

Executive Order NO. 2022-06
Citywide Language Access Policy

WHEREAS, limited proficiency in the English language can prevent City residents from fully accessing City services and activities;

WHEREAS, according to the 2019 American Community Survey, 11,632 immigrants, or 30.7% of the immigrant population living in the city have Limited English Language Proficiency (LEP).

WHEREAS, according to the American Community Survey and local administrative data, the top three spoken languages other than English are Spanish, Zopau, and Hmong;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the City of Tulsa's ongoing commitment to becoming an inclusive world-class city that promotes opportunity for all its residents, and in recognition of our diverse community and need to support our growing immigrant population, the City has developed a policy that provides residents language access to City programs, services and activities regardless of their English language proficiency;

WHEREAS, it is essential that all residents, regardless of their proficiency in speaking, writing, reading or understanding the English language, have meaningful access to City programs, services, and activities;

WHEREAS, the public safety, health, economic opportunity, and general welfare of all City residents is furthered by providing language access to City programs and services;

WHEREAS, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits local agencies that receive federal funds from denying benefits to or discriminating against persons on the basis of race, color or national origin under any program or activity receiving such funds;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Presidential Executive Order No. 13166, "Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency," executed on August 11, 2000, federally funded agencies are required to take steps to ensure that people with LEP have access to federally funded programs and services;

WHEREAS, national origin is one of the protected classes based on Title 5, Chapter 1, Section 100 of the City of Tulsa's Code of Ordinances.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GT BYNUM, Mayor of the City of Tulsa by the powers vested in me by the City of Tulsa Charter, do hereby **ORDER** as follows:

SECTION 1. Policy.

- A. This Order establishes and adopts the City of Tulsa Language Access Policy attached hereto as Attachment A ("Policy") for the purpose of providing access to City programs and services for those with limited English language proficiency.
- B. All City of Tulsa departments are directed to fully comply with the requirements of the Policy and immediately implement the same in accordance with its procedures and implementation responsibilities.

SECTION 2. This Order Shall take effect immediately.

Dated this 9th day of November, 2022. *2022*



[Handwritten signature in green ink]

G.T. Bynum, Mayor

NOV 09 2022

ATTEST:

[Handwritten signature in blue ink]

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

[Handwritten signature in blue ink]

City Attorney