

Fiscal Year 2023 Title VI / Environmental Justice Nondiscrimination Plan 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 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 2023 Goals and Objectives

1	Provide public notice that programs and planning activities are conducted in accordance with nondiscrimination requirements under Title VI and other related statues.	4	Document the public involvement process, comments, and responses for transportation plans and programs.
2	Ensure regional transportation planning services are provided without regard to race, color, national origin, income, gender, age, or disability.	5	Update the BACTS Non-Discrimination Program Title VI/Environmental Justice/Language Access Plans and complete FY 2023 Goals and Accomplishments Report for submittal to MaineDOT
3	Promote full and fair participation of affected populations in the transportation decision-making and planning process.	6	Periodically review and update public involvement techniques.

Fiscal Year 2023 Accomplishments

BACTS provides inclusive access to, and encourages participation, throughout the metropolitan planning process. Notice of all public meetings, comment periods, planning documents, studies, and meeting agendas are posted on the BACTS website (<u>www.bactsmpo.org</u>). All of BACTS' committee meetings are open to the public and allow opportunity for public input. The <u>BACTS</u> <u>Public Participation Plan</u> 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.

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 members. BACTS Staff also serves as a technical resource to local transportation-related advocacy groups, and the general public. During the course of the year, advisory committees or workgroups were formed for various studies. These committees promoted full participation and representation from affected populations.

BACTS updates our website periodically to create a more user-friendly and streamlined appearance to the public. BACTS also increased social media presence through Facebook posts, Linked-in, YouTube channel, and the development of an Instagram page.

Fiscal Year 2023 Complaints, Investigations and Corrective Actions

There were no discrimination complaints received or required corrective action plans in fiscal year 2023.

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