

Resolution No. 2024-xxx N.C.S.
of the City of Petaluma, California

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2024 TITLE VI PROGRAM UPDATE FOR PETALUMA TRANSIT
ENSURING EQUITABLE AND NON-DISCRIMINATORY ACCESS TO TRANSIT SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the federal government enacted the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, to prevent discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex, age, disability, or national origin and to ensure that individuals are not excluded from participation in, denied benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance based on race, color, sex, age, disability, or national origin; and

WHEREAS, the City of Petaluma is committed to ensuring that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any Petaluma Transit Program, service, or activity regardless of the funding source; and

WHEREAS, Petaluma Transit is committed to ensuring non-discriminatory access to all its transit services, and compliance with Title VI is a vital part of ensuring equitable services to the community; and

WHEREAS, Petaluma Transit is committed to ensuring that its policies and programs are designed to ensure meaningful participation in and access to transit services for minority, low-income, and limited English-proficient populations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Petaluma is an eligible project sponsor for FTA Section 5307 and Section 5339 funds and obligated to comply with any and all FTA regulations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Petaluma has benefitted greatly from inclusion into the FTA Section 5307 and 5339 Funding Programs, and wishes to continue eligibility for these funds for projects, such as bus replacements, facility renovations, communication equipment procurement, and operating assistance/preventative maintenance; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the FAST ACT, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, eligible project sponsors wishing to receive Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 and Section 5339 grants for a project shall be required to follow all published FTA guidance documents; and

WHEREAS, FTA requires that grant recipients, such as the City of Petaluma and Petaluma Transit and Paratransit, submit a Council approved Title VI Program every three years documenting compliance with Title VI; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 Title VI Program Update (Exhibit A) has no significant programmatic changes, but includes updates to several program components, including demographics of system users, the Language Assistance Plan, the Public Participation Plan, multilingual translation services, and Title VI complaints received and investigating procedures; and

WHEREAS, the proposed action is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the following reasons:

1. The proposed action is exempt the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15378, in that the updating of the Title VI Plan does not meet CEQA's definition of a “project,” because the action does not have the potential for resulting either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and because the action constitutes organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.
2. The proposed action is exempt under the common-sense exemption, CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed action could have a significant impact on the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Petaluma as follows:

1. Declares the above recitals to be true and correct and are incorporated herein as findings to this resolution.
2. The City Council of the City of Petaluma hereby approves and adopts the 2024 Title VI Program Update, attached hereto as Exhibit A, as required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to ensure compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended.
3. The City of Petaluma reaffirms its commitment to providing equitable and non-discriminatory access to transit services for all individuals, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or limited English proficiency, and ensures that Petaluma Transit services are delivered in a fair and equitable manner.
4. The City finds that the adoption of the 2024 Title VI Program is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061 and 15378, in that the updating of a Title VI plan does not meet CEQA's definition of a “project,” because the action does not have the potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and because the action constitutes organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Under the power and authority conferred upon this Council by the Charter of said City.

REFERENCE:	I hereby certify the foregoing Resolution was introduced and adopted by the Council of the City of Petaluma at a Regular meeting on the 18 day of November 2024, by the following vote:	Approved as to form:
		_____ City Attorney

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor