

APPENDIX G

Environmental Justice Plan

“Environmental justice” is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, ethnicity, income, national origin, or educational level with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies. For the purpose of this Schuyler County Plan, fair treatment means that no population is forced to bear a disproportionate burden of the negative human health and environmental impacts, including social and economic effects, resulting from transportation decisions, programs and policies made, implemented and enforced at the Federal, State, local or tribal level.

Guiding Principles: The Schuyler County Environmental Justice Plan is guided by the following 3 principles:

- To avoid, minimize, or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects, on minority populations and low-income populations.
- To ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the transportation decision-making process.
- To prevent the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority and low-income populations.

To ensure compliance with these Guiding Principles, Schuyler County will:

- Continuously monitor its programs, policies, and activities to ensure that disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority populations and low-income populations are avoided, minimized or mitigated in a manner consistent with these principles
- Actively administer and monitor its operations and decision-making to assure that nondiscrimination and the prevention of disproportionately high and adverse effects are an integral part of its programs, policies, and activities
- Train staff to identify and report incidences of observed service denial or reduction of any capacity in the day to day activities of all County departments
- Make efforts to ensure services are equally available to all populations regardless of race, age, socioeconomic status, and other factors, and indicate so on publications and our website as necessary
- Revisit the County’s Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement from time to time and update as necessary
- Immediately investigate and rectify any complaints received (from all populations which include minorities and those of low-income) from the public as they relate to the denial or reduction in services received.