

NOTICE UNDER THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the City of Olean will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, program, or activities.

Employment: The City of Olean 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.

Effective Communication: The City of Olean 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 of Olean programs, services, and activities, including qualified sign language interpreters, documents in Braille, and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, or vision impairments.

Modifications to Policies and Procedures: The City of Olean 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. For example, individuals with service animals are welcomed in City of Olean offices, even where pets are generally prohibited.

Anyone who requires 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 of Olean, should contact the ADA Coordinator Mary George, City of Olean, Department of Community Development, 101 East State Street, Olean, NY 14760 as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.

The ADA does not require the City of Olean 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 of Olean is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to ADA Coordinator Mary George, City of Olean, Department of Community Development, 101 East State Street, Olean, NY 14760.

The City of Olean 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, such as retrieving items from locations that are open to the public but are not accessible to persons who use wheelchairs.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE UNDER THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

This Grievance Procedure is established to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). It may be used by anyone who wishes to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in the provision of services, activities, programs, or benefits by the City of Olean. Employment related complaints of disability discrimination are covered elsewhere, in policies available from the human resources office of the City of Olean.

The complaint should be in writing and contain information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number of complainant and location, date and description of the problem. No particular format of the complaint is required. Alternative means of filing complaints, such as personal interviews or a tape recording of the complaint, will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request.

The complaint should be submitted in writing by the grievant and/or his/her designee as soon as possible but no later than 60 calendar days after the alleged violation to:

Mary George, ADA Coordinator
City of Olean
Department of Community Development
101 East State Street
Olean, NY 14760

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the complaint, the ADA Coordinator or her designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and the possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days of the meeting, the ADA Coordinator or her designee will respond in writing, and where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, such as large print, Braille, or audio tape. The response will explain the position of the City of Olean and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

If the response by the ADA Coordinator or her designee does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant and or her designee may appeal the decision within 15 calendar days after receipt of the response to the agency head or her designee.

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the appeal, the agency head or her designee will respond in writing, and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, with the agency's final resolution of the complaint, or indicating that the matter has been returned to the ADA Coordinator for further action. If further response is indicated, the complainant will be contacted within 15 calendar days.

All written complaints received by the ADA Coordinator or her designee, appeals to the agency head or his/her designee, and responses from these two offices will be retained by the City of Olean for at least three (3) years.