

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

## MEETING SUMMARY

Date: January 7, 2025 1:00 PM

Location: Virtual Meeting (via Zoom)

### Committee Members Present:

Rebecca Xczar

Alexander Jones

Paul Glasser

### ADA Coordinator and County Representatives:

Karen Hemmett, ADA Coordinator, HR Rep

Julie Smith, HR Office Coordinator

Daniel Goger, Facilities

Robin Greer, HR Rep

### Guest:

Riley Sweeney, Policy & Communications Specialist

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- **Welcome, roll call, meeting instructions** (Karen Hemmett)
    - Roll call was taken and meeting commenced at 1:05pm.
  - **New ADA Coordinator Introduction** (Karen Hemmett)
    - Welcome, Robin Greer! Robin will be taking over the role as the ADA Coordinator moving forward.
  - **Whatcom County Facilities Report:** (Daniel Goger)
    - The upgrades to bring Judge Olson's courtroom into ADA compliance have been completed
    - Recently installed automatic door openers for the Auditor's Office
    - Installation of automatic door openers for Judge Grochmal's courtroom is near completion.
  - **Digital Accessibility Update:** (Riley Sweeney)
    - All information presented on the Whatcom County website must be accessible to all levels of ability by April 26, 2026.
    - The website is currently around 95% compliant, with some challenges in updating some older and lengthier PDF's. Outsourcing assistance with bringing them into compliance is currently in the works.
    - There will be training opportunities coming out in the near future to assist anyone interested in learning more on how to update Documents for full accessibility.
  - **Whatcom County Jail Standards:**

- A citizen request was received to review the county jail for ADA compliance. The request did not identify specific ADA-related deficiencies. Additionally, a new jail facility is currently planned and will be designed to meet all applicable ADA compliance requirements.
- Karen will coordinate with the County's legal team and the County Executive's Office to obtain further guidance regarding the appropriate next steps in responding to the request.
- **Public Comment Period:**
  - No members from the public were in attendance.
- **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, March 18, 2025 1:00 PM
- **Adjournment:** Meeting ended at 1:25 PM