

02 TITLE VI NOTICE TO BENEFICIARIES

INTRODUCTION

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) maintains and disseminates a Title VI Notice to Beneficiaries document which informs members of the public of their rights and protections under MassDOT's programs, services, and activities receiving federal financial assistance from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The text of the approved notice is provided below.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION RIGHTS AND PROTECTIONS TO BENEFICIARIES

Federal “Title VI/Nondiscrimination” Protections

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) operates its programs, services, and activities in compliance with federal nondiscrimination laws including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and related statutes and regulations. Title VI prohibits discrimination in federally assisted programs and requires that no person in the United States of America shall, on the grounds of **race, color, or national origin** (including **limited English proficiency**), be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal assistance. Related federal nondiscrimination laws administered by the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, or both prohibit discrimination on the basis of **age, sex, and disability**. These protected categories are contemplated within MassDOT's Title VI Programs consistent with federal interpretation and administration. Additionally, MassDOT provides meaningful access to its programs, services, and activities to individuals with limited English proficiency, in compliance with US Department of Transportation policy and guidance on federal Executive Order 13166.

State Nondiscrimination Protections

MassDOT also complies with the Massachusetts Public Accommodation Law, M.G.L. c 272 §§ 92a, 98, 98a, prohibiting making any distinction, discrimination, or restriction in admission to or treatment in a place of public accommodation based on **race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, or ancestry**. Likewise, MassDOT complies with the Governor's Executive Order 526, section 4 requiring all programs, activities, and services provided, performed, licensed, chartered, funded, regulated, or contracted for by the state shall be conducted without unlawful discrimination based on **race, color, age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, creed, ancestry, national origin, disability, veteran's status** (including Vietnam-era veterans), or **background**.

Additional Information

To request additional information regarding Title VI and related federal and state nondiscrimination obligations, please contact:

Title VI Specialist
MassDOT, Office of Diversity and Civil Rights
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116
857-368-8580
TTY: 857-368-0603
MASSDOT.CivilRights@state.ma.us

Complaint Filing

To file a complaint alleging a violation of Title VI or related federal nondiscrimination law, contact the Title VI Specialist (above) within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory conduct.

To file a complaint alleging a violation of the state's Public Accommodation Law, contact the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination within 300 days of the alleged discriminatory conduct at:

Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD)
One Ashburton Place, 6th Floor
Boston, MA 02109
617-994-6000
TTY: 617-994-6196

LANGUAGES

MassDOT considers the Title VI Notice to Beneficiaries to be a vital document in that it is a primary mechanism for informing the public of the agency's nondiscrimination obligations and the procedures through which beneficiaries can request more information or file Title VI complaints. For that reason, and in accordance with MassDOT's Language Access Plan, the Notice is translated into the top ten languages across the Commonwealth (Portuguese, Spanish, Chinese simplified and traditional, Russian, Haitian Creole, Vietnamese, French, Italian, Khmer, and Arabic). The standalone English language version as well as the full translated versions of the Notice are included in Appendix 02-A. The English language version of the Notice also includes instructions in each of the same ten languages on how to request any needed translations or additional information (referred to as the "language riders"), also included below.

Language Riders

English: If this information is needed in another language, please contact the MassDOT Title VI Specialist at 857-368-8580.

Portuguese: Caso esta informação seja necessária em outro idioma, favor contar o Especialista em Título VI do MassDOT pelo telefone 857-368-8580.

Spanish: Si necesita esta información en otro idioma, por favor contacte al especialista de MassDOT del Título VI al 857-368-8580.

Chinese Simplified: (mainland & Singapore): 如果需要使用其它语言了解信息，请联系马萨诸塞州交通部（MassDOT）《民权法案》第六章专员，电话 857-368-8580。

Chinese Traditional: (Hong Kong & Taiwan): 如果需要使用其它語言了解信息, 請聯繫馬薩諸塞州交通部 (MassDOT) 《民權法案》第六章專員, 電話857-368-8580。

Russian: Если Вам необходима данная информация на любом другом языке, пожалуйста, свяжитесь со специалистом по Титулу VI Департамента Транспорта штата Массачусетс (MassDOT) по тел: 857-368-8580.

Haitian Creole: Si yon moun vle genyen enfòmasyon sa yo nan yon lòt lang, tanpri kontakte Espesyalis MassDOT Title VI la nan nimewo 857-368-8580.

Vietnamese: Nếu quý vị cần thông tin này bằng tiếng khác, vui lòng liên hệ Chuyên viên Luật VI của MassDOT theo số điện thoại 857-368-8580.

French: Si vous avez besoin d'obtenir une copie de la présente dans une autre langue, veuillez contacter le spécialiste du Titre VI de MassDOT en composant le 857-368-8580.

Italian: Se ha bisogno di ricevere queste informazioni in un'altra lingua si prega di contattare lo Specialista MassDOT del Titolo VI al numero 857-368-8580.

Khmer: ប្រសិនបើលោក-អ្នកត្រូវការរបកប្រែពីភាសានេះ សូមទាក់ទងអ្នកឯកទេសលើជំពូកទី6 របស់**MassDot** តាមរយៈលេខទូរស័ព្ទ **857-368-8580**

Arabic: 857-368-8580

إن كنت بحاجة إلى هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى، يُرجى الاتصال بأخصائي الفقرة السادسة على الهاتف

POSTING

MassDOT relies on a variety of methods to post and disseminate the Title VI Notice to Beneficiaries, including:

- Electronic posting on the MassDOT Office of Diversity and Civil Rights Title VI website
(<http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/OfficeofCivilRights/TitleVI.aspx>)
- Physical posting in MassDOT's public-facing offices, including:
 - The Office of the Secretary/CEO of MassDOT
 - The Office of Diversity and Civil Rights
 - The Human Resources Department
 - MassDOT District Offices (six locations across the Commonwealth)

The current draft of MassDOT's Title VI Notice to Beneficiaries has been shared with all thirteen (13) transportation planning organizations across the Commonwealth. The leadership and staff of these organizations have been instructed to adopt this Notice and disseminate accordingly through individual discussions between each of these organizations and ODCR in February and March of 2014. The MPOs/RPAs will report on these activities in their June 1, 2014 triennial Title VI Program submissions to MassDOT. The additional dissemination of the Notice adopted by the MPO/RPAs will be reported by MassDOT to FTA in subsequent Title VI program submissions, as supported by the MPO/RPA Title VI report documents. MassDOT also makes the current draft of the Notice to Beneficiaries available to subrecipient Regional Transit Agencies (RTA's) with the same instruction and opportunity to review subsequent use by these subrecipients.

MassDOT is currently finalizing a revised Public Participation Plan (PPP). At the time of this writing, the plan is being reviewed as part of the federally required 45 day public comment period with final revisions anticipated immediately thereafter. Part of the new PPP protocols require MassDOT and consultant staff to display the Notice to Beneficiaries at public meetings/hearings.

An abbreviated version of the full notice is also included in publications (such as study results and newspaper announcements), meeting/hearing notices, email announcements, and regular statewide correspondence with stakeholders by the Office of Diversity and Civil Rights (ODCR).

Photographs of Posted Notice

Included here are photographs of the Title VI Notice to Beneficiaries poster on display in MassDOT's public offices.

Figure 02.1 Title VI Notice posted at public entrance to MassDOT Office of Diversity and Civil Rights



Figure 02.2 Title VI Notice posted at public entrance to MassDOT Office of Diversity and Civil Rights

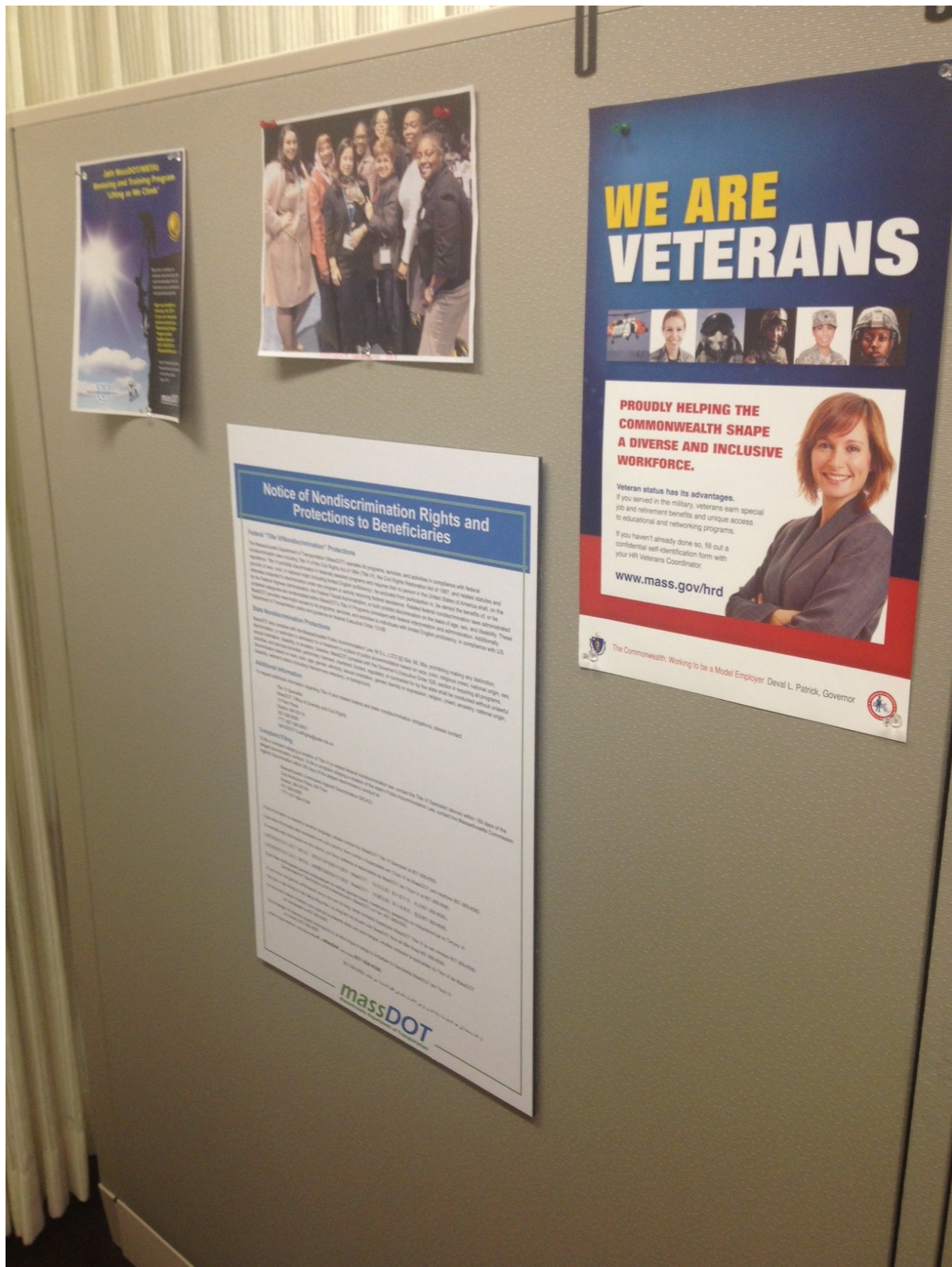


Figure 02.3 Title VI Notice posted at public entrance to the Office of the Secretary & CEO



Figure 02.4 Title VI Notice posted at public entrance to the Office of the Secretary & CEO

