

## **Appendix B**

### **TITLE VI Notice of Nondiscrimination Rights and Protections to Beneficiaries**

#### **Federal "Title VI/Nondiscrimination" Protections**

The Pioneer Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (PVMPO) operates its programs, services, and activities in compliance with federal nondiscrimination laws including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and related statutes and regulations. Title VI prohibits discrimination in federally assisted programs and requires that no person in the United States of America shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin (including limited English proficiency), be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal assistance. Related federal nondiscrimination laws administered by the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, or both prohibit discrimination on the basis of age, sex, and disability. These protected categories are contemplated within PVMPO's Title VI Programs consistent with federal interpretation and administration. Additionally, PVMPO provides meaningful access to its programs, services, and activities to individuals with limited English proficiency, in compliance with US Department of Transportation policy and guidance on federal Executive Order 13166.

#### **State Nondiscrimination Protections**

PVMPO also complies with the Massachusetts Public Accommodation Law, M.G.L. c 272 §§ 92a, 98, 98a, prohibiting making any distinction, discrimination, or restriction in admission to or treatment in a place of public accommodation based on race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, or ancestry. Likewise, PVMPO complies with the Governor's Executive Order 526, section 4 requiring all programs, activities, and services provided, performed, licensed, chartered, funded, regulated, or contracted for by the state shall be conducted without unlawful discrimination based on race, color, age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, creed, ancestry, national origin, disability, veteran's status (including Vietnam-era veterans), or background.

#### **Additional Information**

To request additional information regarding Title VI and related federal and state nondiscrimination obligations, please contact:

Title VI Specialist  
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission  
60 Congress Street  
Springfield, MA 01104-3419  
413-781-6045  
Fax: 413-732-2593 TTY/TDD: 413-781-7168  
Website: <http://www.pvpc.org>

#### **Complaint Filing**

To file a complaint alleging a violation of Title VI or related federal nondiscrimination law, contact the Title VI Specialist (above) within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory conduct.

To file a complaint alleging a violation of the state's Public Accommodation Law, contact the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination within 300 days of the alleged discriminatory conduct at:

Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD)  
One Ashburton Place, 6th Floor  
Boston, MA 02109  
617-994-6000  
TTY: 617-994-6196

June 18, 2014