

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

MEETING SUMMARY

Date: Wednesday, December 7, 2022; 11:00AM-12:00PM

Location: Virtual Meeting (via Zoom)

Committee Members Present:

Mark Challender

Paul Glasser

ADA Coordinator and County Representatives:

Karen Hemmett, ADA Coordinator, HR Rep

Julie Smith, HR Office Coordinator

Rob Ney, Project & Operations Manager, Facilities

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1. **Welcome, roll call, meeting instructions** (Karen Hemmett)
 2. **Committee Member Introductions**
 3. **Whatcom County Facilities Report:** (Rob Ney)

Restrooms Accessibility Issue Update

- Facilities is working on remote push access and is currently installing electric. Staff is working on installing latches after hours and will be able to mount them after this weekend. Rob contacted Mark Challender regarding recommendation for height placement.
- Mark said lower end of the scale is best, due to some people who can't reach up. This would be around 3 to 3 ½ ft high.

Elevator Ramp Project in rotunda of courthouse update

- Trevor Speidel has left employment with Facilities and Danny Goger has replaced him and is working on the lift project. The manufacturer has said there is an additional part that needs to be ordered with the lift. Mark recommended Advantage Elevators to assist. Rob will forward the information to Danny.
4. **Committee Vacancy:** Vacancies are posted on the Whatcom County website [here](#). Wendy Miller is leaving the committee. This vacancy needs to be filled by someone in the community with a disability.
 5. **Hearing assistance signage in Council Chambers follow-up:** This has been completed. There are now signs inside the chambers advising of the availability of hearing devices.
 6. **Public comment period:** No members of the public were present.
 - Karen asked for ideas regarding different resources she can provide for members of the public when she receives calls for assistance. City, county, and state resources would be appreciated.

- Paul has pointed people towards documents that provide ADA laws. An example of assistance they can provide is with ADA compliant parking spaces. There is a fine line between actual ADA compliance and what businesses designate as ADA compliant spaces.
- Mark provides a Facebook page to assist members of the disabled community in approaching businesses with accessibility issues. He has approached many businesses to help them understand the importance of being compliant. He also suggested directing people to other Facebook groups dedicated to ADA compliance.

7. Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 8, 2023

8. Adjournment: Meeting ended at 11:22 am