



**Fiscal Year 2020
Title VI, Environmental Justice, Nondiscrimination
Goals and Accomplishments Report**

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System (BACTS), the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the greater Bangor urbanized area (UZA), is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any BACTS program or activity on the grounds of race, color, national origin, income, gender, age, disability, or limited English proficiency. BACTS assures all its programs and activities will be free from discrimination, whether those programs and activities are federally funded or not. BACTS' Title VI program, in accordance with FHWA's Title VI program (in contrast to the Title VI statute), expands the covered classes to include gender, age, disability and low-income. BACTS requires any contractor or consultant performing work on behalf of BACTS to certify that they will not participate, directly or indirectly, in any type of prohibited discrimination, and acknowledge they are subject to sanctions for non-compliance.

Fiscal Year 2020 Goals and Objectives

1	Provide notice to the public that BACTS operates its programs and conducts planning activities in accordance with nondiscrimination requirements under Title VI and other nondiscrimination related statutes, acts and regulatory authorities.	7	Review and update the BACTS Title VI/EJ Non-Discrimination Plan and complete FY 2020 Goals and Accomplishments Report.
2	Ensure that regional transportation planning services are provided without regard to race, color, national origin, income, gender, age, or disability.	8	Incorporate GIS into Title VI/EJ/Non-Discrimination Plan
3	Promote full and fair participation of all affected populations in the transportation decision-making process.	9	Develop and implement outreach programs to educate the public about the transportation planning process and how they can be involved.
4	Inform the general public of federally funded transportation projects and planning activities for the fiscal year.	10	Expand public involvement techniques to incorporate virtual public involvement tools.
5	Ensure the development of an equitable transportation system without disproportionate benefits or burdens to any community.	11	Use GIS and other infographic representations of data to inform the public about transportation projects and performance of the transportation system.
6	Document the public involvement process, comments and responses for all transportation plans and programs.	12	Develop public participation performance measures and determine required baseline data for incorporation into the 2021 update of the Public Participation Plan.

Fiscal Year 2020 Accomplishments

BACTS provides inclusive access to, and encourages participation by, a well-informed diverse public throughout the metropolitan planning process. Notice of all public meetings, comment periods, planning documents, studies, meeting agendas and minutes are posted on the BACTS website (www.bactsmmpo.org). All of BACTS' committee meetings are open to the public and allow opportunity for public input. The [BACTS Public Participation Plan](#) details the procedure which BACTS follows to provide information and comment periods for the specific plans and programs which BACTS produces.

All plans and programs developed by BACTS include the Title VI Policy Statement. Public comments received on plans and programs, and response to those comments, and details of other relevant public involvement activities are incorporated into the final plan or program documents. During fiscal year 2020, the following metropolitan transportation plans, programs, or documents were developed or updated:

- Fiscal Year 2019 Listing of Obligated Projects
- 2020 – 2023 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) and related 2019 and 2020 TIP Modifications and Amendments
- 2020 -2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
- Fiscal Year 2021 Title VI/Environmental Justice/Non-Discrimination Plan

BACTS staff either facilitates or actively participates in public meetings for the development of metropolitan transportation plans, programs, or studies, as well as transportation construction projects of regional significance, whether hosted by BACTS, MaineDOT, or the City of Bangor Community Connector. BACTS staff also serves as a technical resource to local transportation-related advocacy groups, and the general public.

To improve skills and expertise in developing and implementing the Title VI Program and corresponding Public Participation Program, staff participated in the Federal Highway Administration Resource Center Title VI Liaison Training hosted by VTrans. The Transportation Planner has taken on the GIS responsibilities and has participated in ArcView GIS training courses.

During the Stay at Home directive, staff participated in webinars related to holding and facilitating effective virtual meetings and using web-based communication tools. This also prompted a holistic review of how to better utilize our webpage and social media to engage the public. Not unlike many organizations navigating through the Pandemic, we began using the Zoom Platform to hold virtual meetings, which is much more user friendly and intuitive than the Platform we were using prior.

Fiscal Year 2020 Complaints, Investigations and Corrective Actions

There were no discrimination complaints received or required corrective action plans in fiscal year 2020.

Fiscal Year 2021 Goals and Objectives

1	Provide notice to the public that BACTS operates its programs and conducts planning activities in accordance with nondiscrimination requirements under Title VI and other nondiscrimination related statutes, acts and regulatory authorities.	7	Review and update the BACTS Title VI/EJ Non-Discrimination Plan and complete FY 2021 Goals and Accomplishments Report.
2	Ensure that regional transportation planning services are provided without regard to race, color, national origin, income, gender, age, or disability.	8	Refresh and update the BACTS website to provide more intuitive access to plans, programs, and documents to the public.
3	Promote full and fair participation of all affected populations in the transportation decision-making process.	9	Increase BACTS social media presence.
4	Inform the general public of federally funded transportation projects and planning activities for the fiscal year.	10	Expand public involvement techniques to incorporate virtual public involvement tools.
5	Ensure the development of an equitable transportation system without disproportionate benefits or burdens to any community.	11	Develop dashboards to provide an infographic representation of the performance of the transportation system.
6	Document the public involvement process, comments and responses for all transportation plans and programs.	12	Update the BACTS Public Participation Plan and incorporate public participation performance measures in the update.