

Provide Meaningful Access to LEP Persons

Four Factor Analyses

1. The number or proportion of LEP persons eligible to be served or likely to be encountered by a program, activity, or service of the recipient or grantee.

The Lawton Metropolitan Planning Organization's primary service area is the City of Lawton. The population for the City of Lawton in the 2014 Census American Community Survey was reported as 97,017 as compared to 90,766 in the 2009 Census. Of the population five years and older persons in Lawton, 12.3 % (11,076) of the population speak a language other than English. The State of Oklahoma average is 9.6%. The City of Lawton has an average above that of the state regarding LEP population.

Of the 12.3% (11,076) in Lawton, only 3.5% (3,135) speak English less than well. 6.1% (5,462) speak Spanish in the home, and 1.8% (1,645) of those Spanish speaking persons speak English less than well. 2.6% (2,366) Indo-European persons speak languages at home with 0.4% (386) speaking English less than well. 2.3% (2,075) Asian persons speak an Asian language at home with 1.0% (930) of those speaking English less than well. All other persons speaking other languages in the home are 1.3%.

2. The frequency with which LEP individuals come in contact with the program.

Historically, LMPO has had few requests for interpreters and no requests for translated program documents in the last year. LMPO anticipates the frequency over time will either remain stagnant or become slightly more prevalent over time based on census data for 2014. The Lawton Metropolitan Planning Organization will abide by the DOJ's safe harbor provision, based on the percentage of residents that reside within the city limits.

3. The nature and importance of the program, activity, or service provided by the recipient to people's lives.

There are no geographic areas with concentration of Hispanic LEP individuals within the boundaries of the LMPO; the Hispanic LEP population resides throughout the MPO. As a result, LMPO's strategic plan to focus on outreach to LEP individuals extends to all citizens. LMPO has translated Lawton Area Transit System route maps and informational material changes to Spanish; additionally, public meeting announcements regarding the TIP and Metropolitan Transportation Plans are also translated and posted to the LMPO website in Spanish (located at lawtonmpo.org).

4. The resources available to the recipient and costs.

LMPO reviewed its available resources that could be used for providing LEP assistance and reviewed its documents that would be the most valuable to be translated if the need should arise. Bi-lingual (English/Spanish) assistance is available through different forms:

- Website provides Title VI Notice to Beneficiaries and how to ask for language assistance in Spanish.
- Title VI complaint form is available in Spanish.
- Public meeting announcements regarding the TIP and Metropolitan Transportation Plans are also translated and posted to the LMPO website in Spanish (located at lawtonmpo.org)
- LMPO will train its employees on Understanding of the Title VI Policy and LEP responsibilities, securing translation services, and the Title VI complaint process

LMPO will continue to monitor future Census data from the American Community Survey and the decennial Census to ensure that LEP populations are being properly served.

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