

Title 49 CFR, Appendix C, Section (3)(iv) requires that “the location of projects requiring land acquisition and the displacement of persons from their residences and business may not be determined on the basis of race, color, or national origin.” For purposes of this requirement, “facilities” does not include bus shelters, as they are considered transit amenities. It also does not include transit stations, power substations, or any other project evaluated by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Facilities included in the provision include, but are not limited to, storage facilities, maintenance facilities, operations centers, etc. In order to comply with the regulations, Lowndes County Transit System will ensure the following:

1. The Lowndes County Transit System will complete a Title VI equity analysis for any facility during the planning stage with regard to where a project is located or sited to ensure the location is selected without regard to race, color, or national origin. Lowndes County Transit System will engage in outreach to persons potentially impacted by the siting of the facility. The Title VI equity analysis must compare the equity impacts of various siting alternatives, and the analysis must occur before the selection of the preferred site.
2. When evaluating locations of facilities, the Lowndes County Transit System will give attention to other facilities with similar impacts in the area to determine if any cumulative adverse impacts might result. Analysis should be done at the Census tract or block group level where appropriate to ensure that proper perspective is given to localized impacts.
3. If the Lowndes County Transit System determines that the location of the project will result in a disparate impact on the basis of race, color, or national origin, Lowndes County Transit System may only locate the project in that location if there is a substantial legitimate justification for locating the project there, and where there are no alternative locations that would have a less disparate impact on the basis of race, color, or national origin. Lowndes County Transit System must demonstrate and document how both tests are met. Lowndes County Transit System will consider and analyze alternatives to determine whether those alternatives would have less of a disparate impact on the basis of race, color, or national origin, and then implement the least discriminatory alternative.

The Lowndes County Transit System has not recently constructed any facilities nor does it currently have any facilities in the planning stage. Therefore, the Lowndes County Transit System does not have any Title VI Equity Analysis reports to submit with this Plan. The Lowndes County Transit System will utilize the demographic maps included in Appendix I for future Title VI analysis.

10.0 System-Wide Service Standards and Service Policies

FTA Circular 4702.1B, Chapter III, Paragraph 10: All fixed route transit providers shall set service standards and policies for each specific fixed route mode of service they provide.

The Lowndes County Transit System is not a fixed route service provider.