is an example of the form used to log such if recieved.

	Date Submitted/ Received (MM/DD/YYYY)	Summary of Complaint (Including basis of complaints: race, color, national origin)	Status	Action Taken
Investigations				
1.				
2.				
3.				
Lawsuits				
1.				
2.				
3.				
Complaints				
1.				
2.				
3.				

Title VI Complaint Form				
Section I:				
Name:		Gender:	Race:	
Address:				
Telephone (Home):		Telephone (Work):		
Electronic Mail Address:				
Accessible Format Requirements?	Large Print		Audio Tape	
	TDD		Other	
Section II:				
Are you filing this complaint on your own behalf?		Yes*	No	
*If you answered "yes" to this question, go to Section III.				
If not, please supply the name and relationship of the person for whom you are complaining:				
Please explain why you have filed for a third party:				
Please confirm that you have obtained the permission of the aggrieved party if you are filing on behalf of a third party.		Yes	No	
Section III:				
I believe the discrimination I experienced was based on (check all that apply):				
[] Race [] Color [] National Origin				
Date of Alleged Discrimination (Month, Day, Year): _____				
Explain as clearly as possible what happened and why you believe you were discriminated against. Describe all persons who were involved. Include the name and contact information of the person(s) who discriminated against you (if known) as well as names and contact information.				
_____		_____		
NAME		SIGNATURE		

APPENDIX D
**Board and
Committees**

BCDCOG BOARD OF DIRECTORS			
REPRESENTING	NAME	GENDER	RACE
Berkeley County Council	Johnny Cribb	M	W
	Tommy Newell	M	W
	Steve Davis	M	B
	Caldwell Pinckney	M	B
Berkeley County Legislative Delegation	Joseph Jefferson	M	B
	Elaine Morgan	F	W
Charleston County Council	Summer Massey	F	W
	Timothy Craig Ascue	M	B
	Teddie Pryor	M	B
	Robert Reid	M	B
	Melvin Williams	M	B
	Kylon Middleton	M	B
	Dickie Schweers	M	W
Charleston County Legislative Delegation	Vacant		
	Vacant		
	Vacant		
	Vacant		
	Tim Mallard	M	W
Dorchester County Council	George Bailey	M	W
	Adrian Williams	M	B
	Eddie Crosby	M	W
	Stephen L. Grant	M	B
Dorchester County Legislative Delegation	Gary Brewer	M	W
City of Charleston	John Tecklenburg	M	W
	Ross Appel	M	W
	Caroline Parker	F	W
City of North Charleston	Keith Summey	M	W
	Ron Brinson	M	W
City of Hanahan	Christie Rainwater	F	W
Town of Mt. Pleasant	Will Haynie	M	W
Town of Summerville	Ricky Waring	M	W
City of Goose Creek	Greg Habib	M	W
City of Isle of Palms	Jan Anderson	F	W
Town of Moncks Corner	David Dennis	M	W
Town of St. George	Kevin Hart	M	W
Town of St. Stephen	Robbie Ballentine	M	W
Town of Sullivan's Island	Pat O'Neil	M	W
City of Folly Beach	Timothy Goodwin	M	W
Town of Ravenel	William Waters	M	W
Town of Hollywood	John Dunmyer, III	M	B
Town of Meggett	Tom Hutto	M	W
Town of Lincolnville	Enoch Dickerson, III	M	B
Town of Awendaw	Miriam Green	F	B
Town of McClellanville	Robert Gannon	M	W

BCDCOG BOARD OF DIRECTORS (continued)

Representing	NAME	GENDER	RACE
Town of Bonneau	Allen June	M	W
Town of Jamestown	Roy Pipkin	M	W
Town of Kiawah Island	Dan Prickett	M	W
Town of Seabrook	John W. Gregg	M	W
Town of Reevesville	Paul Wimberly	M	W
Town of Harleyville	Charles Ackerman	M	W
Town of Ridgeville	Clarence Hughes	M	B
Town of James Island	Bill Woolsey	M	W
James Island Public Service District	Kathy Woolsey	F	W
North Charleston Sewer District	Melinda Chambers	F	W
St. Andrews PSD Commission	Nancy Calvary	F	B
House District 97	Robby Robbins	M	W

CHATS Policy Committee Membership

REPRESENTING	NAME	GENDER	RACE
Berkeley County Council	Johnny Cribb	M	W
Berkeley County Infrastructure Officer	Daniel Thrower	M	W
Berkeley County Legislative Delegation	Joseph Daning	M	W
	Sylleste Davis	M	W
Charleston County Council	Teddie Pryor	M	B
	Rob Wehrman	M	W
	Herbert Sass	M	W
Charleston County Legislative Delegation	Lin Bennett	F	W
	Leon Stavrinakis	M	W
	Larry Grooms	M	W
	Chip Campsen	M	W
Dorchester County Council	Harriet Holman	F	B
	George Bailey	M	W
Dorchester County Legislative Delegation	Sean Bennett	M	W
SC State Ports Authority	Barbara Melvin	F	W
Charleston County Aviation Authority	Hernan Pena	M	W
CARTA	Mike Seekings	M	W
SC Trucking Association	Matt Thompson	M	W
Berkeley Co. Transportation Committee	Frank Carson	M	W
Charleston Co. Transportation Committee	Jim Armstrong	M	W
Dorchester Co. Transportation Committee	Webb Charpia	M	W
First Congressional District	Rep. Nancy Mace	F	W
Sixth Congressional District	Rep. James Clyburn	M	B
City of Charleston	John Tecklenburg, Mayor	M	W
	Karl Brady	M	W
	Kevin Shealy	M	W
City of North Charleston	Keith Summey, Mayor	M	W
	Kenneth Skipper	M	W
	Robert King	M	W
Town of Mt. Pleasant	Will Haynie, Mayor	M	W
	Howard Chapman	M	W
Isle of Palms	Phillip Pounds, Mayor	M	W
Town of Sullivan's Island	Pat O'Neil, Mayor	M	W
City of Folly Beach	Timothy Goodwin, Mayor	M	W
City of Goose Creek	Gregory Habib, Mayor	M	W
	Debra Green-Fletcher	F	W
Town of Seabrook Island	John W. Gregg, Mayor	M	W
Town of James Island	Bill Woolsey, Mayor	M	W
Town of Lincolnton	Enoch Dickerson, III	M	B
City of Hanahan	Christie Rainwater, Mayor	F	W

CHATS Policy Committee Membership

REPRESENTING	NAME	GENDER	RACE
Town of Kiawah Island	Dan Prickett	M	W
Town of Summerville	Ricky Waring	M	W
	Terry Jenkins	M	W
Town of Moncks Corner	Michael Locklear, Mayor	M	W
Joint Base Charleston	Todd E. Martin PE	M	W

CHATS Study Team Membership			
REPRESENTING	NAME	GENDER	RACE
BCDCOG	Ron Mitchum, Chair	M	W
City of Charleston	Robbie Somerville	M	W
Town of Mt. Pleasant	Brad Morrison	M	W
Bulldog Express	R.D. Moseley	M	W
Charleston County Aviation Authority	Hernan Pena	M	W
SC Coastal Conservation League	Jason Crowley	M	W
Berkeley County School District	Keith Terry	M	B
City of Hanahan	Lee Lawson	M	W
Charleston Water System	Mark Cline	M	W
Dorchester County	Jason Carraher	M	W
Town of James Island	Kristen Crane	F	W
City of Folly Beach	Aaron Pope	M	W
City of North Charleston	Megan Clark	F	W
Charleston County Economic Development	Jay Kramer	M	W
City of Goose Creek	Brian Cook	M	W
Town of Kiawah	John Taylor	M	W
Joint Base Charleston	Todd R. Martin	M	W
Dorchester County	John Truluck	M	W
Town of Summerville	Russ Cornette	M	W
Charleston County	Joel Evans	M	W
Town of Moncks Corner	Doug Polen	M	W
Dorchester 2 School District	Steve Shope	M	W
SC Ports Authority	Hampton Lee	M	W
Berkeley County	Alison Simmons	F	W

APPENDIX E
Assurances

Standard U.S. DOT Title VI Assurances

The **Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG)** (hereinafter referred to as the "Recipient") HEREBY AGREES THAT, as a condition to receiving any Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) through the *Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)* or the *Federal Transit Administration (FTA)*, is subject to and will comply with the following:

Statutory/Regulatory Authorities

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (§42 U.S.C. 2000d *et seq.*, 78 stat. 252), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin);
- 49 C.F.R. Part 21 (entitled *Non-discrimination in Federally-Assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation-Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964*);
- 28 C.F.R. section 50.3 (U.S. Department of Justice Guidelines for Enforcement of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964),

The preceding statutory and regulatory cites hereinafter are referred to as the "Acts" and "Regulations", respectively.

General Assurances

In accordance with the Acts, the Regulations, and other pertinent directives, circulars, policy, memoranda, and/or guidance, the Recipient hereby gives assurance that it will promptly take any measures necessary to ensure that

"No person in the United States will, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity," for which the Recipient receives Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, including the **FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION (FHWA) AND THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA)**.

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

Specific Assurances

More specifically, and without limiting the above general Assurance, the Recipient agrees with and gives the following Assurances with respect to its Federally-assisted programs:

1. The Recipient agrees that each "activity", "facility", or "program", as defined in §§21.23(b) and 21.23(e) of 49 C.F.R. §21 will be (with regard to an "activity") facilitated, or will be (with regard to a facility (operated, or will be (with regard to a "program") conducted in compliance with all requirements imposed by, or pursuant to the Acts and, the Regulations.
2. That the Recipient will insert the following notification in all solicitations for bids, Requests for Proposals for work, or material subject to the Acts and the Regulations made in connection with all programs and activities and, in adapted form, in all proposals for negotiated agreements regardless of funding source:

“The Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG), in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C §§2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.”

3. The Recipient will insert the clauses of Appendix A and E of this Assurance in every contract or agreement subject to the Acts and the Regulations.
4. The Recipient will insert the clauses of Appendix B of this Assurance, as a covenant running with the land, in any deed from the United States effecting or recording a transfer of real property, structures, use, or improvements thereon, or interest therein to a Recipient.
5. That where the Recipient receives Federal financial assistance to construct a facility, or part of a facility, the Assurance will extend to the entire facility and facilities operated in connection therewith.
6. That where the Recipient receives Federal financial assistance in the form, or for the acquisition or real property or an interest in real property, the Assurance will extend to the rights to space on, over, or under such property.
7. That the Recipient will include the clauses set forth in Appendix C and Appendix D of this Assurance, as a covenant running with the land, in any future deeds, leases, licenses, permits, or similar instruments entered into by the Recipient with other parties:
 - (a) for the subsequent transfer of real property acquired or improved under the applicable activity, project, or program; and
 - (b) for the construction or use of, or access to, space on, over or under real property acquired, or improved under the applicable activity, project, or program.
8. That this Assurance obligates the Recipient for the period during which Federal financial assistance is extended to the program, except where the Federal financial assistance is to provide, or is in the form of, personal property, or real property, or interest therein, or structures or improvements thereon, in which case the Assurance obligates the Recipient, or any transferee for the longer of the following periods:
 - (a) the period during which the property is used for a purpose for which the Federal financial assistance is extended, or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits; or
 - (b) the period during which the Recipient retains ownership or possession of the property.
9. The Recipient will provide for such methods of administration for the program as are found by the Secretary of Transportation or the official to whom he/she delegates specific authority to give reasonable guarantee that it, other recipients, sub-recipients, sub-grantees, contractors, subcontractors, consultants, transferees, successors in interest, and other participants of Federal financial assistance under such program will comply with all requirements imposed or pursuant to the Acts, the Regulations and this Assurance.
10. The Recipient agrees that the United States has a right to seek judicial enforcement with regard to any matter arising under the Acts, the Regulations, and this Assurance.

THIS ASSURANCE is given in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining any and all Federal grants, loans, contracts, property, discounts or other Federal financial assistance extended after the date hereof to the Recipient by the Department of Transportation under any program or activity and is binding on it, other recipients, sub-grantees, contractors, subcontractors, transferees, successors in interest and other participants. The person or persons whose signatures appear below are authorized to sign this Assurance on behalf of the Recipient.

Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments

by  _____

Signature of Authorized Official

Dated 5/19/23

APPENDIX A

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees and successors in interest (hereinafter referred to as the "contractor") agrees as follows:

- (1) Compliance with Regulations:** The contractor (Hereinafter includes consultants) will comply with the Acts and the Regulations relative to nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and Federal Transit Administration (FTA), as they may be amended from time to time, which are herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract.
- (2) Non-discrimination:** The Contractor, with regard to the work performed by it during the contract, will not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in the selection and retention of subcontractors, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment. The contractor will not participate directly or indirectly in the discrimination prohibited by Acts and the Regulations, including employment practices when the contract covers any activity, project, or program set forth in Appendix B of 49 CFR part 21. This includes FHWA or FTA specific program requirement.
- (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 will be notified by the contractor of the contractor's obligations under this contract and the Acts and the Regulations relative to Non-discrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin. This includes FHWA or FTA specific program requirements.
- (4) Information and Reports:** The contractor will provide all information and reports required by the Acts, the Regulations, and directives issued pursuant thereto and will permit access to its books, records, accounts, other sources of information, and its facilities as may be determined by the *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments*), **the FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION (FHWA)**, or **the FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA)** to be pertinent to ascertain compliance with such Acts, Regulations, instructions. Where any information required of a contractor is in the exclusive possession of another who fails or refuses to furnish the information, the contractor will so certify to the *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments*, FHWA or the FTA, as appropriate, and will 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 Non-discrimination provisions of this contract, the *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG)* will impose such contract sanctions as it or the **FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION (FHWA)**, or the **FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (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 will include the provisions of paragraphs one (1) through six (6) in every subcontract, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment, unless exempt by the Acts, the Regulations and directives issued pursuant thereto. The contractor will act with respect to any subcontractor procurement as the *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments* the **FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION (FHWA)**, or the **FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA)** may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions including sanctions for noncompliance. Provided, that if the contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor, or supplier because of such direction, the contractor may request the *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments* to enter into any litigation to protect the interests of the *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments* In addition, the contractor may request the United States to enter into the litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

APPENDIX B

CLAUSES FOR DEEDS TRANSFERRING UNITED STATES PROPERTY

The following clauses will be included in deeds effecting or recording the transfer of real property, structures, or improvements thereon, or granting interest therein from the United States pursuant to the provisions of Assurance 4:

NOW, THEREFORE, the U.S. Department of Transportation as authorized by law and upon the condition that the *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments* will accept Title to the lands and maintain the project constructed thereon, in accordance with the appropriate legislative authority, the Regulations for the Administration of its programs and activities, and the policies and procedures prescribed by *the FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION or the FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION* of the U.S. Department of Transportation in accordance with and in compliance with all requirements imposed by Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, U.S. Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Non-discrimination in federally assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation pertaining to and effectuating the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252; 42 U.S.C. §2000d to 2000d-4), does hereby remise, release, quitclaim and convey unto the SCDOT all the right, title and interest of the U.S. Department of Transportation in and to said lands described in Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof.

(HABENDUM CLAUSE)

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD said lands and interests therein unto *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments* and its successors forever, subject, however, to the covenants, conditions, restrictions and reservations herein contained as follows, which will remain in effect for the period during which the real property or structures are used for a purpose for which Federal financial assistance is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits and will be binding on the *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments*), its successors and assigns.

The *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments*), in consideration of the conveyance of said lands and interests in lands, does hereby covenant and agree as a covenant running with the land for itself, its successors and assigns, that (1) no person will on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination with regard to any facility located wholly or in part on over or under such lands hereby conveyed [,] [and)* (2) that the *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments* will use the lands and interests in lands so conveyed, in compliance with all requirements imposed by or pursuant to Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, SubTitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and as said Regulations and Acts may be amended [, and (3) that in the event of breach of any of the above-mentioned non-discrimination conditions, the Department will have a right to enter or re-enter said lands and facilities on said land, and the above described land and facilities will thereon revert to and become the absolute property of the U.S. Department of Transportation and its assigns as such interest existed prior to this instruction].*

* Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary in order to make clear the purposes of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

APPENDIX C

CLAUSES FOR TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY ACQUIRED OR IMPROVED UNDER THE ACTIVITY, FACILITY, OR PROGRAM

The following clauses will be included in all deeds, licenses, leases, permits, or similar instruments entered into by the *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments*) pursuant to the provisions of Assurance 7(a):

- A. The (grantee, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc., as appropriate) for himself/herself, his/her heirs, personal representatives, successors in interest, and assigns, as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree [in the case of deeds and leases add "as a covenant running with the land"] that:
 1. In the event facilities are constructed, maintained, or otherwise operated on the said property described in this (deed, license, lease, permit, etc.) for a purpose for which a U.S. Department of Transportation activity, facility, or program is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits, the (grantee, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc.) will maintain and operate such facilities and services in compliance with all other requirements imposed by the Acts and Regulations (as may be amended) such that no person on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of said facilities.
- B. With respect to licenses, leases, permits, etc., in the event of a breach of any of the above Non-discrimination covenants, *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG)* will have the right to terminate the (lease, license, permit, etc.) and to enter, re-enter, and repossess said land and the facilities thereon, and hold the same as if said [licenses, lease, permit, etc.] had never been made or issued.*
- C. With respect to a deed, in the event of breach of any of the above Non-discrimination covenants, *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG)* will have the right to enter or reenter said lands and facilities thereon, and the above described lands and facilities will thereupon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG)* and its assigns.*

* Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary in order to effectuate the purposes of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

APPENDIX D

CLAUSES FOR CONSTRUCTION/USE/ACCESS TO REAL PROPERTY ACQUIRED UNDER THE ACTIVITY, FACILITY, OR PROGRAM

The following clauses will be included in all deeds, licenses, leases, permits, or similar instruments entered into by the *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments* (BCDCOG) pursuant to the provisions of Assurance 7(b):

- A. The (grantee, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc., as appropriate) for himself/herself, his/her heirs, personal representatives, successors in interest, and assigns, as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree (in the case of deeds and leases add "as a covenant running with the land") that:
- (1) no person on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of said facilities,
 - (2) that in the construction of any improvements on, over, or under such land, and the furnishing of services thereon, no person on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination, and
 - (3) that the (grantee, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc.) will use the premises in compliance with all other requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Acts and Regulations, as amended, set forth in this Assurance.
- B. With respect to (licenses, leases, permits, etc.), in the event of breach of any of the above Non-discrimination covenants, *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments* (BCDCOG) will have the right to terminate the (license, permit, etc., as appropriate) and enter or re-enter and repossess said land and the facilities thereon, and hold the same as if said (license, permit, etc., as appropriate) had never been made or issued.*
- C. With respect to deeds, in the event of breach of any of the above Non-discrimination covenants, *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments* (BCDCOG) will have the right to enter or reenter said lands and facilities thereon, and the above described lands and facilities will thereupon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of *Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments* (BCDCOG) and its assigns.*

* Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary in order to effectuate the purposes of Title VI.

APPENDIX E

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest (hereinafter referred to as the "contractor") agrees to comply with the following non-discrimination statutes and authorities, including but not limited to:

Pertinent Non-Discrimination Authorities:

- Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act (42 U.S.C. 2§000 *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;
- The Federal-aid Highway Act of 1973, (23 U.S.C. §324 *et seq.*), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex);
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, (29 U.S.C. 794 *et seq.*), as amended, (prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability); and 49 CFR Part 27;
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §6101 *et seq.*), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of age);
- Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982, (42 U.S.C. §47123), as amended, (prohibits discrimination on race, creed, color, national origin, or sex);
- The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, (P.L. 100-209), (Broadened, the scope, coverage and applicability of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, by expanding the definition of the terms "programs or activities" to include all of the programs or activities of the Federal-aid recipients, sub-recipients and contractors, whether such programs or activities are Federally funded or not);
- Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability in the operation of public entities, public and private transportation systems, places of public accommodation, and certain testing entities (42 U.S.C. §§12131-12189) as implemented by Department of Transportation regulations at 49 CFR Parts 37 and 38;
- The Federal Aviation Administration's Non-discrimination statute (49 U.S.C. §47123) (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, and sex);
- Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, which ensures nondiscrimination by discouraging programs, policies, and activities with disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-moderate 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, recipients must take reasonable steps to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to programs (70 Fed. Reg. at 74087 to 74100);
- Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities (20 U.S.C. 1681 *et seq.*).

APPENDIX F

Census Data: Languages Spoken

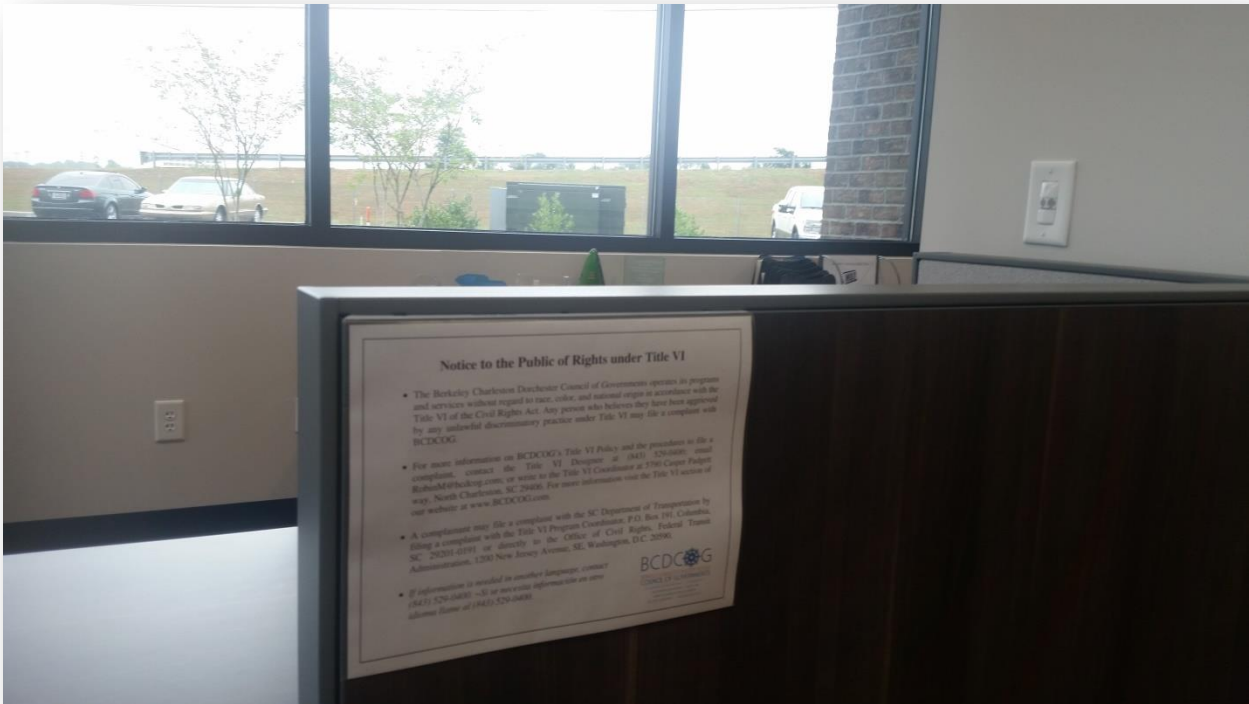
Charleston-North Charleston, SC Metro Area

	Total	Percent	Percent of specified language speakers			
			Speak English only or speak English "very well"	Percent speak English only or speak English "very well"	Speak English less than "very well"	Percent speak English less than "very well"
Label	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
Population 5 years and over	743,225	(X)	720,331	96.9%	22,894	3.1%
Speak only English	684,504	92.1%	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Speak a language other than English	58,721	7.9%	35,827	61.0%	22,894	39.0%
SPEAK A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH						
Spanish	33,799	4.5%	18,961	56.1%	14,838	43.9%
5 to 17 years old	8,036	1.1%	5,928	73.8%	2,108	26.2%
18 to 64 years old	23,944	3.2%	12,068	50.4%	11,876	49.6%
65 years old and over	1,819	0.2%	965	53.1%	854	46.9%
Other Indo-European languages	14,084	1.9%	10,167	72.2%	3,917	27.8%
5 to 17 years old	2,455	0.3%	1,950	79.4%	505	20.6%
18 to 64 years old	9,954	1.3%	7,077	71.1%	2,877	28.9%
65 years old and over	1,675	0.2%	1,140	68.1%	535	31.9%
Asian and Pacific Island languages	9,259	1.2%	5,396	58.3%	3,863	41.7%
5 to 17 years old	1,346	0.2%	921	68.4%	425	31.6%
18 to 64 years old	6,283	0.8%	3,874	61.7%	2,409	38.3%
65 years old and over	1,630	0.2%	601	36.9%	1,029	63.1%
Other languages	1,579	0.2%	1,303	82.5%	276	17.5%
5 to 17 years old	174	0.0%	98	56.3%	76	43.7%
18 to 64 years old	1,137	0.2%	980	86.2%	157	13.8%
65 years old and over	268	0.0%	225	84.0%	43	16.0%
CITIZENS 18 YEARS AND OVER						
All citizens 18 years old and over	595,311	(X)	587,546	98.7%	7,765	1.3%
Speak only English	566,723	95.2%	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Speak a language other than English	28,588	4.8%	20,823	72.8%	7,765	27.2%
<i>Spanish</i>	<i>14,703</i>	<i>2.5%</i>	<i>10,606</i>	<i>72.1%</i>	<i>4,097</i>	<i>27.9%</i>
<i>Other languages</i>	<i>13,885</i>	<i>2.3%</i>	<i>10,217</i>	<i>73.6%</i>	<i>3,668</i>	<i>26.4%</i>

APPENDIX G
Evidence of Title VI Notice Posting

APPENDIX G – Title VI Notice Posted on Agency’s Website and in Agency’s Office

Photo of Notice at the Reception Desk



Text of Public Notice

Public Information Concerning Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended


The Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG) is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of its services on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information or to file a written complaint if you believe you have been subjected to discrimination under Title VI, you may contact the BCDCOG by mail 5790 Casper Padgett Way, North Charleston, SC 29406, or by phone at (843) 529-0400, TTY 1-800-735-8583, or by e-mail at robinm@bcdcog.com, or directly to the Office of Civil Rights, Federal Transit Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, D.C. 20590. For more information on the procedure to file a complaint, please refer to the Title VI Program.

Para obtener más información sobre la Política del Título VI de BCDCOG y los procedimientos para presentar una queja, comuníquese con el Designado del Título VI al (843) 529-0400; correo

electrónico RobinM@bcdcog.com; o escriba al Coordinador del Título VI en 5790 Casper Padgett way, North Charleston, SC 29406

Posting on Agency's Website

bcdcog.com/transportation-planning/



REGIONAL DIRECTORY CALENDAR NEWS

ABOUT US REGIONAL PLANNING TRANSPORTATION WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTACT

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

The Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) responsible for carrying out the urban transportation planning process for the Charleston Area Transportation Study (CHATS). The CHATS MPO study area boundary includes over 600 square miles in the region. The primary responsibilities of any MPO are: 1) develop a Long Range Transportation Plan, which is, at a minimum, a 25-year transportation vision for the metropolitan area; 2) develop a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which is the agreed-upon list of specific projects for which federal funds are anticipated; and 3) develop a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), which identifies in a single document the annual transportation planning activities that are to be undertaken in support of the goals, objectives and actions established in the Long Range Transportation Plan.

CHATS is governed by a Policy Committee Board representing governmental and transportation-related organizations from throughout its coverage area.

Americans with Disabilities Act – ADA

BCDCOG is committed to providing equal access and opportunity to qualified individuals with disabilities in all programs, services, and activities. BCDCOG recognizes that, in order to have equally effective opportunities and benefits, individuals with disabilities may need reasonable modifications to policies and procedures. BCDCOG will adhere to all applicable federal and state laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable modifications, as necessary, to afford equal access to programs for persons with disabilities. BCDCOG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, participation in, or receipt of services and benefits under any transit program or activity. BCDCOG will take appropriate steps to ensure that persons with disabilities have an equal opportunity to participate.

No qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of BCDCOG programs, or be subject to discrimination by BCDCOG.

[Submitting an ADA Complaint](#)

Any individual who feels they have experienced a violation under ADA can submit a complaint. All complaints can be submitted by telephone: (843) 520-0400, email: rburns@bcdcog.com, mail: 5790 Casper Padgett Way, North Charleston, SC 29406, on our website contact form, or in person at 5790 Casper Padgett Way, North Charleston, SC 29406. The complaint should be in writing and contain information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number of complainant and location, date, and description of the problem. Alternative means of filing complaints, such as personal interviews or a tape recording of the complaint will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request.

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the complaint, the ADA Coordinator or their designee will contact the complainant to discuss the complaint and the possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days of the correspondence, the ADA Coordinator or their designee will respond in writing, and where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, such as large print, Braille, or audio tape. The response will explain the position of BCDCOG and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

[BCDCOG ADA Complaint Form](#)

Public Information Concerning Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended

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Para obtener más información sobre la Política del Título VI de BCDCOG y los procedimientos para presentar una queja, comuníquese con el Designado del Título VI al (843) 520-0400, correo electrónico RobinM@bcdcog.com, o escriba al Coordinador del Título VI en 5790 Casper Padgett way, North Charleston, SC 29406

CHATS Long Range Trans. Plan
DBE Program
DBE Goal Draft (2020-2022)
DBE Goal Setting Methodology
List of Obligated Projects
Lowcountry Rapid Transit
Public Participation Plan (2019)
Rural Long Range Trans. Plan
Rural Planning Work Program
Rural TIP Financial Document
Unified Planning Work Program
SCDOT Website
TIP Document (FY 2017-2022)
Current Approved TIP Spreadsheet
Title VI Program Document
Title VI Complaint Form
Traffic Count Documents & Maps (2017)

ABOUT US | PLANNING | ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | CONTACT

Address: 5790 Casper Padgett Way, North Charleston, SC 29406

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

Email Address

<https://bcdcog.com/transportation-planning/>

Notice to the Public of Rights under Title VI

- The Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments operates its programs and services without regard to race, color, and national origin in accordance with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. Any person who believes they have been aggrieved by any unlawful discriminatory practice under Title VI may file a complaint with BCDCOG.
- For more information on BCDCOG's Title VI Policy and the procedures to file a complaint, contact the Title VI Designee at (843) 529-0400; email RobinM@bcdcog.com; or write to the Title VI Coordinator at 5790 Casper Padgett way, North Charleston, SC 29406. For more information visit the Title VI section of our website at www.BCDCOG.com.
- A complainant may file a complaint with the SC Department of Transportation by filing a complaint with the Title VI Program Coordinator, P.O. Box 191, Columbia, SC 29201-0191 or directly to the Federal Transit Administration **or** Federal Highway Administration, US Department of Transportation, Office of Civil Rights, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590
- *If information is needed in another language, contact (843) 529-0400. ~Si se necesita información en otro idioma llame al (843) 529-2574.*

APPENDIX H
Record of Funding Requests

APPENDIX H – Record of Funding Requests

The BCDCOG uses a project selection process or a formula to allocate funds, depending on the FTA program, to ensure and monitor that financial assistance is passed-through subrecipients in a non-discriminatory manner. The BCDCOGs competitive process for selecting transit providers as subrecipients for federal funding was developed with guidance from a regional work group that developed the BCD Regional Human Service Transportation Coordination Plan or in the Program Management Plan (PMP). Subsequent to the work group's sign off on the process, the BCDCOG Board of Directors adopted the process for use in sub-allocating FTA funds. The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) uses this same competitive selection process to allocate funds for the rural portion of these programs.

In accord with the FTA approved Program Management Plan of the BCDCOG, the BCDCOG applies the following criteria in selecting transportation providers to participate in FTA programs as subrecipients:

- Must meet all criteria outlined in the FTA Master Agreement for FTA Sections 5307, 5310 and other FTA programs.
- Must meet all criteria presented in the FTA Certifications and Assurances, including Title VI and DBE certifications.
- Must propose a project that meets the objectives of the program for which funding is sought, including equitable distribution of service to minority and low-income populations.
- Must meet the selection criteria outlined in the project selection process, such as financial and organizational capacity to execute the project.
- Must complete Form 424-Application for Federal Assistance (FTA Section 5310 program)
- All types of agencies are eligible to apply for the programs; including private operators of public transportation services; however, they cannot be a direct subrecipient.
- Must conform to the objectives developed in the BCD Regional Human Service Transportation Coordination Plan.

Record of Funding Requests/Awards

2022

Applicant Name	Funding Program	Project Awarded	Serves Minority/ Senior/ Disabled Populations
BCDCOG Mobility Management Program	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
Berkeley Citizens, Inc.	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
Beyond BASIC Lifeskills	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
Charleston Area Regional Transportation Authority	Section 5307	Yes	Yes
	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
	Section 5339	Yes	Yes
	Section 5340	Yes	Yes
Charleston Dorchester Mental Health Center	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
Dorchester County Board of Disabilities and Special Needs	Section 5310	Yes	Yes

2021

Applicant Name	Funding Program	Project Awarded	Serves Minority/ Senior/ Disabled Populations
BCDCOG Mobility Management Program*	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
Berkeley Citizens, Inc.	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
Charleston Area Regional Transportation Authority	Section 5307	Yes	Yes
	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
	Section 5339	Yes	Yes
	Section 5340	Yes	Yes
Charleston Dorchester Mental Health Center	Section 5310	Yes	Yes

2020			
Applicant Name	Funding Program	Project Awarded	Serves Minority/Senior/Disabled Populations
BCDCOG Mobility Management Program*	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
Berkeley Citizens, Inc.	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
	Section 5307	Yes	Yes
Charleston Area Regional Transportation Authority	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
	Section 5339	Yes	Yes
	Section 5340	Yes	Yes
Pattison's Academy	Section 5310	Yes	Yes

2019			
Applicant Name	Funding Program	Project Awarded	Serves Minority/Senior/Disabled Populations
Berkeley Citizens, Inc.	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
	Section 5307	Yes	Yes
Charleston Area Regional Transportation Authority	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
	Section 5339	Yes	Yes
	Section 5340	Yes	Yes
Charleston-Dorchester Mental Health Center	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
Senior Ride Charleston	Section 5310	No	Yes
Trident SmartRide Mobility Management Program	Section 5310	Yes	Yes

2018			
Applicant Name	Funding Program	Project Awarded	Serves Minority/Senior/Disabled Populations
Berkeley Citizens, Inc.	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
	Section 5307	Yes	Yes
Charleston Area Regional Transportation Authority	Section 5310	Yes	Yes
	Section 5339	Yes	Yes
	Section 5340	Yes	Yes
Trident SmartRide Mobility Management Program	Section 5310	Yes	Yes

*Trident Smart Ride Mobility Management is branding of BCDCOG Mobility Management

APPENDIX I
Resolution of Adoption

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE BERKELEY-CHARLESTON-DORCHESTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TITLE VI PROGRAM FOR TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, The Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments is the regional planning agency and coordinating body, as well as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), for transportation planning in the BCD Region which includes three counties; and

WHEREAS, to fund its many work activities, the BCDCOG receives direct or pass-through federal funding from agencies such as the US Department of Transportation (Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration); US Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, and the US Department of Labor; and

WHEREAS, as a recipient of federal funds, the BCDCOG is required to comply with the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits discrimination based on race, color and national origin, specifically 42 USC 2000d, which states that: No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, creed, 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 receiving Federal financial assistance; and


WHEREAS, The BCDCOG must also comply with the additional protections set forth in Presidential Executive Order 12898 (Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations) and Presidential Executive Order 13166 (Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency); and

WHEREAS, The BCDCOG did develop and adopt a Title VI Plan, including a Limited English Proficiency Plan, as required by the Federal Transit Administration, BCDCOG has updated and expanded its Title VI Program & Plan to include all necessary elements; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments certifies compliance with policies, procedures and plans with regard to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (as amended) and additional Assurances as required and hereby adopts its 2023 Title VI Program & Plan; and

APPROVED AND ADOPTED

This 23rd day of January 2023.



Signature of Attesting Witness

Kim Coleman

Typed Name of Attesting Witness



Signature of Chairperson

Caldwell Pinckney

Typed Name of Chairperson