

To: Finance Committee

From: Denise Molina Capers, Director, Department of Racial and Social Justice

Re: 22-1824 Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$1,500 using available funds in the Department of Racial and Social Justice Translation Services Account for Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) services.

Honorable Chair Wilson and Committee Members,

I am writing to request the Finance Committee's approval to use available funds to pay for prior year invoices totaling \$1,500 for CART Services. Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) or live captioning services provide many benefits, including equal communication access and access to full participation not only for deaf and hard of hearing individuals but all Somerville residents. These vendors deliver accurate, real time captioning to participants that is not present when using built in or automated captioning. The transcript can be followed and viewed in real time and then made available following the event for reference.

The vendor submitted the information to the incorrect City Department, which created a delay in processing the invoice in a timely manner. The information was updated and subsequent invoices have been paid to the vendor.

Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further questions.

Best,

Denise Molina-Capers