

City of Marco Island

**Title VI/Nondiscrimination Policy and Plan** 

# City of Marco Island Title VI/Nondiscrimination Policy and Plan

### **Policy Statement:**

The City of Marco Island values diversity and welcomes input from all interested parties, regardless of cultural identity, background or income level. Moreover, the city believes that the best programs and services result from careful consideration of the needs of all of its communities and when those communities are involved in the transportation decision making process. Thus, the City of Marco Island does not tolerate discrimination in any of its programs, services or activities. Pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other federal and state authorities, the city will not exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject to discrimination anyone on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, income or family status.

## **Complaint Procedures:**

The City of Marco Island has established a discrimination complaint procedure and will take prompt and reasonable action to investigate and eliminate discrimination when found. Any person who believes that he or she has been subjected to discrimination based upon race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, family or income status in any of city's programs, services or activities may file a complaint with the City of Marco Island Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Leslie W. Sanford Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator 50 Bald Eagle Drive Marco Island FL 34145 Email: Isanford@cityofmarcoisland.com Phone: 239-389-5000 Fax: 239-389-4359 Hearing Impaired: Florida Relay Phone: 239-389-5000



If possible, the complaint should be submitted in writing and contain the identity of the complainant; the basis for the allegations (i.e., race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability or family status); and a description of the alleged discrimination with the date of occurrence. If the complaint cannot be submitted in writing, the complainant should contact the Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator for assistance.

The Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator will respond to the complaint within thirty (30) calendar days and will take reasonable steps to resolve the matter. Should the city be unable to satisfactorily resolve a complaint, the city will forward the complaint, along with a record of its disposition to the appropriate District of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

The City's Title VI Coordinator has 'easy access' to the City Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and is not required to obtain management or other approval to discuss discrimination issues with the CEO. However, should the complainant be unable or unwilling to complain to the city, the written complaint may be submitted directly to Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). FDOT will serve as a clearing house, forwarding the complaint to the appropriate state or federal agency:

Florida Department of Transportation Equal Opportunity Office ATTN: Title VI Complaint Processing 605 Suwannee Street MS 65 Tallahassee, FL 32399



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### ADA/504 Statement:

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and related federal and state laws and regulations forbid discrimination against those who have disabilities. Furthermore, these laws require federal aid recipients and other government entities to take affirmative steps to reasonably accommodate the disabled and ensure that their needs are equitably represented in transportation programs, services and activities.

The city will make every effort to ensure that its facilities, programs, services, and activities are accessible to those with disabilities. The city will make every effort to ensure that its advisory committees, public involvement activities and all other programs, services and activities include representation by the disabled community and disability service groups.

The city encourages the public to report any facility, program, service or activity that appears inaccessible to those who are disabled. Furthermore, the city will provide reasonable accommodation to disabled individuals who wish to participate in public involvement events or who require special assistance to access facilities, programs, services or activities. Because providing reasonable accommodation may require outside assistance, organization or resources, the city asks that requests be made at least 2 calendar days prior to the need for accommodation. Questions, concerns, comments or requests for accommodation should be made to the city's ADA Officer: Building Official, Raul Perez, III.

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# Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Guidance:

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 13166, and various directives from the US Department of Justice (DOJ) and US Department of Transportation (DOT) require federal aid recipients to take reasonable steps to ensure meaningful access to programs, services and activities by those who do not speak English proficiently. To determine the extent to which LEP services are required and in which languages, the law requires the analysis of four factors:

- The number or proportion of LEP persons eligible to be served or likely to be encountered by the City's programs, services or activities.
- The frequency with which LEP individuals come in contact with these programs, services or activities.
- The nature and importance of the program, service, or activity to people's lives and;
- The resources available to the City and the likely costs of the LEP services.

The analyses of these factors suggest that LEP services are not required at this time. Therefore the City of Marco Island has committed to the following:

The City of Marco Island understands that its community profile is changing and the four factor analysis may reveal the need for more or varied LEP services in the future. As such, it will annually examine its LEP plan to ensure that it remains reflective of the community's needs.