

From: OZ <zurawska@yahoo.com>
To: James Kemper <james.kemper@smgov.net>; Michael Soloff <michael.soloff@smgov.net>; Diane Glauber <dglauber@lawyerscommittee.org>
Cc: Natalie Verlinich <natalie.verlinich@smgov.net>
Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2019 2:22 PM
Subject: public comment - 4A Assessment of the Fair Housing Act - 9/20/18 Housing Commission meeting

Dear Housing Commission, City Staff and Ms. Glauber,

This is my public comment regarding the Assessment of the City's Fair Housing Plan. I am not sure if it can still be submitted in relation to agenda item 4A at the 9/20/18 Housing Commission meeting. If not, please consider it to be my general public input for the 1/17/19 Santa Monica Housing Commission meeting.

I have two issues I wanted to bring to your attention at this time.

1.

Yesterday I went by the Santa Monica Housing Authority where on the bulletin board I observed a "Notice under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973." The notice appraised the public that the Acting ADA/Section 504 Coordinator was Ms. Stacey Rowe. Please see the attached photo of the notice.

According to the information I received several months ago in response to a public records request filed with the Santa Monica City Clerk's Office, Ms. Stacy Rowe was the acting ADA coordinator (at least on paper) between 2012 and 2015. Please see the attached email exchanges with the City Clerk's Office that show that the City does not have a job or duties description for the ADA Coordinator.

I am wondering why it is that the Santa Monica Housing Authority misleads the public by having a notice posted in the lobby of their office stating that Ms. Stacy Rowe is the current Acting ADA Coordinator if she in fact is not and has not been holding this position for about four years now. Even when Ms. Rowe was the Acting ADA Coordinator it is questionable what her position really was if the City does not and did not at that time have a job or duties description for the ADA Coordinator.

The notice currently displayed in the lobby of the Santa Monica Housing Authority needs to be immediately updated to provide the public with accurate information.

2.

Yesterday, 1/16/19 at about 4pm I accompanied a person to the Santa Monica Housing Authority as the person wanted to request a list of available units that SMHA usually gives out to low-income people searching for housing.

When asked about the list, the SMHA receptionist demanded an ID and a copy of the Santa Monica housing voucher from the person I was accompanying. The person responded that they did not have a Santa Monica voucher but rather another subsidy

called the Flexible Housing Subsidy Program, which can be used in Santa Monica. The SMHA receptionist stated that she could only provide the list of available units to Santa Monica housing voucher holders.

When we asked why, the SMHA receptionist stated that the list is comprised of units that were submitted to the SMHA by the landlords who specifically wanted to rent to Santa Monica housing voucher holders. When we reminded the receptionist that Santa Monica landlords may not discriminate against applicants based on their source of income (including vouchers or other subsidies) and neither should the Santa Monica Housing Authority by limiting access to the information on the units available to low-income persons to Santa Monica housing voucher holders only, she stated that she could not help us.

My question is why is the information on the units available for rent to low-income persons that the Santa Monica Housing Authority distributes only available to Santa Monica voucher holders if Santa Monica landlords are prohibited from discriminating based on the applicant's source of income? How come a person receiving a subsidy other than the Santa Monica housing voucher is not able to access the list of available low-income units that the Santa Monica Housing Authority distributes? If the subsidy can be used in Santa Monica, how come the SMHA will not allow the person receiving the subsidy to have access to the list of low-income units currently available in Santa Monica?

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Regards,

Olga Zurawska

Enclosures: 2

1. photo of a Notice under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 posted in the lobby of the Santa Monica Housing Authority as of 1/16/19.
2. email exchanges with the City Clerk's Office regarding the ADA Coordinator and the lack of their duty/job descriptions



NOTICE UNDER THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT AND SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504") the City of Santa Monica does not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities.

The City of Santa Monica ("City") does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices and complies with all regulations promulgated by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under title I of the ADA.

The City will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so they can participate equally in City programs, services, and activities, including qualified sign language interpreters and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, or vision impairments.

The City will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities. Qualified persons with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of the City, or who need an alternative format of this or other City notices, should contact the lead staff designated in program, service or activity publications, or the office of the ADA/Section 504 Coordinator as soon as possible but no later than 5 working days before the scheduled event.

The ADA and Section 504 do not require the City to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.

Complaints that a program, service, or activity of the City is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to the office of the ADA/Section 504 Coordinator. Formal grievances should follow the City's posted Grievance Procedures for the ADA/Section 504.

The City will not place a surcharge on a particular individual with a disability or any group of individuals with disabilities to cover the cost of providing auxiliary aids/services or reasonable modifications of policy.

Stacy Rowe, Acting ADA/Section 504 Coordinator
1685 Main Street, Room 212
Santa Monica, CA 90401
310-458-8701 TTY:310-458-8696
humanservices@smgov.net

On Feb 1, 2018, at 09:27, David Willis <David.Willis@SMGOV.NET> wrote:

Hi Olga,

Per your request, please see the attached bulletins and the chart below.

Position	Employee	Start Date	End Date
Sr. Human Services Analyst	Elizabeth Anderson	2017	Present
Sr. Human Services Analyst	Anna Topolewski	2015	2017
Sr. Human Services Program Analyst	Stacy Rowe	2012	2015
Sr. Administrative Analyst – ADA/Dis & Sr.	Janet Hand	2000	2012

David L. Willis
Records Management Coordinator
City of Santa Monica
Records & Election Services (City Clerk)
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401
(310) 458-8211 ext. 5008
david.willis@smgov.net

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From: oz [<mailto:zurawska@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2018 9:35 AM
To: David Willis <David.Willis@SMGOV.NET>
Subject: Re: ADA Coordinator

Hi David,

Thanks but I do not see a job description for ADA coordinator, which I requested.

Olga

On Feb 1, 2018, at 10:12, David Willis <David.Willis@SMGOV.NET> wrote:

Hi Olga,

The Sr. Administrative Analyst acts as the ADA Coordinator.

David L. Willis
Records Management Coordinator
City of Santa Monica
Records & Election Services (City Clerk)
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

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On Feb 1, 2018, at 10:21, oz <zurawska@yahoo.com> wrote:

Then there must be a description of their duties as an ADA coordinator. That's what I need. I have read the senior analyst job descriptions and they don't even mention ADA.

On Feb 1, 2018, at 15:48, oz <zurawska@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi David,

If the City of Santa Monica does not have a job or duties description for their ADA Coordinator or the person acting as ADA Coordinator, please confirm that for me in writing.

Thank you.

Regards,

Olga Zurawska

From: oz [<mailto:zurawska@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 9:18 AM
To: David Willis <David.Willis@SMGOV.NET>
Subject: Re: ADA Coordinator

Hi David,

Could the City either provide me with the duties/job description of the ADA Coordinator or state in writing that no such description exists?

Thank you.

Regards,

Olga Zurawska

From: OZ [mailto:zurawska@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 6, 2018 3:21 PM
To: David Willis <David.Willis@SMGOV.NET>
Subject: Re: ADA Coordinator

Hi David,

If the City does not have any record of the ADA Coordinator's duties/job description, could I get a statement to that effect, please?

It appears unreasonable for the City to be searching for this record for so long.

Please advise.

Thanks,

Olga

From: David Willis <David.Willis@SMGOV.NET>
To: OZ <zurawska@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 12:20 PM
Subject: RE: ADA Coordinator

Hi Olga,

The City does not have any records that are responsive to your specific public records request.

David L. Willis
Records Management Coordinator
City of Santa Monica
Records & Election Services (City Clerk)
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