

HASCO-EHA 2018 Analysis of Impediments (AI) and Language Access Plan (LAP) RFP

F.A.Q.

8/06/18

1) Describe the primary reasons why the EHA and HASCO are pursuing this research at this time, recognizing that HUD has extended the deadline for compliance with the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) rule until October 31, 2020 or later.

ANSWER: Prior to HUD's 2017 announcement extending the Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) deadline, HASCO and EHA, along with Snohomish County and the Cities of Everett and Marysville, had been preparing to jointly execute an extensive AFH in time for the County's next five-year consolidated plan cycle beginning July 1, 2020. Though that project was canceled due to the delay of the AFH requirement, HASCO's and EHA's last AIs were both conducted back in 2011, and Snohomish County government (the Participating Jurisdiction for the county) last had an AI completed in 2012. In recognition of our obligation and each agency's goals to affirmatively further fair housing, and because both agencies have grown and made many changes to our programs since they were last reviewed in 2011, HASCO and EHA have agreed to continue with plans to initiate new AIs and LAPs.

2) Clarify whether the selected consultant should prepare two AI documents, one for each housing authority, or one joint document covering both jurisdictions. The same clarification would be helpful regarding the LAP.

ANSWER: The selected consultant should prepare two separate AI documents, one for each housing authority. Our expectation is for the LAPs created for HASCO and EHA to be tailored for each agency and its particular demographic mix of clients. However, basic methodology, background information, and other aspects of the plans may be identical for the two LAPs where logical.

3) Does the EHA and/or HASCO already have an LAP in place? If so, would that/those document(s) be available for review?

ANSWER: Neither EHA nor HASCO currently has a LAP in place, although each agency's Housing Choice Voucher Administrative Plan has policies and procedures regarding LEP applicants and participants. The Administrative Plans will be provided to the selected consultant for review.

4) Who currently provides translation services for the EHA and HASCO? Are the EHA and HASCO satisfied with their services?

ANSWER: HASCO relies on a number of different translation providers, depending on the language for which translation is needed. The list of providers HASCO relies upon can be provided to the selected consultant.

EHA has previously obtained translation services from Refugee & Immigrant Forum via Everett Community College.

HASCO and EHA are open to identifying new translation service providers that may be able to serve our agencies, particularly those that can translation documents into languages for which we currently do not have a translator.

5) Would the EHA and HASCO consider contracting with a team of firms in order to ensure availability of the all required skill sets and experience? Is there any preference for contracting with a single firm/team or with multiple?

ANSWER: Yes, we would be open to contracting with two different firms to handle the AI and LAP halves of the project separately. If the contracted firms choose to further sub-contract aspects of their project to other firms, that is permissible if they sign the appropriate non-disclosure agreements to protect our tenants' privacy.