Title VI

What is Title VI?

Title VI is a section of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 requiring that "No person in the United States shall on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." Note that Title VI does not address gender discrimination. It only covers race, color, and national origin. Other Civil Rights laws prohibit gender discrimination.

What is LEP?

As part of Title VI requirements, the Town of Winter Park has developed a Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan to help identify reasonable steps to provide language assistance for LEP persons seeking meaningful access to the Town of Winter Park services as required by Executive Order 13166 "Improving Access to Services for Persons With Limited English Proficiency," reprinted at 65 FR 50121 (August 16, 2000). A Limited English Proficiency person is one who does not speak English as their primary language and who has a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English.

The Town of Winter Park's Complaint and Investigation Procedures

These procedures cover all complaints filed under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, for alleged discrimination in any program or activity administered by the Town of Winter Park.

These procedures do not deny the right of the complainant to file formal complaints with other State or Federal agencies or to seek private counsel for complaints alleging discrimination. Every effort will be made to obtain early resolution of complaints at the lowest level possible. The option of informal mediation meeting(s) between the affected parties and the Town of Winter Park may be utilized for resolution. Any individual, group of individuals or entity that believes they have been subjected to discrimination prohibited under Title VI and related statutes may file a complaint.

The following measures will be taken to resolve Title VI complaints:

1) A formal complaint must be filed within 180 calendar days of the alleged occurrence. Complaints shall be in writing and signed by the individual or his/her representative, and will include the complainant's name, address and telephone number; name of alleged discriminating official, basis of complaint (race, color, or national origin) and the date of alleged act(s). A statement detailing the facts and circumstances of the alleged discrimination must accompany all complaints.

The Town of Winter Park strongly encourages the use of the <u>Town of Winter Park Title</u> <u>VI Complaint Form</u> when filing official complaints.

The preferred method is to file your complaint in writing using the <u>Town of Winter Park</u> <u>Title VI Complaint Form</u>, and sending it to:

> Transit Manager Town of Winter Park 50 Vasquez Road Winter Park, CO 80482 Phone: 970-726-8081

- 2) In the case where a complainant is unable or incapable of providing a written statement, a verbal complaint of discrimination may be made to the Town of Winter Park Town Manager by calling the phone number listed above. Under these circumstances, the complainant will be interviewed, and the Town of Winter Park Town Manager will assist the Complainant in converting the verbal allegations to writing.
- 3) When a complaint is received, the Town Manager will provide written acknowledgment to the Complainant, within ten (10) calendar days by registered mail.
- 4) If a complaint is deemed incomplete, additional information will be requested, and the Complainant will be provided 60 calendar days to submit the required information. Failure to do so may be considered good cause for a determination of no investigative merit.
- 5) Within 15 calendar days from receipt of a complete complaint, the Town of Winter Park will determine its jurisdiction in pursuing the matter and whether the complaint has sufficient merit to warrant investigation. Within five (5) calendar days of this decision, the Town of Winter Park Town Manager or his/her authorized designee will notify the Complainant and Respondent, by registered mail, informing them of the disposition.
 - a. If the decision is not to investigate the complaint, the notification shall specifically state the reason for the decision.
 - b. If the complaint is to be investigated, the notification shall state the grounds of the Town of Winter Park's jurisdiction, while informing the parties that their full cooperation will be required in gathering additional information and assisting the investigator.
- 6) When the Town of Winter Park does not have sufficient jurisdiction, the Town of Winter Park Town Manager or his/her authorized designee will refer the complaint to the appropriate State or Federal agency holding such jurisdiction.

- 7) If the complaint has investigative merit, the Town of Winter Park Town Council will instruct the Town Manager to fully investigate the complaint. A complete investigation will be conducted, and an investigative report will be submitted to the Town Council within 60 calendar days from receipt of the complaint. The report will include a narrative description of the incident, summaries of all persons interviewed, and a finding with recommendations and conciliatory measures where appropriate. If the investigation is delayed for any reason, the Town Manager will notify the appropriate authorities, and an extension will be requested.
- 8) The Town of Winter Park Town Manager or his/her authorized designee will issue letters of finding to the Complainant and Respondent within 90 calendar days from receipt of the complaint.
- 9) If the Complainant is dissatisfied with the Town of Winter Park's resolution of the complaint, he/she has the right to file a complaint with the:

Federal Transit Administration Region 8 Attn: Civil Rights Officer 12300 West Dakota Avenue Suite 310 Lakewood, CO 80228 Phone: 720-963-3300 Fax: 720-963-3333

FTA Complaint procedures can also be found on the FTA web site at: <u>www.fta.dot.gov</u>. These procedures are also outlined in FTA Circular 4702.1B, Chapter IX.