



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
Department of Racial and Social Justice
KATJANA BALLANTYNE
MAYOR

ADRIENNE POMEROY
ADA COORDINATOR

DENISE MOLINA
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

DECEMBER 11, 2023

To: City Council Committee on Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populations
From: Adrienne Pomeroy, ADA Coordinator
Re: Agenda items on the December 11, 2023 agenda

(22-1272): That the ADA Coordinator deliver a list of ADA complaints received from members of the public in FY 2021 and FY 2022.

Attached is a PDF with ADA complaints for FY2021, FY2022 and FY2023. This PDF contains the Phase of each complaint (status), Date Filed, and Closing Date. No names or other identifying information is included in this report.

(22-1277): That the ADA Coordinator provide a status on requests for Braille transcription of materials.

Requests for Braille embossing are made and fulfilled regularly for members of the Somerville Commission for Persons with Disabilities and Somerville Pedestrian & Transit Advisory Committee. Perkins School for the Blind Library has been the vendor facilitating the embossing of these materials, which includes timely mailing (UPS) to constituents. Any other requests are fulfilled upon request.

(22-1306): That the ADA Coordinator coordinate with the City of Cambridge or another nearby entity that can provide Braille translations in less than 3 to 4 weeks until the City can procure a Braille.

Since the submission of this item, Perkins School for the Blind Library has been able to reduce the turnaround time for Braille embossing from 3-4 weeks to 2 weeks in advance of a meeting. This has been due to utilizing UPS for delivery instead of USPS. Additionally, the ADA Coordinator communicates timelines to related parties so Perkins has time to format and emboss materials.

(23-1622): That the Director of the Office of Racial and Social Justice update this Council on the implementation of the FileVine system that was procured to track Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) complaints.

The FileVine system was fully implemented in Spring of 2023 and is used to track ADA complaints.

(23-1623): That the Director of the Office of Racial and Social Justice update this Council on the status of the procurement of a Braille embosser to accommodate requests for materials in Braille.

The Braille embosser has been purchased and was delivered in June of 2023. However, a permanent location for use has not yet been determined due to ongoing space challenges. We will continue to work to address this as soon as possible.