



# **City of Newton**

## **Title VI Annual Accomplishment Report for 2018**

Per the City of Newton Title VI Non-Discrimination Program  
Established December 2012

Date of Report: February 21, 2019

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## **TITLE VI PROGRAM**

The City is responsible to complete a Title VI Annual Accomplishment Report each year. The Report is completed early each year to reflect updates and changes that occurred during the previous calendar year.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 states "No person in the United States shall, on the ground 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. Subsequent laws, executive orders and regulations further prohibit discrimination due to disability, sex (gender), age, limited English proficiency, environmental justice, and acquisition of right-of-way and property impacts.

The City of Newton is a Local Planning Agency (LPA) and receives Federal Highway Administration money for the planning and construction of transportation systems. The funds from the Federal Highway Administration are distributed to LPA's through the Iowa Department of Transportation. To be eligible to receive federal money, the State of Iowa and each LPA shall have a Title VI Non-Discrimination Program. The Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) provides assistance to LPA's for Title VI compliance.

The City of Newton established a Title VI Non-Discrimination Program in December 2012, per City Council Resolution 2012-139. Being a city with a population of less than 250,000, the City of Newton has a Title VI Non-Discrimination Agreement with the Iowa DOT. The City also has a Title VI Non-Discrimination Policy Statement and a Standard DOT Title VI Assurances. The Standard DOT Title VI Assurances was updated at the City Council meeting on January 12, 2015, per City Council Resolution 2015-003.

The City of Newton established an Americans with Disability Act Transition Plan in March 2013, per City Council Resolution 2013-046. City staff updates this plan annually.

The City of Newton has Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program for the Newton Municipal Airport. The current airport DBE program is a 3-year plan adopted in July 2018.

### **Policy Statement:**

No changes have been made to the City of Newton Title VI Non-Discrimination Policy Statement dated December 13, 2012.

### **Organization, Staffing, Structure:**

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## **MONITORING AND REVIEW PROCESS**

The following goals for 2018 have been accomplished, implemented, or continued:

- 1) The City attempted to collect voluntary demographic information at public information sessions. The City held one public information session regarding public works projects on April 12, 2018. Demographic information was collected using a voluntary attendee questionnaire.
- 2) The City continued to use the Master Builders online statewide bid notification system, which reaches a considerably larger pool of potential bidders, contractors, subcontractors, and suppliers.
- 3) The City continued to work on the implementation of goals included in the City of Newton ADA Transition Plan (see 2018 accomplishments below).

## **FEDERAL FUNDED PROJECTS**

The City awarded a contract that used Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) funds for an Airport Master Plan in 2016. This currently ongoing project follows the FAA Title VI guidelines including the City of Newton 3-year Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program adopted for the Newton Municipal Airport in July 2015 and recently updated in July 2018.

The City of Newton either awarded a contract or continued work on the following Iowa DOT project contracts that received Federal funds in 2018:

1. Iowa Speedway Drive Concrete Overlay                      STP-U-5482(613)--70-50

The Iowa Speedway Drive Concrete Overlay project was a PC concrete overlay project. Iowa Speedway Drive is an arterial street that connects Newton to Interstate I-80. The completed project had a positive impact on the community with no known impact to any particular demographic group of people during or after construction.

The following projects to receive federal funds through the Iowa DOT are scheduled to be designed and contracts awarded in 2019 are:

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Ave E HMA Mill & Overlay                                      STP-U-5482(621)--70-50
2. Airport Fuel System Upgrades
3. Airport Apron Expansion Project

The 1<sup>st</sup> Ave E HMA Mill & Overlay project will mill and overlay the street and include sidewalk construction where there is currently no sidewalk. 1<sup>st</sup> Ave E is a commercial arterial street and the project will have a positive impact on the community with no known impact to any particular demographic group of people.

The Airport Fuel System Upgrades includes the construction of two new underground fuel tanks, new fuel dispenser cabinets, and related items at the Newton Airport. The project will have a positive impact on the Airport with no known impact to any particular demographic group of people.

The Airport Apron Expansion Project includes the construction of additional aircraft parking aprons at the Newton Airport. The project will have a positive impact on the Airport with no known impact to any particular demographic group of people.

## **PUBLIC MEETINGS**

The City of Newton holds frequent public meetings, including regular and special meetings of the City Council, board meetings, workshop sessions, and project information planning meetings. These meetings are free and open to the public in accordance with Iowa Open Meetings laws.

On a regular basis, sign language interpreters, assisted listening devices, and auxiliary services are not provided at City meetings. However, upon request, interpreters or alternate materials can be made available for individuals at public meetings. In the event that a sign language interpreter is requested, the City will coordinate services with an interpreter currently licensed by the Iowa Board of Sign Language Interpreters and Transliterations.

An open house for various proposed Public Works projects was held at the Newton City Hall on April 12, 2018. A media release for the meeting was sent to the local newspaper and radio. Social media and local newspaper advertising was done for the open house. A sign-in sheet was provided at the meeting and voluntary demographic information was collected.

## **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY ACT (ADA)**

The City ADA Transition Plan is updated annually. During the past six years an average of \$89,331 has been spent annually to improve accessibility throughout the City. These improvements are completed using a combination of allocated funds for accessibility improvements, funds spend on improving accessibility during street or other public improvement projects, and accessibility improvements completed in the right-of-way by private development projects.

2018 ADA improvements completed include:

- Improvements at the Library included:
  - The Children's restroom washed converted to an ADA accessible family restroom. \$3,000
  - Diaper changing stations were installed in both public restrooms at an ADA acceptable height so all can use them. \$1,000
  - New service desks (Circulation, Information & Children's) were installed at the library that follow ADA standards for turn around and height. \$85,000
  - The newly installed layout for the Library follows the minimum 36 inches clearance in all stack and furniture arrangements, with most spaces allowing more than 36 inches. (cost incidental to remodeling project)
- Improvements at the Fire Department included a new ADA-compliant main entrance door. \$17,000
- ADA accessible walks and seating areas were installed at Agnes Patterson Park connecting the pit toilet, the upper and middle ball fields, and the ballfield parking lot. \$25,513
- Accessible walks and seating areas were constructed at the Maytag Bowl. The \$25,055 in project costs were funded 100% by the Newton Rotary Club.
- Public Works crews installed/updated the following curb ramp locations:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> St N & N 5<sup>th</sup> Ave: 1 updated curb ramp. \$1,320
  - 1<sup>st</sup> St N & N 4<sup>th</sup> Ave: 1 updated curb ramp. \$1,320
  - 1471 Cardinal Ridge Dr.: 1 updated curb ramp. \$1,320

The City has an inventory of needed curb ramps and has prioritized the curb ramps into high priority and lower priority areas. High priority areas are located within approximately ¼ mile radius of city, county, state and federal government facilities, hospitals, assisted care facilities, and school buildings. High priority areas also

include areas where a request has been made or where a person(s) with mobility needs lives or travels via sidewalks.

In the 8-year period from 2011 through 2018, the number of intersection corners with vertical curbs has decreased from 418 to 318 (a 24% reduction). The number of intersection corners with vertical curbs and/or noncompliant ramps has decreased from 775 to 625 (a 19% reduction).

The ADA accessibility improvements the City has made have a positive impact to most, if not all, demographic groups of people.

### **LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY (LEP)**

According to the 2013 American Community Service Survey, 99.4% of adults in Newton speak English very well. It is estimated that 0.4% of adults (47 persons) do not speak English very well. The language spoken by these adults is Spanish, Indo-European, or Asian/Pacific Island, with none being substantially more than another.

### **COMPLAINTS**

The City has not received any complaints during the past year regarding discrimination.

Information about the City of Newton Title VI and ADA programs are on the City website at [www.newtongov.org](http://www.newtongov.org). The information includes the process of how to file a complaint.

### **TITLE VI RECORDS - 2017**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
4-12-2018	Open house for various proposed Public Works projects was held at the Newton City Hall. Attendees were asked to complete a questionnaire. Questionnaire results were tabulated.

Throughout 2018 we kept the list of projects out to bid updated on the City website. We also included upcoming projects being designed and projects that had been awarded.

### **2019 GOALS**

- Continue to collect voluntary demographic information at public information sessions and project open houses.
- Continue to use the Master Builders online statewide bid notification system.
- Continue to look for new ways to reach people from all demographics.
- Continue meeting our goals in the City of Newton ADA Transition Plan.

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February 21, 2019