



California High-Speed Rail Title VI Program Environmental Justice (EJ), Limited English Proficiency (LEP)

Deborah Harper, Chief Administrative Officer/Title VI Coordinator

Diana Guzman, EEO Branch Manager

Alex McCracken, Title VI and Small Business Programs Manager

Business Advisory Council

West Sacramento, CA

September 21, 2016



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❖ Title VI/Title VI Program Organization

❖ Environmental Justice/Public Involvement in Environmental Justice

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INCEPTION OF TITLE VI PROGRAM

- ❖ The California High-Speed Rail implemented Title VI requirements into its programs, activities and services.
- ❖ Board of Directors executed the following Title VI documents in 2012:
 - ✓ Title VI Program Plan
 - ✓ Title VI Policy
 - ✓ Environmental Justice Guidance
 - ✓ Environmental Justice Policy
 - ✓ Limited English Proficiency Plan and
 - ✓ Limited English Proficiency Policy
- ❖ Title VI Coordinator Position

TITLE VI

- ❖ The California High-Speed Rail Authority is committed to promote and protect community members' rights to participate meaningfully in decision-making that may affect them, promote full and fair opportunity for access to benefits, and minimize activities that result in a disproportionate distribution of burdens.



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TITLE VI PROGRAM ORGANIZATION

- ❖ Deborah Harper, Title VI Coordinator
- ❖ Lisa Marie Alley, Chief of Communications
- ❖ Diana Guzman, EEO Branch Manager
- ❖ Alex McCracken, Title VI Program Manager

- ❖ Responsible for:
 - ✓ Prompt Processing of Title VI Complaints
 - ✓ Develops Title VI Information for Public Dissemination
 - ✓ Develops Policy Directives
 - ✓ Collects and Analyzes Demographic Data
 - ✓ Ensures Documentation of Title VI Activities
 - ✓ Provides Technical Assistance to Staff and Consultants

WHAT IS TITLE VI?

- ❖ **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance. The rights of women, the elderly and the disabled are protected under related statutes.**
- ❖ **Policy Directive Number POLI-SB-03 – Executed in 2012**
- ❖ **Program Plan – Adopted by Board in 2012**

WHAT IS TITLE VI?

❖ Integrated in EVERYTHING we do:

- ✓ Administration
- ✓ Communications and Outreach
- ✓ Contracts and Procurement
- ✓ Environmental and Tribal Relations
- ✓ Operations and Maintenance
- ✓ Planning
- ✓ Right-of Way

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WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE?

- ❖ **Environmental Justice (EJ) is the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and income, including minority and low-income populations, with respect to the development, adoption, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws and policies.**
- ❖ **Policy Directive Number POLI-SB-02 – Executed in 2012**
- ❖ **EJ Guidance – Adopted by Board in 2012**

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE REQUIREMENTS



- ❖ For each project section, Environmental Justice outreach activities are required for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and issuance of the Record of Decision (ROD) by Federal Railroad Administration.
- ❖ Once ROD is issued and move to the Construction Phase, our Design-Build Contractors and Project Construction Managers are required to continue the Environmental Justice activities.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE REQUIREMENTS



❖ Follow the Environmental Justice guidelines included in the Environmental Methodology Guidelines, Version 5, June 2014.



❖ Guidelines include: the process of gathering relevant and sufficient data; conducting focused outreach to potential environmental justice populations; evaluating potential project and cumulative impacts on environmental justice populations; and identifying appropriate measures to mitigate the environmental justice impacts.



LOCATING EJ POPULATIONS?

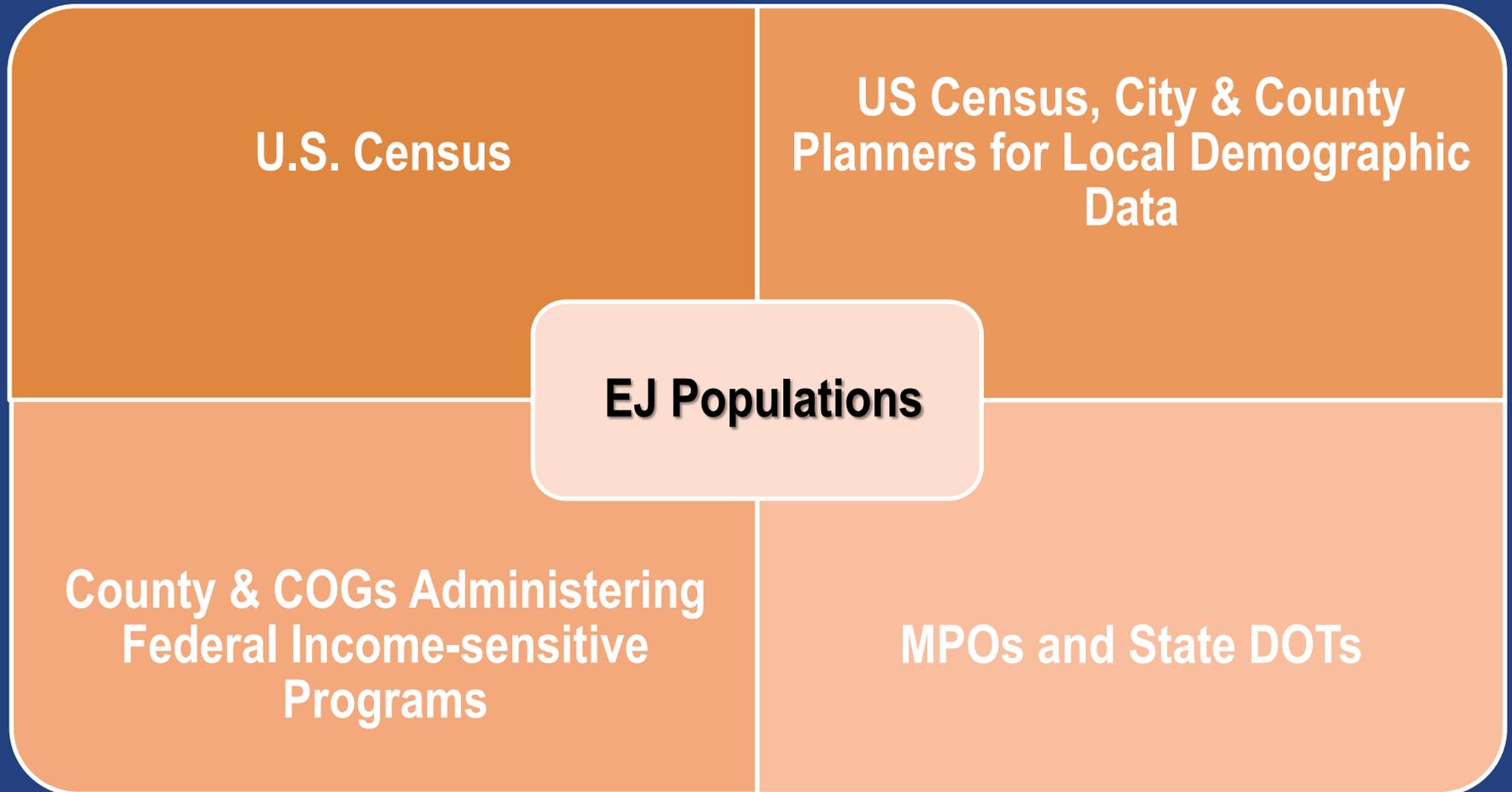


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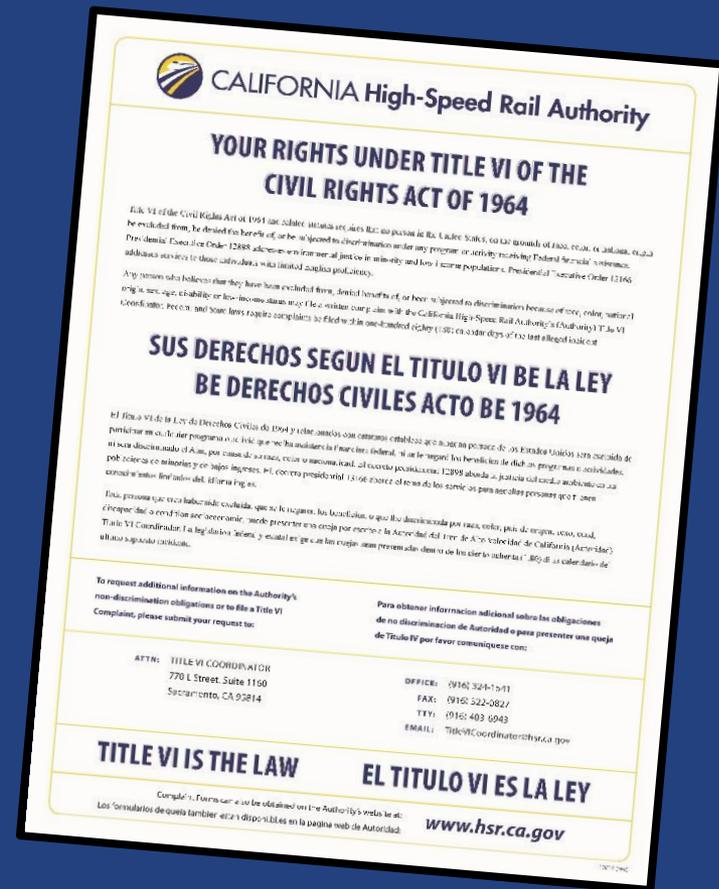
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WHAT IS LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY?

- ❖ **Limited English Proficiency (LEP) is a term used to describe individuals who do not speak English as their primary language and who have limited ability to read, write, speak or understand English.**
- ❖ **Policy Directive Number POLI-SB-04 – Executed in 2012**
- ❖ **LEP Plan – Adopted by Board in 2012**

PROVIDING MEANINGFUL ACCESS

- ❖ The Authority provides free language assistance to individuals whom we encounter or whenever an LEP individual requests language assistance.
- ❖ Provides LEP and disabled persons meaningful access to its services, including telephone based customer service, interpretation services, translation of printed materials including public meeting notices, and other customer based services.



TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION

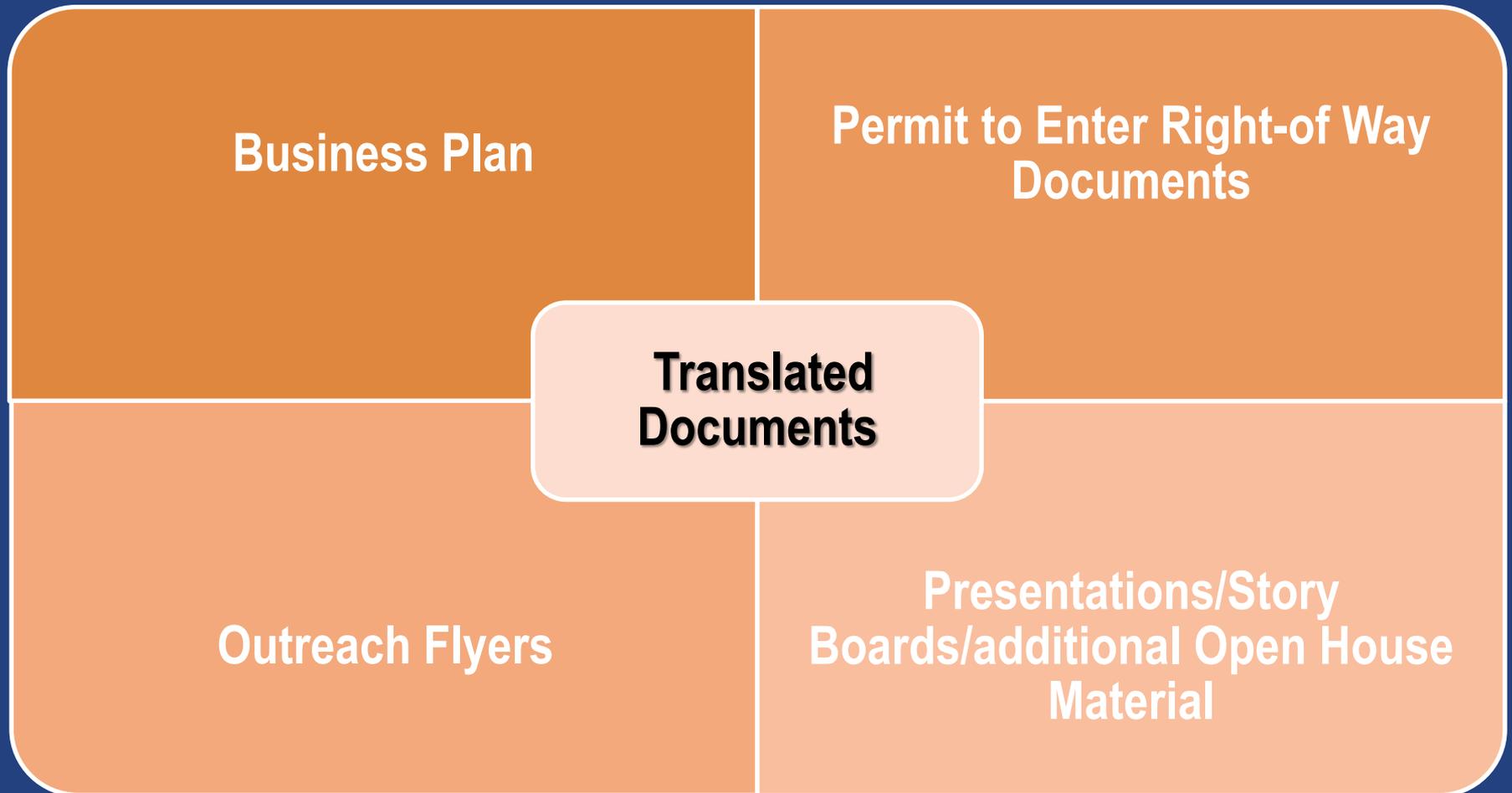
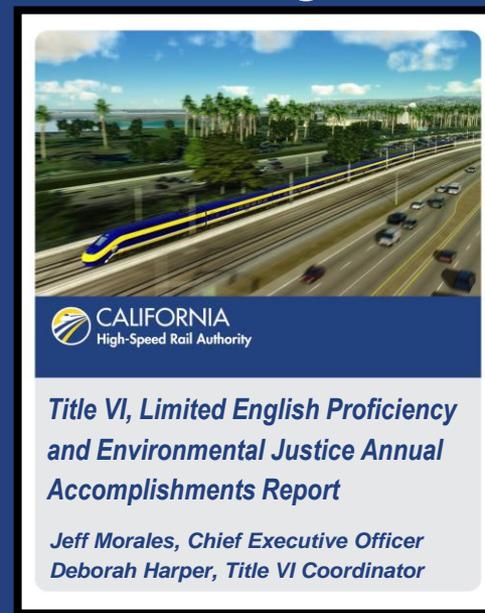


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REPORTING THE DATA

- ❖ Title VI Annual Accomplishment Report
- ❖ Submitted to Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
- ❖ Metrics to Report:
 - ✓ Organizational, Policy and Implementation Changes
 - ✓ Accomplishments
 - ✓ Compliance
 - ✓ Planned Activities
 - ✓ Complaints
 - ✓ Training
 - ✓ Etc.



TITLE VI DOCUMENTS FOUND ONLINE

Title VI Program Plan

Located:

http://hsr.ca.gov/docs/programs/title_VI/CHSRA%20Title%20VI%20Program%20Final%206-21-12.pdf

Title VI Policy Directive

Located:

http://hsr.ca.gov/docs/programs/title_VI/Title%20VI%20Policy.pdf

California High-Speed Title VI Website

Limited English Proficiency Plan

Located:

http://hsr.ca.gov/docs/programs/title_VI/CHSRA%20LEP%20Plan%20Final.pdf

Limited English Proficiency Policy Directive

Located:

http://hsr.ca.gov/docs/programs/title_VI/LEP%20Policy%209-7-12%202.pdf

TITLE VI DOCUMENTS FOUND ONLINE

Environmental Justice Guidance

Located:

http://hsr.ca.gov/docs/programs/title_VI/CHSRA%20EJ%20Guidance%208-14-2012.pdf

Environmental Justice Policy Directive

Located:

http://hsr.ca.gov/docs/programs/title_VI/EJ%20Policy%208-20-12%202.pdf

California High-Speed Title VI Website

Title VI Annual FRA Reports

Located:

http://hsr.ca.gov/Programs/title_VI_program.html

Environmental Methodology Guidelines Chapter 5

Located:

http://www.hsr.ca.gov/docs/programs/eir_memos/Project_EIR_EIS_Environmental_Methodology_Guidelines_Version5_1.pdf

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FUTURE TITLE VI ACTIVITIES

- ❖ Review and enhance Title VI Program Plan encompassing Environmental Justice and Limited English Proficiency Plans
- ❖ Review Title VI, Environmental Justice and LEP Policies and update as appropriate
- ❖ Update Title VI Page on California High-Speed Rail Public website

