



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

Nicholas P. Salerno
Chairman

ELECTIONS REPORT ON WARD 7 PRECINCT 3 POLLING LOCATION CHANGE

In accordance with Section 11 of Chapter 115 of the Acts of 2020, the Elections Commissioner of the City of Somerville respectfully requests that the location of the City's Ward 7 Precinct 3 Polling Place be relocated from the VNA Assisted Living Facility, 405 Alewife Brook Parkway to the West Somerville Neighborhood School, 177 Powder House Blvd.

On July 29, 2020 I surveyed the proposed site for the Ward 7 Precinct 3 polling place using the Secretary of the Commonwealth's regulations for polling place accessibility (950 CMR 51:00) and determined that West Somerville Neighborhood School, 177 Powder House Blvd. met the criteria for a polling place.

FINDINGS:

The West Somerville Neighborhood School is in close proximity to the current location of the VNA Assisted Living Facility, 405 Alewife Brook Parkway. It meets the requirements for site access, voting equipment, parking, entrance requirements and building interior. It is a public building in the City of Somerville, is ADA compliant and will not have a disparate adverse impact on access to the polls on the basis of race, national origin, disability, income or age. The West Somerville Neighborhood School provides adequate space for Elections Officials to perform their duties while maintaining social distance from each other.

Based on the information provided for you I hope the City Council will find that this proposed change in polling locations is in accordance with Section 11 of Chapter 115 of the Acts of 2020 and will have no adverse impact on the voters in Ward 3 Precinct 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas P. Salerno
Elections Commissioner

POLLING PLACE AND REGISTRATION SITE ACCESS

LOCATION: W. SOMERVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD School DATE: 7-30-2020

WARD: 7 PRECINCT: 3

SURVEYOR: NICHOLAS SALERNO SURVEYOR: _____

TITLE: ELECTIONS COMMISSIONER TITLE: _____

This checklist is based on the Secretary of the Commonwealth's regulations for polling place accessibility 950 CMR 51:00. To complete this survey, you will need a level and a tape measure. Please specify in the "Comments" section, below, any issues that need further clarification.

1. Site access (Path of Travel):

(a) The paths of travel to the polling place from the parking lot and from the street are clear, reasonably lit, and unobstructed.

(b) The paths have continuous common surfaces, not interrupted by steps or abrupt changes in level greater than 1/2 inch.

(c) The path of travel is the same or a substantially similar distance for all persons entering the polling place.

Comments (City/Town Representative): <u>SOMERVILLE USES ON-STREET PARKING AT ALL POLLING LOCATIONS.</u>	Comments (Monitor):
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2. Parking:

(a) The required number of handicapped parking spaces is provided as follows:

<u>total no. of parking spaces</u>	<u>no. of handicapped spaces required</u>
1 - 25	1
26 - 50	2
51 - 75	3
76 - 100	4
101 - 150	5
151 - 200	6
201 - 300	7
301 - 400	8
401 - 500	9
501 -1,000	2% of total
1,001 and over	20 plus 1 for each 100 over 1,000

(b) for parking lots striped prior to 9/1/96:

___ (1) The handicapped parking spaces are 8 feet wide and have an adjacent 4 foot access aisle which is painted or striped yellow. The parking lot is reasonably lit.

___ (2) The handicapped parking spaces are identified by a sign at each space or pair of spaces containing the International Symbol of Accessibility, with the top of the sign between 5 and 8 feet high above the ground.

(c) for parking lots striped after 9/1/96:

___ (1) The handicapped parking spaces are 8 feet wide and have an adjacent 5 foot access aisle which is marked by high contrast painted lines or other high contrast delineation. The parking lot is reasonably lit.

___ (2) Is there at least one "van accessible" space. (one in every eight accessible spaces must be van accessible, but no less than one) This space is 8 feet wide and has an adjacent 8-foot wide access aisle which is marked by high contrast painted lines or other high contrast delineation. The parking lot is reasonable lit.

___ (3) Each handicapped parking space is identified by a sign containing the International Symbol of Accessibility, with the top of the sign between 5 and 8 feet high above the ground. Van accessible spaces shall include the words "Van Accessible."

___ (d) Any sidewalk provided at the handicapped parking spaces has a curb cut (sidewalk ramp), with a slope no greater than 1:12, at each space or pair of spaces.

(e) If no parking lot is available, there is at least one on-street parking space which is at least temporarily designated as a handicapped parking space during the election in front of the polling place.

Comments (City/Town Representative): <i>THERE ARE 2 HP ON-STREET PARKING SPACES ON ALL ELECTION DAYS</i>	Comments (Monitor):
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3. Entrance

(a) At least one entrance to the building is accessible.

(b) The approach to the accessible entrance is a paved walk or ramp with a non-slip surface uninterrupted by steps or changes in level greater than 1/2 inch. There is a level space 60 inches from the door on both the exterior and interior sides.

(c) Lever handles or other accessible hardware are provided on doors, so that they may be operated with a closed fist.

(d) Doorways are at least 32 inches clear width. Door thresholds are no higher than 1/2 inch above the floor.

(e) If the main entrance is not accessible, signs direct people to the accessible entrance.

(f) If the accessible entrance is not the main entrance, it is unlocked and able to be used without assistance during the same hours as the main entrance.

Comments (City/Town Representative):	Comments (Monitor):
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4. Ramps

(a) If the entrance has stairs, there is either a permanent or portable ramp. If permanent, the ramp has a slope no steeper than 1:12.

(b) The ramp is at least 48 inches wide.

(c) The ramp has two pairs of handrails along both sides that are round or oval in shape and are set in pairs, one at a height between 34 and 38 inches and a lower one at a height between 18 and 20 inches.

N/A (d) If the ramp is portable, it is as close to 1:12 as possible, and either handrails or wheel guards at least two inches high on both sides are provided.

(e) Please describe the portable ramp (if applicable):

Comments (City /Town Representative):	Comments (Monitor):

5. Building Interior

(a) All interior doors, approaches, and ramps necessary to obtain access to the polling place comply with 3 and 4 above.

(b) An accessible route which provides a continuous unobstructed path at least 36 inches wide is maintained inside the polling place and shall coincide with the route for the general public.

Comments (City/Town Representative):	Comments (Monitor):

6. Voting Equipment

(a) All Polls - A sample ballot will be posted on the wall no higher than 48 inches above the floor.

(b) Paper or Datavote ballots - At least one marking shelf (one for each party in a primary for Datavote) provides a clear space under it at least 30 inches wide, at least 27 inches clear to the underside, and no more than 32 inches high to the top. Any Datavote stylus handle is at least 1 ¼ inches thick and at least 3 inches long.

(c) Voting machines - At least one machine has a sample ballot posted inside, not higher than 48 inches.

____ Voting levers are no higher than 48 inches above the floor, or a "reacher" is available for the upper levels.

Comments (City/Town Representative):	Comments (Monitor):
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PLEASE SEND THE COMPLETED SURVEY TO:

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH
ATTN: Bridget Simmons Murphy
Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth
Elections Division
1 Ashburton Place, 17th floor
Boston, MA 02108**