It is the policy of the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for transportation planning in Berks County, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, to ensure that "no person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability; be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity" for which the MPO receives Federal financial assistance. Furthermore, it shall be the policy of the MPO to ensure that as a recipient of Federal-aid funding, it will ensure nondiscrimination in all of its programs and activities whether Federally funded or not. The MPO is steadfast in its commitment to ensure the uniform adoption of this policy.

Accordingly, to ensure compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and other pertinent directives, the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for transportation planning in Berks County, commits to:

1. Conducting and operating each of its programs and facilities in compliance with all requirements imposed by, or pursuant to, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and other pertinent directives;

2. Providing nondiscriminatory methods of administration for programs and to give reasonable guarantee that the MPO, sub-recipients, sub grantees, contractors, subcontractors, transferees, successors in interest, and other participants of Federal Financial Assistance under such programs will comply with all requirements imposed by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and other pertinent directives; and

3. Promptly taking any measures necessary to effect compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and other pertinent directives.

Further, the MPO's efforts to prevent discrimination will address, but not be limited to, a program's impact upon access, benefits, participation, treatment, services, contracting opportunities, training opportunities, investigation of complaints, allocation of funds, prioritization of projects and the functions of right of way, research, planning, design, construction and environmental.
In accordance with Federal Highway Administration Regulation 23 CFR 200.9, and Title 49 CFR, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary Part 21, and FTA Circular 4702.1B the MPO has developed procedures for prompt processing and disposition of the Title VI complaints. Any person believing the MPO or any of its sub-recipients has violated Title VI in the administration of its programs or activities may file a complaint with the MPO’s Title VI Compliance Officer.

Overall responsibility for this policy is assigned to:

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
C/O BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
MICHAEL D GOLEMBIEWSKI, TITLE VI COMPLIANCE OFFICER
633 COURT STREET 14TH FLOOR
READING PA 19601
PHONE: 610-478-6300 Ext. 6304
FAX: 610-478-6316
EMAIL: mgolemiewski@countyofberks.com

The person named above is appointed as the Title VI Compliance Officer and is responsible for the implementation the MPO’s Title VI Program. Individuals with questions or requiring additional information relating to this policy or the implementation of the MPO’s Title VI Program should contact the person listed above.

Michael W. Rebert, P.E.
Chairman, Reading MPO

Date