



Town of Old Lyme, Connecticut

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 Town of Old Lyme will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities.

Employment: The Town of Old Lyme 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 Town of Old Lyme will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so they can participate equally in the Town of Old Lyme’s 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 Town of Old Lyme 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 the Town of Old Lyme 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 Town of Old Lyme, should contact **ADA Coordinator** Amy Bonatti at 860 434-1605 Ext 228 as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.

The ADA does not require the Town of Old Lyme to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.

Questions, concerns, requests for additional information regarding the ADA or complaints that a program, service, or activity of the Town of Old Lyme is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to Amy Bonatti at 860 434-1605 Ext 228.

The Town of Old Lyme 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.

**The Town of Old Lyme
Grievance Procedure Under the Americans with Disabilities Act**

The 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 Town of Old Lyme, the Town of Old Lyme's Personnel Policy governs employment-related complaints of disability discrimination.

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. 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 by the grievant and/or/his/her designee as soon as possible but no later than 60 calendar days after the alleged violation to:

Amy Bonatti at 860 434-1605 Ext 228, ADA Coordinator, 52 Lyme Street Old Lyme CT 06371 email: socialservices@oldlyme-ct.gov

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the complaint, Jennifer Datum or her designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and the possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days of the meeting, Jennifer Datum 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 Town of Old Lyme and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

If the response by Amy Bonatti or her designee does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant and/or his/her designee may appeal the decision within 15 calendar days after receipt of the response to the First Selectwoman Martha Shoemaker or her designee. Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the appeal, the First Selectwoman Martha Shoemaker or her designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days after the meeting, the First Selectwoman Martha Shoemaker or her designee will respond in writing, and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, with a final resolution of the complaint.

All written complaints received by Amy Bonatti or her designee, appeals to the First Selectwoman Martha Shoemaker or her designee, and responses from these two offices will be retained by the Town of Old Lyme for at least three years.