

## ADA Request for Accommodation

2 messages

Mark Baker <mbaker@softlights.org>  
To: nbeverly@williamstownma.gov

Mon, Oct 24, 2022 at 4:37 AM

Dear Nicole Beverly, City Clerk, Williamstown, MA,

As per Williamstown policies section 19.0, this is an official request for accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act. - [https://williamstownma.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Williamstown\\_Policies\\_HRS\\_Draft-082622.docx.pdf](https://williamstownma.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Williamstown_Policies_HRS_Draft-082622.docx.pdf)

A. In section 19.0, Williamstown states, "*The Town of Williamstown does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities*". However, the installation of the Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon in Williamstown has created a discriminatory barrier because it prevents total visual freedom and has already caused a life-threatening epileptic seizure (see attached).

B. Following the Grievance Procedure in section 19.2(A), and on behalf of myself, [REDACTED] I am requesting a reasonable accommodation that will allow us to navigate the streets of Williamstown without fear of suffering a seizure, migraine, anxiety, panic attack, nausea, reduced visual freedom, reduced cognitive functioning, or eye injury from RRFB visible radiation. Attached is an incident report of the seizure caused on July 8, 2022. This request for reasonable accommodation will not be an undue financial burden and will not fundamentally alter the service of providing roads and sidewalks within Williamstown.

C. As per 19.2(B), this ADA request is within 60 calendar days of the discrimination because 1) We have notified the police department and city numerous times since the July 8, 2022 incident (with no response from Williamstown), and 2) The discrimination is ongoing.

D. As per 19.2(C), the Williamstown ADA Coordinator will meet with us within 15 days of receipt of this ADA request for accommodation.

For additional reference, I am attaching a letter from the Federal Highway Administration declaring that the issue of RRFBs is a complex topic outside of their jurisdiction, which contradicts the FHWA's assertion that RRFBs are an approved device via their Interim Approval.

I am also attaching a lawsuit that we have recently filed against the city of Ashland, OR for failing to comply with the ADA.

I have copied [REDACTED] in this email. I request a prompt response and an offer to meet via video/phone conference within 15 days.

Sincerely,

Mark Baker  
President  
Soft Lights Foundation  
[www.softlights.org](http://www.softlights.org)  
[mbaker@softlights.org](mailto:mbaker@softlights.org)