

## Title VI Annual Report



Prepared By: Irene Higgs, Executive Director/Title VI Coordinator 7/22/2024

2024

#### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

#### INTRODUCTION

The Sun Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is committed to ensuring the full participation of all populations in regional planning activities. The Sun Corridor MPO nondiscrimination policy addresses Title VI, Environmental Justice and federal and state statues. Extensive public outreach and data analysis is conducted to provide equal benefit to protected populations and to protect those populations from shouldering a disproportionate burden during the planning process. This annual report details progress made, activities undertaken, and goals for involving the public in the transportation planning process.

For more information about this report or other civil rights concerns, please contact the Sun Corridor Title VI Coordinator, Irene Higgs, at (520) 705-5143.

#### REVIEW OF PROGRAM AREAS

To ensure compliance, each program and subrecipient is reviewed by the Sun Corridor MPO staff as contracts and planning agreements are developed. This includes a review of Title VI provisions to ensure adherence.

#### **Program Areas**

The Title VI Coordinator provides oversight to the program areas. Annually, the Title VI Coordinator will report data collected throughout the year and outline, in the Annual Report, the steps for each program area to comply with Title VI Program requirements.

- Executive Board Meetings
- > Technical Advisory Meetings
- > Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Air Quality Conformity
- > CAG/SCMPO Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan
- > Planning Studies

Listed below is an overview of each program area, data collected and program review.

#### Sun Corridor MPO Executive Board Meetings

It is the function of the Executive Board to act as a policy body, coordinating transportation planning and related implementation activities within the Sun Corridor MPO transportation region. The Board must approve all agreements and contracts, the Unified Planning Work Program/Budget and the Chairman must sign all appropriate documents related to contracts and agreements.

The activities include, but are not limited to, approving previous meeting minutes, approving various federal required documents and discussing and planning various transportation



related activities. Additionally, there is open discussion regarding the Regional Transportation Plan, Air Quality Conformity, Transportation Improvement Program, Pinal County Safety Plan, Transportation Alternative Projects, Safe Routes to School studies, and CAG/SCMPO Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan.

At all Executive Board meetings, the Sun Corridor MPO staff reads the Title VI statement, posts the Title VI Notice to the Public, makes available as handouts "Your Rights Under Title VI," and the "Self-Identification Survey". The Self-Identification Survey (English/Spanish) is also included on all agendas, website, and the MPO email meeting blast. No LEP services were requested for any of the meetings. 1 Self-Identification Surveys was completed by the public on-line; the remaining entries are based on our best guess:

#### ETHNICITY/RACE

	SUI	N CORRIDO	R MPO EXE	CUTIVE BOAR	RD MEETING	S			
Self-	Identification Survey	11-Jul-23	12-Sep-23	14-Nov-23	9-Jan-24	12-Mar-24	14-May-24	11-Jun-24	TOTAL
	American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Hispanic/Latino	2	2	2	2	3	2	1	14
ETHNICITY/RACE:	African American/Black	1	0	0	0	2	2	1	6
ETHINICITY KACE.	White	14	12	12	10	14	10	8	80
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	# Survey's Completed - Hard Copy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	# Survey's Completed - On-Line	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

The July 1, 2023—June 30, 2024 Executive Board meetings are generally held on the second Tuesday of every other month at 10:00 A.M. and are rotated between the cities of Casa Grande, Eloy and Coolidge. The public meetings are held at locations that are easily accessible and ADA compliant. Accommodations based on language and disability are available with at least 48 hours prior to the meetings. No special accommodations were requested.

#### Sun Corridor MPO Executive Board Meetings

Date	Location
July 11, 2023	City of Casa Grande Council Chambers
September 12, 2023	City of Coolidge Council Chambers
November 14, 2023	City of Eloy Council Chambers
January 9, 2024	City of Casa Grande Council Chambers
March 12, 2024	City of Eloy Council Chambers
May 14, 2024	City of Coolidge Council Chambers
June 11, 2024	Telephonic Meeting

Agendas were posted a minimum of 5 days prior to the meeting at the following locations:

- > Sun Corridor MPO website: <a href="mailto:scmpo.org">scmpo.org</a>
- ➤ City of Casa Grande City Hall

#### > Emailed to SCMPO Distribution List

The annual calendar of meetings was published in both English and Spanish on November 30, 2023, in the Casa Grande Tri-Valley and posted on the Sun Corridor MPO website at scmpo.org. The notice states the date of the meetings, time of the meetings, and location of the meetings. It also provides meeting agenda location information. Upon request, citizens may request and receive, at no cost, an e-mailed meeting agenda or mailed a hard copy.

#### Sun Corridor MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

The TAC has the authority, and primary responsibility to conduct technical reviews regarding all work activities of the Unified Planning Work Program; to recommend project awards; and to advise the Executive Board on appropriate actions to be taken for the overall planning direction of the region.

The activities included, but were not limited to, approving previous meeting minutes, approving various federal required documents and discussing and planning various transportation related activities. Additionally, there is open discussion regarding the Regional Transportation Plan, Air Quality Conformity, Transportation Improvement Program, Pinal County Safety Plan, Transportation Alternative Projects, Safe Routes to School studies, and CAG/SCMPO Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan.

At all TAC meetings the Sun Corridor MPO staff reads the Title VI statement, posts the Title VI Notice to the Public, makes available as handouts "Your Rights Under Title VI," and the "Self-Identification Survey". The Self-Identification Survey (English/Spanish) is also included on all agendas, website, and in the MPO email meeting blast. No LEP services were requested for any of the meetings. No Self-Identification Surveys were completed by the public; however, based on our best guess the following were in attendance:

#### ETHNICITY/RACE

									100
Self	-Identification Survey	5-Jul-23	24-Aug-23	26-0ct-23	14-Dec-23	22-Feb-24	25-Apr-24	6-Jun-24	TOTAL
	American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Hispanic/Latino	2	0	0	2	3	1	1	9
ETHNICITY/RACE:	African American/Black	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ETHNICITT/RACE.	White	5	7	7	7	10	7	5	48
	Other	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	3
	# Survey's Completed - Hard Copy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	# Survey's Completed - On-Line	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

The July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024 TAC meetings were generally held on the fourth Thursday of every other month at 1:00 P.M. through Webex and in person. Participants also had the option to call into the meeting. Accommodations based on language and disability are available with at least 48 hours prior to the meetings. No special accommodations were requested.

#### Sun Corridor MPO Technical Advisory Committee Meetings

Date Location

July 5, 2023 August 24, 2023 October 26, 2023 December 14, 2023 February 22, 2024 April 25, 2024 June 6, 2024 WebEx
City of Eloy City Hall
Pinal County Historic 1891 Courthouse, Florence
City of Coolidge Council Chambers
City of Casa Grande Council Chambers
City of Eloy City Hall
Pinal County Historic 1891 Courthouse, Florence

Agendas were posted a minimum of 5 days prior to the meeting at the following locations:

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- > City of Casa Grande City Hall
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The annual calendar of meetings was published in both English and Spanish on November 30, 2023 in the Casa Grande Tri-Valley and posted on the Sun Corridor MPO website at scmpo.org. The notice states the date of the meetings, time of the meetings, and location of the meetings. It also provides meeting agenda location information. Upon request, citizens may request and receive, at no cost, an e-mailed meeting agenda or mailed a hard copy.

#### Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) 2050

The Sun Corridor MPO published a Request for Proposals on October 13, 2022 to utilize a consultant to complete the Reginal Transportation Plan 2050 for the Sun Corridor MPO Region. The contract was awarded to Wilson & Company on December 12, 2022. This project is completed.

#### Public Involvement

A Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Four Factor Analysis was conducted early in the study process to determine if public engagement materials needed to be provided in any languages other than English.

#### Public Outreach Round #2: Rank Transportation Needs by Importance

The 2nd survey was published online in October 2023 in coordination with local public information officers and in local Newspaper ads on 10/22/2023 and received 20 responses, all in English. Event participants were invited to provide feedback through an online survey. Engagement activities were designed to foster communication and collaboration with the public to identify transportation needs by importance.

#### **Public Outreach Events**

As part of the Sun Corridor MPO RTP Update process, multiple public outreach events were attended so that community members could participate in activities related to transportation investment and share their priorities.

The public outreach events were intended to connect with the public during community events and receive input for where individuals would like to see future transportation funding invested, i.e. expansion, modernization, or preservation. The events included community safety day/nights and Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods (GAIN) nights. A booth was set up at each event where information about the Sun Corridor MPO 2050 RTP Update was provided in both English and Spanish, as well as two activities for the public to participate and provide input. Participants for all events included English and Spanish speaking residents. The events attended included:

- Casa Grande Silent Witness Night September 26, 2023 (70 participants)
- Eloy GAIN Night October 4, 2023 (22 participants)
- Coolidge GAIN Night October 19, 2023 (55 participants)



Casa Grande Silent Witness Night – September 26, 2023



Eloy GAIN Night - October 4, 2023

#### Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Air Quality Conformity for the Pinal County PM-10 and PM-2.5 Non-Attainment Areas

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a multi-year (5 year) program of transportation projects that is consistent with and implements the goals and objectives described in the Regional Transportation Plan 2050 Update. The TIP is required to be prepared in complete detail identifying projects, assign projects in appropriate periods, and to identify costs associated with each project as well as funding source. All federally funded transportation projects within the Sun Corridor MPO planning boundary must be programmed in the Sun Corridor TIP. All regionally significant transportation projects that are local or privately (developer) funded and that impact air quality conformity are also required to be programmed in the TIP.

Administrative changes as well as TIP Amendments are posted on the Sun Corridor MPO website at <a href="scmpo.org">scmpo.org</a>. The Sun Corridor Technical Advisory Committee meetings as well as the Sun Corridor MPO Executive Board meetings are open to the public, thereby providing an opportunity for the public to comment on any TIP changes done by the Sun Corridor MPO. Air Quality Conformity Analyses and TIP Amendments go out to the public for 30-day review.

On May 2, 2024 the legal advertisements for the 30-day Public Notice for the Winter Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the 2023-2027 Sun Corridor MPO TIP and Sun Corridor MPO Regional Transportation Plan 2050 Update, were published in the Casa Grande Tri-

Valley paper and posted on the Sun Corridor MPO website at <u>scmpo.org</u> in both English and Spanish. Following the 30-day comment period, no comments were received by the public.

#### CAG/SCMPO Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan Update 2024

CAG, in partnership with the Sun Corridor MPO, provides Mobility Management (MM) for both Pinal and Gila counties. The Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan (Plan) identifies transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults and people with low incomes; provides strategies for meeting these needs; and prioritizes transportation services for funding and implementation. Demographic maps and data are reviewed annually to ensure that services are being offered to the minority and low-income populations. CAG and Sun Corridor MPO are committed to providing outreach to nonprofit agencies providing services to persons with disabilities to discuss regional coordination and collaborative planning opportunities in human services transportation. This includes outreach to stakeholders in both Gila and Pinal County to ensure agencies from the small urban and rural areas have an opportunity to participate in regional coordination efforts.

To ensure equal benefit to protected populations and to protect those populations from shouldering a disproportionate burden during the planning process public participation is welcomed and encouraged by CAG and the Sun Corridor MPO. There are numerous and varied techniques/activities to provide the opportunity for public and stakeholder involvement. CAG and the Sun Corridor MPO obtain input in a variety of ways including, but not limited to public hearings, newspaper advertisements, small and large group presentations, committee meetings, website postings and e-mail correspondences.

On December 7, 2023 the legal advertisements for the 30-day Public Notice for the CAG/SCMPO Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan was placed in the following newspapers:

- > AJ News
- Casa Grande Dispatch (Through Tri-Valley Dispatch)
- > Florence Reminder
- San Manuel Miner
- Copper Basin News (Kearny, Dudleyville, etc.)
- Superior Sun
- Silverbelt (also Apache Moccasin, Copper Country News)
- Maricopa Monitor
- Payson Roundup

Committees: The formal process to review and approve this Plan included input from the following committees and local stakeholders beginning in September and concluded in January.

- ➤ Gila-Pinal Rides Committee Review—November 15, 2023
- CAG Technical Transportation Advisory Committee Recommend Approval of Plan Update – February 8, 2024

- ➤ Sun Corridor MPO Technical Advisory Committee Recommend Approval of Plan Update February 22, 2024
- ➤ Sun Corridor MPO Executive Board Approval of Plan March 12, 2024
- CAG Management Committee Recommend Approval of Plan Update March 12, 2024
- CAG Regional Council Approval of Plan Update April 1, 2024

#### Gila-Pinal Rides Committee Meeting

The Gila-Pinal Rides Committee is the steering committee for transit coordination issues within the CAG and the Sun Corridor MPO Region. The committee is comprised of transit providers and stakeholders from both Gila and Pinal Counties and rotates meeting time and locations or being held virtually. Presently, the Regional Mobility Manager brings together the FTA 5310 and 5311 providers, as well as interested stakeholders, to help coordinate transit, and to advance innovative ideas for the CAG and Sun Corridor MPO Region as a whole. The Gila-Pinal Rides Committee holds bi-monthly meetings with attendees from various agencies interested in public transportation. The meetings act as a forum to determine where the greatest needs are, to identify gaps in service, look for opportunities to coordinate services, provide collaboration among providers and help overcome the challenges faced throughout the Region.

5310-funded providers in the CAG/SCMPO region also identified the following anticipated funding needs in the upcoming fiscal years:

Agency	Description Request	Fiscal Year	Federal Share \$	Local Match \$	Estimated Amount \$
Central Arizona	Regional Mobility Management	FY24	\$110,000	\$27,500	\$137,500
Governments	Regional Mobility Management	FY25	\$110,000	\$27,500	\$137,500
	Replacement – 6-Pass Van w/Ramp	FY23	\$70,400	\$17,600	\$88,000
	Preventative Maintenance	FY23	\$12,000	\$2,000	\$10,000
	Preventative Maintenance	FY24	\$12,000	\$2,000	\$10,000
Payson Senior Center	Operations	FY23	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$30,000
	Operations	FY24	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$30,000
	Plus Ride Management Software	FY23	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$25,000
	Plus Ride Management Software	FY24	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$25,000
	Replacement – 7-Pass Van w/ramp	FY23	\$27,826	\$6,956	\$34,782
Pinal Hispanic Council	Replacement - 7-Pass Van (no ramp)	FY24	\$30,608	\$7,652	\$38,260
	Preventative Maintenance	FY23	\$6,400	\$1,600	\$8,000
	Preventative Maintenance	FY24	\$6,400	\$1,600	\$8,000
	•••	FY23	\$147,626	\$48,156	\$195,782
	GRAND TOTAL:	FY24	\$190,008	\$58,752	\$248,760
		FY25	\$110,000	\$27,500	\$137,500

The Gila-Pinal Rides Transportation Coordination Committee is the steering committee for transit coordination issues within the CAG and SCMPO Region. This steering committee is comprised of transit providers and stakeholders from Gila and Pinal Counties and meets six times a year (bimonthly).

Each meeting focuses on provider updates to provide insight, harvest best practices, and determine where coordinated efforts can be enhanced among the active group within the region. The Committee, in turn, will measure their activities with the goals and future of coordination in the CAG and SCMPO Region. Primary goals were identified as well as recommendations to enhance regional training efforts and reach out to transportation stakeholders currently using, directly or indirectly, 5310 and 5311 transportation resources. The "Title VI Notice to the Public" is provided at all committee meetings. No special accommodations were requested.

Gila-Pinal Rides Transportation Coordinati	on Committee 2024 Propos	ed Meeting Schedule
Wednesday - January 24, 2024	10:00 AM	Virtual Meeting / TBD
Wednesday - March 20, 2024	10:00 AM	Virtual Meeting / TBD
Wednesday - May 22, 2024	10:00 AM	Virtual Meeting / TBD
Wednesday - July 24, 2024	10:00 AM	Virtual Meeting / TBD
Wednesday - September 25, 2024	10:00 AM	Virtual Meeting / TBD
Wednesday - November 13, 2024	10:00 AM	Virtual Meeting / TBD

#### Pinal County Safety Plan/SCMPO Network Screening Crash and Analysis Tools Update

The Sun Corridor MPO contracted Greenlight Traffic Engineering to complete this project. Notice to Proceed was issued on June 22, 2023. The project is tentatively scheduled to be completed by August 2024.

#### **Public Outreach**

A LEP Four-Factory analysis was conducted for this project. Using available 2022 census data, it is determined that of the 439,655 individuals within the Pinal County region, 355,714 (80.9%) speak only English, and 83,941 (19.1%) speak a language other than English at home. Of those speaking another language at home, 25,156 (5.7%) are reported to have limited English proficiency. Individuals of limited English proficiency indicated on the census that they speak English "less than very well".

Under the Department of Justice's (DOJ) Safe Harbor provision, it is necessary to translate materials when five percent, or 1,000 individuals, whichever is less, speak English less than

"very well." Limited English Proficient Spanish speakers for the study area (Pinal County) fall under the DOJ Safe Harbor provision, there is a moderate to high likelihood that LEP persons will engage with the study and materials and services needed to provide language assistance are attainable from availability and cost standpoints. Due to the results, the study team (SCMPO) will provide the following for this study:

- Develop contacts, mailing/email lists, and other means to initiate and continue communications.
- Include Title Vi language in all advertisements for the public.
- > With reasonable advanced notice, provide requested interpretation/translation services at all public meetings.
- Provide digital and printed materials in the LEP language of the identified group (Spanish).
- Use visual images and other formats, especially at public meetings, when feasible.

#### **Public Events**

#### Coolidge Cotton Day's, March 1, 2024

On March 1st the Sun Corridor MPO staff had a booth at Coolidge Cotton Days. Crash Data Boards along with hard copies of a survey were available to event participants as well as a study postcard with a QR code that directed citizens to the study Public Outreach webpage. The webpage provided an electronic version of the survey as well as Social Pinpoint Mapping exercises where participants can drop a location pin and leave comments related to biking, walking, and driving. All public involvement materials were made available on English and Spanish. There were approximately 30 community members that visited the booth.



Coolidge Cotton Day's, March 1, 2024

#### Casa Grande State of the City, March 6, 2024

On March 6<sup>th</sup> the Sun Corridor MPO staff had a table at the Casa Grande State of the City event. Crash Data Boards were available as well as hard copy surveys for attendees to complete. Study postcards with a QR code to the study Public Outreach webpage were also available. All public involvement materials were made available on English and Spanish.

#### Ironwood 55+ Community, March 26, 2024

On March 26<sup>th</sup> the Sun Corridor MPO Staff and DPS Captain gave a presentation on the Pinal County Safety Study to the Ironwood 55+ Community. Crash Data Boards were available as well as hard copy surveys for the community to complete. There were approximately 60 community members in attendance.



#### Casa Grande Public Safety Day, April 6, 2024

On April 6<sup>th</sup> the Sun Corridor MPO staff had a booth at the Casa Grande Public Safety Day. Crash Data Boards along with hard copies of a survey were available to event participants along with a study postcard with the QR code to the study Public Outreach webpage. The booth was visited by approximately 150 citizens. All public involvement materials were made available on English and Spanish.



Casa Grande Public Safety Day, April 6, 2024

#### Public Open House San Tan, May 16, 2024

There was a public open house held on May 16<sup>th</sup> at the Pinal County Administration Building at 31505 N Schnepf Rd, San Tan Valley, AZ 85143. A presentation on the Pinal County Safety Study was given; Crash Data Boards along with hard copies of a survey were available to attendees along with a study postcard with the QR code to the study Public Outreach webpage. The survey and study postcard were provided in English and Spanish.



Public Open House San Tan, May 16, 2024

#### Online Engagement

Event participants were invited to provide feedback through engagement online, including mapping exercises and a survey. Activities were designed to foster communication and collaboration with the public to identify safety priorities and needs.

#### **English Survey**

Total surveys to date = 392

#### **English Title VI:**

• Total completed = 135

#### Spanish Title VI:

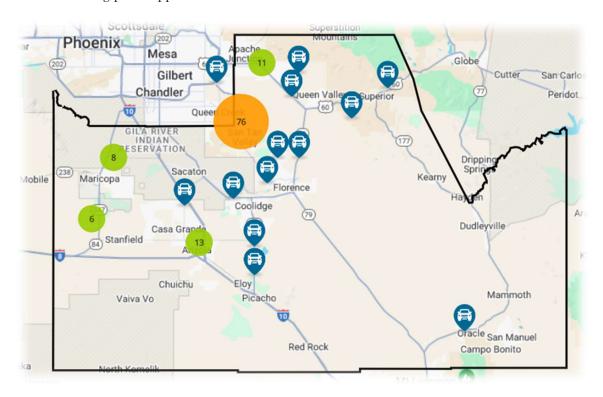
• Total completed = 0

#### **Spanish Survey:**

• Total surveys to date = 1

#### Social Pinpoint Mapping Survey

- Biking pins dropped = 54
- Walking pins dropped = 19
- Driving pin dropped = 119



Social Pinpoint Mapping Survey

#### REVIEW OF SUBRECIPIENTS

At the current time, the Sun Corridor MPO does not have any subrecipients.

#### REVIEW OF CONSULTANT CONTRACT

The Title VI Coordinator is responsible for overseeing the preparation and execution of all planning study contracts for consultants to ensure Title VI compliance. During the reporting period, the Sun Corridor MPO executed the following planning-related services/activities. The projects used a combination of federal and/or in-kind matching funds.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) for all MPO planning projects included the Title VI Assurances, nondiscrimination statements, and language pertaining to the incorporation of all Title VI provisions in every subcontract. Additionally, as part of the general RFP requirements for contracted planning studies, all federally funded projects are assessed for a DBE goal. The Sun Corridor MPO encourages and supports firms that are verified Disadvantaged Businesses Enterprises (DBE) and/or Minority Business Enterprises (MBE).

All RFP's are distributed to an extensive list of contractors, including DBE/MBE firms. All firms must be registered in AZ UTRACS to be eligible to apply.

Central Yavapai MPO and the Sierra Vista MPO established Consultant On-calls for Planning and Engineering studies. These On-call list can be utilized by all COG/MPOs in Arizona.

#### **Executed Contracts**

- SCMPO Regional Transportation Plan 2050 Wilson & Co, Inc., Engineers and Architects #MPD218164-4.1-1
  - DBE Goal Assessment 0%.
  - o Submitted a Bidders/Proposers list in the AZ UTRACS
  - Contract included Appendix A and E of the Assurances, DBE Provisions,
     Prompt Pay and Reporting Provisions
  - Consultant reported monthly in the ADOT LPA DBE System to ensure compliance
  - o Title VI Training PowerPoint Provided
  - No findings
- Pinal County Safety Plan/SCMPO Network Screening Crash and Analysis Tools Update – Greenlight Traffic Engineering, LLC # MPD218164-7.1
  - DBE Goal Assessment 0%.
  - Submitted a Bidders/Proposers list in the AZ UTRACS
  - Contract included Appendix A and E of the Assurances, DBE Provisions,
     Prompt Pay and Reporting Provisions
  - Consultant reported monthly in the ADOT LPA DBE System to ensure compliance
  - o Title VI Training PowerPoint Provided
  - o No findings

#### TITLE VI TRAINING

The following trainings took place during the reporting period:

#### Sun Corridor MPO

- October 26, 2023, SCMPO TAC Title VI Training
- November 14, 2023, SCMPO Executive Board Title VI Training
- June 11, 2024, Jason Bottjen, Annual Training
- June 11, 2024, ADOT Title VI Training, Irene Higgs

#### INVESTIGATIONS, LAWSUITS AND COMPLAINTS

No investigations, lawsuits or complaints have been filed against the Sun Corridor MPO or its member agencies from July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. A copy of the Complaint Log is included as an attachment (Exhibit "A") of this document.

#### GOALS

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

#### INTRODUCTION

In FY 2025, the Sun Corridor MPO has identified the following goals to ensure full compliance with Title VI, Environmental Justice and state and federal statutes.

#### REVIEW OF PROGRAM AREAS

The Title VI Coordinator provides oversight to the program areas. Annually, the Title VI Coordinator will report data collected throughout the year and explain the steps for each program area to comply with Title VI Program requirements.

- Executive Board Meetings
- > Technical Advisory Meetings
- > Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Air Quality Conformity
- > CAG/SCMPO Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan
- Coolidge Route Optimization Study
- > Regional Traffic Count, Data Collection and Mapping Project

Listed below are the goals for each program area.

#### Sun Corridor MPO Executive Board Meetings

It is the function of the Executive Board to act as a policy body, coordinating transportation planning and related implementation activities within the Sun Corridor MPO transportation region. The Board must approve all agreements and contracts, and the Chairman must sign all appropriate documents related to contracts and agreements.

The activities will include, but are not limited to approving previous meeting minutes, approving various federal required documents and discussing and planning various transportation related activities. Additionally, there will be open discussion and updates regarding the Air Quality Conformity, Transportation Improvement Program, CAG/SCMPO Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan, Regional Transportation Plan, Coolidge Safe Routes to School Study, Casa Grande Safe Routes to School Study and Pinal County Safety Study.

The July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 Executive Board meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday of every other month at 10:00 A.M. and are rotated between the cities of Casa Grande, Eloy and Coolidge. A call-in option is available at all meetings. The public meetings will be held at locations that are easily accessible and ADA compliant. Accommodations based on language and disability are available with at least 48 hours prior to the meetings. At all Executive Board meetings, the Sun Corridor MPO will read and posts the "Title VI Notice to the Public" and makes available as handouts "Your Rights Under Title VI" and



"Self-Identification Survey" in English and Spanish. The Self-Identification Survey (English/Spanish) is also included on all agendas, website, and included in the MPO email meeting blast.

#### Sun Corridor MPO Executive Board Meetings

**Date** Location

July 9, 2024 September 10, 2024 November 12, 2024 January 14, 2025 (Tentative) March 11, 2025 (Tentative) May 13, 2025 (Tentative) June 10, 2025 (Tentative) Eloy City Hall Chambers Casa Grande Council Chambers Coolidge Council Chambers Pinal County Complex, Casa Grande Eloy City Hall Chambers Casa Grande Council Chambers

Telephonic Meeting

Agendas will be posted a minimum of 5 – days prior to the meeting at the following locations:

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- > City of Casa Grande City Hall
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available as handouts "Your Rights Under Title VI" and "Self-Identification Survey" in English and Spanish. The Self-Identification Survey (English/Spanish) is also included on all agendas, website, and included in the MPO email meeting blast.

#### Sun Corridor MPO TAC Meetings

Date Location

August 24, 2023
City of Eloy City Hall
October 27, 2022
City of Coolidge Council Chambers
December 14, 2023
City of Casa Grande
February 22, 2024
City of Eloy City Hall
City of Coolidge Council Chambers
June 6, 2024
City of Casa Grande

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The 2025 calendar of meetings will be published November/December 2024 in the Casa Grande Tri-Valley Dispatch and posted on the Sun Corridor MPO website at <a href="scmpo.org">scmpo.org</a> in both English and Spanish. The notice states the date of the meetings, time of the meetings and location of the meetings. It also states where the agendas for the meetings are posted. Upon request, citizens may request and receive, at no cost, an e-mailed meeting agenda or mailed hard copy.

### Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Air Quality Conformity for the Pinal County pm-10 and pm-2.5 non-attainment areas

Administrative changes as well as TIP Amendments are posted on <u>scmpo.org</u>. The Sun Corridor Technical Advisory Committee meetings as well as the Sun Corridor MPO Executive Board meetings are open to the public, thereby providing an opportunity for the public to comment on any TIP changes done by the Sun Corridor MPO.

A legal advertisement is planned for August 2024 for the 30-day Public Notice for the Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the Spring 2024 Air Quality Conformity Analysis of the Sun Corridor MPO Transportation Improvement Program will be published in the Casa Grande Tri-Valley Dispatch paper and posted on the Sun Corridor MPO website at <a href="scruppo.org">scruppo.org</a>. All public notices will be made available in English and Spanish.

A legal advertisement is planned for the 30-day Public Notice for the Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the Spring 2025 Air Quality Conformity Analysis of the Sun Corridor MPO Transportation Improvement Program and Regional Transportation Plan 2050 will be published in the Casa Grande Tri-Valley Dispatch and posted on the Sun Corridor MPO website at <a href="mailto:scmpo.org">scmpo.org</a>. All public notices will be made available in English and Spanish. The public will be given 30 days to comment.

#### CAG/SCMPO Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan 2025

The Sun Corridor MPO will continue to partner with CAG to provide Mobility Management (MM) for both Pinal and Gila Counties. CAG and Sun Corridor MPO are committed to providing outreach to nonprofit agencies providing services to persons with disabilities to discuss regional coordination and collaborative planning opportunities in human services transportation. This includes outreach to stakeholders in Pinal County to ensure agencies in Pinal County from the small urban and rural areas have an opportunity to participate in regional coordination efforts. The Gila-Pinal Coordination meetings will be held every other month in Pinal and Gila Counties with the local and regional transit providers. Updates to the Human Services Transportation Coordination plan will begin in August 2022. CAG and the Sun Corridor MPO will obtain public/stakeholder input on the update to the Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan to ensure equal benefit to protected populations and to protect those populations from shouldering a disproportionate burden during the planning process. Public participation is welcomed and encouraged by CAG and the Sun Corridor MPO. Methods will include but not be limited to, public hearings, newspaper advertisements, small and large group presentations, committee meetings, website posts and e-mail correspondences. All public notices will be made available in English and Spanish.

Public Notices will be placed in the following newspapers:

- > AJ News
- Casa Grande Dispatch (Through Tri-Valley Dispatch)
- > Florence Reminder
- > San Manuel Miner
- Copper Basin News (Kearny, Dudleyville, etc.)
- Superior Sun
- ➤ Silverbelt (also Apache Moccasin, Copper Country News)
- Maricopa Monitor
- Payson Roundup

#### Pinal County Safety Plan/SCMPO Network Screening Crash and Analysis Tools Update

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Greenlight Traffic Engineering will conduct the final round of public meetings to inform the public on the findings of the Plan and to educate attendees on the safety concerns of the area.

Greenlight Traffic Engineering will also provide a minimum of five informational and educational presentations. Two of the presentations will be to the Pinal County Board of Supervisors. The remaining three will be to the Sun Corridor MPO Executive Board, Central Arizona Governments Regional Council, and Maricopa Association of Governments Management Committee.

Greenlight Traffic Engineering's experience in STSP development highlights the key ingredient for successful implementation of STSP recommendations: participation and buy-in from local agencies. The Greenlight Traffic Engineering team will meet with SCMPO's member agencies throughout the development of the plan to obtain information, feedback, and guidance, especially for identification of safety strategies and projects.

#### City of Casa Grande Safe Routes to School Study

Project is scheduled to advertise in July 2024. A LEP Four-Factory analysis will be conducted for this project. Public involvement is planned for this project; however, the Public Involvement Plan has not been finalized.

#### City of Coolidge Safe Routes to School Study

Project is scheduled to advertise in August 2024. A LEP Four-Factory analysis will be conducted for this project. Public involvement is planned for this project; however, the Public Involvement Plan has not been finalized. Project is scheduled to advertise in August 2024.

#### SUN CORRIDOR MPO WEBSITE

Update website to include approved Title VI documents. An accessibility test on the SCMPO website was completed in 2023 and it scored a 48 out of 75. We are looking at plugins/software that will bring it up to a score of 75 or higher. This will be a goal for this year.

#### REVIEW OF SUBRECIPIENTS

Continue to review all program areas and subrecipients for compliance with Title VI requirements.

#### REVIEW OF CONSULTANT CONTRACTS

The Title VI Coordinator is responsible for overseeing the preparation and execution of all planning study contracts for consultants to ensure Title VI compliance. Continue to review all contracts for compliance through contract review, training, onsite visits and personal interviews of staff.

#### **Consultant Contracts**

- Pinal County Safety Plan/SCMPO Network Screening Crash and Analysis Tools Update
- City of Casa Grande Safe Routes to School Study
- City of Coolidge Safe Routes to School Study

#### **Contract Compliance**

- > Title VI Training
- Ensure contract includes most recently signed Assurances, Appendix A and E of the Assurances, DBE Provisions, and Prompt Pay and Reporting Provisions.
- > Consultant reports monthly in the ADOT LPA DBE System to ensure compliance.

- > Provide Technical assistance.
- > Correct deficiencies if necessary.

#### TITLE VI TRAINING

The Title VI Coordinator will seek and offer Title VI training opportunities to MPO staff, committee members, and consultants in FY 2024.

- > Sun Corridor MPO Staff Annually, provide staff with Title VI Training, to include new hires. Staff will partake in FTA/FHWA Title VI and Environmental Justice Training that is made available throughout the year.
- > Executive Board This training will occur annually and functions as part training and debriefing regarding highlights from the previous reporting year. The training portion is high-level and is tailored to identify and address major challenges and special emphasis areas findings from the Title VI Implementation Plan and Annual Goals and Accomplishment Report.
- > Technical Advisory Committee This training will occur annually and functions as part training and debriefing regarding highlights from the previous reporting year. The training portion is high-level and is tailored to identify and address major challenges and special emphasis areas. Findings from the Title VI Implementation Plan and Annual Goals and Accomplishment Report.
- > Subrecipients/Consultants Subrecipients and Consultant contracts will be reviewed to ensure that the assurances are being followed, which will be followed by training. The content of the training is developed specifically to address the issues/challenges facing each subrecipient as communicated through the subrecipient review. At the current time, the Sun Corridor MPO does not have any subrecipients.

#### INVESTIGATIONS, LAWSUITS AND COMPLAINTS

The Sun Corridor MPO will strive to have zero complaints for FY2025.

#### APPENDIX A - COMPLAINT LOG



# Annual Report Date: July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024

Title VI Com	plaints, Inve	Title VI Complaints, Investigations and Lawsuits	d Lawsuits		
Description/Name	Date Month, Day & Year	Date Month, Funding Source Day & Year (FHWA or FTA)	Summary (Basis of Complaint)*	Status	Actions / Final Findings
Complaints					
1) Nane					
2)					
3)					
Investigations					
1)None					
3)					
3)					
Lawsuits					
1)None					
2)					
3)					

"Specific category, i.e. Race, Color or National Origin

Report to be Submitted Annually to ADOT Title VI Department; a NIL Report is Required