



PROWERS AREA TRANSIT
407 EAST OLIVE ST
LAMAR, COLORADO 81052

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PROWERS AREA TRANSIT (LEP) LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT POLICY

Updated 6-9-2021

“The Mission of Prowers Area Transit is to provide dependable and safe rides for all individuals who request services in Prowers County who wish to connect with local resources and community activities.”

This LEP policy is being implemented for the following reasons: 7% of the residents of Prowers County speak another language than English in their homes and 39% of the residents of Prowers County are of Hispanic descent.

This Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan, for Prowers Area Transit has been developed in response to federal requirements included under Section 601 of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d), which provides that no person shall “on the grounds of race, color, national origin or gender be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

Federal Executive Order No. 13166, issued in August 2000 by President Clinton, “Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency,” was created “...improve access to federally conducted and federally assisted programs and activities for persons who, as a result of national origin, are limited in their English proficiency (LEP)...” President Bush affirmed his commitment to Executive Order 13166 through a memorandum issued on October 25, 2001, by Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, Ralph F. Boyd, Jr. and Acting Assistant Attorney General, Loretta King directed a strengthening of enforcement of title VI in a memorandum dated July 10, 2009.

As a sub-recipient of funds from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), through the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), this Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Policy for Prowers Area Transit has been developed to ensure compliance with Federal LEP regulations.

It is the policy of Prowers Area Transit to ensure that our programs and activities, normally provided in English, are accessible to Limited English Proficiency (LEP) persons and thus do not discriminate on the basis of national origin in violation of the Title VI prohibition against national origin discrimination. Prowers Area Transit will, to the maximum extent feasible in its official deliberations and communications, community outreach and related notifications provide appropriate alternative non-English formats for persons with LEP to access information and services provided.

Using the U.S. Census American Community Survey 2007-2011 estimates, population 5 years old and older, who speak English ‘Not well’ or ‘Not at All’, the following is the statistics for Prowers County:



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1. Prowers County:

a. Total Populations 12,172

- i. Populations speaking English 'Not Well' or 'Not at All': 802
- ii. Speaking Spanish: 698
- iii. Speaking Other Indo-European: 19
- iv. Speaking Other: 64

Using this information from the U.S. Census American Community Survey 2017 there is a high need to respond to individuals in our service area who have difficulty with English. Those who do have difficulty are primarily Spanish speakers but there is also a small percentage of individuals speaking other Indo-European and other languages.

In response to this, Prowers Area Transit has implemented the following:

1. Spanish versions of our service brochures, with other languages available upon request.
2. Spanish translators are available for our dispatchers and staff when the need arises. (from SAGE Nutrition and Colorado Workforce who are housed in the same building, the Lamar Community Resource and Senior Center).
3. 'Basic Spanish for Transit Employees' booklet issued to all staff and drivers.
4. On the County Website, under Prowers Area Transit there is a Spanish language tab with our basic information on our services.
www.prowerscounty.net
5. Become familiar with web-based Alta Vista Babel Fish for phrase translation into or from multiple languages.
6. Become familiar with Language Line Services at
<http://www.language.com>
7. Identify other community resources such as agencies serving LEP persons which may have resources to share. (ex. Prowers County Department of Human Services, Prowers County Nursing Service)
8. Distribute our LEP brochures to these agencies serving LEP populations in our area and/or for individual requests.

Similarly, as the need arises we will consider the following staff training topics:

1. Federal LEP requirements, your LEP Plan and Title VI
2. Staff and Driver awareness training
3. Documenting language assistance requests
4. Use of any of the language assistance measures as described above

Prowers Area Transit will monitor and update as needed, this policy every 2 to 3 years. This will include:

1. Reviewing our LEP Plan with staff and Prowers Area Transit Advisory Board members and make adjustments, as needed.



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2. Pay particular attention to demographic changes in our area and to any LEP related complaints we receive.

The following original policy was reviewed and Adopted by the Prowers County Board of Commissioners on May 9, 2013. Original policy was signed and recorded in Prowers County

Updated on June 9, 2021 with approval

Darren Glover
Operation Director
Prowers Area Transit
Facility Coordinator
Lamar Community Resource and Senior Center