

WHATCOM COUNTY - AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2023; 1:00-2:00PM

Location: Virtual Meeting (via Zoom)

Committee Members Present:

John Radwanski

Paul Glasser

ADA Coordinator and County Representatives:

Karen Hemmett, ADA Coordinator, HR Rep

Julie Smith, HR Office Coordinator

Rob Ney, Project & Operations Manager, Facilities

Rebecca Xczar, Whatcom County Assessor

1. **Welcome, roll call, meeting instructions** (Karen Hemmett)

2. **Whatcom County Facilities Report:** (Rob Ney)

Restrooms Accessibility Issue Update

- Facilities completed installation of the ADA compliant door closures on the first-floor public restrooms. They have ordered an additional set to be installed next on the fourth-floor restrooms that are difficult to access. Additional closures will be ordered for the second and third floors in the future.
- Facilities is also working on relocating the courthouse security location. The south end doors have now been locked for employee access and citizens needing extra assistance. An additional security guard has been stationed there as well as a call button for anyone needing to use that entrance.
- Facilities is working with an architect and one of the judges in District Court to make her courtroom more accessible. The project has been designed and signed off to begin, but the project is taking longer than expected due to a delay in getting a permit from City of Bellingham. Once the permit is obtained, funds will be secured and they will go to the bidding process for construction. This is the first of several courtrooms planned to be updated.
- Karen asked if there will also be a call button on the inside of the south courthouse entrance for individuals needing help exiting the building. Rob said they purchased an interface to place there, which will allow the door to open.
- Rob was asked how long the door would remain open, which could cause a security breach. He said they would be monitoring the door to make sure non-employees are properly screened.

3. **Public comment period:** None

4. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, June 7th 2023

5. **Adjournment:** Meeting ended at 11:22 am