

City of Salem
Changing of Polling Locations
Adverse Impact Report
Submitted By: Ilene Simons, City Clerk

On July 6, 2020, Governor Baker signed into law Chapter 115 of the Acts of 2020 in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts – An Act Relative to Voting Options in Response to COVID-19.

According to Section 11 of this Act, notwithstanding Section 24 of Chapter 54 of the M.G.L. or any other general or special law to the contrary, the City Council may, by a recorded and public vote, change any polling place to be used at the primary or general election at least 20 days prior to the date of the primary or general election if it is determined that the public convenience or public health would be better served.

In making a decision to change a polling place, the City Council shall evaluate and report on whether such change would have a disparate adverse impact on access to the polls on the basis of race, national origin, disability, income or age, and not later than 3 days prior to changing a polling location, shall make publicly available on its website and at the office of the City Clerk a report on its evaluation.

Furthermore, when the new polling places have been designated pursuant to the new legislation, the board of registrars shall post on the municipal website and at other such places as it may determine, a description of the polling places and shall notify voters by using an electronic means, to the extent possible, such as via email or reverse 911 call.

The following polling location changes, for the primary and general elections of 2020, to be voted on by a roll call vote are as follows:

1. Ward 1 Precinct 2 currently housed in the Community room of 135 Lafayette Street shall be relocated to the Saltonstall Elementary School - Auditorium located at 211 Lafayette Street.
2. Ward 2 Precinct 1 & 2 currently housed in St. Peter's Church – Parish Hall, 24 St. Peter Street shall be relocated to the Community Life Center – Great Room, 401 Bridge Street.
3. Ward 7 Precinct 1 & 2 currently housed in the Enterprise Center, 121 Loring Avenue shall be relocated to the Salem High School – Library, 77 Willson Street.

On behalf of the City Council, the City Clerk conducted many site visits with the Facilities Director for Salem Public Schools and the Director of Operations for DPS, taking measurements and photos of the new locations, discussions with the Mayor, City

Councillors of Ward 1, 2 and 7, the Secretary of State's Elections Office, the Board of Registrars, Council on Aging Director and staff members, and the working elections group comprising of representatives from the League of Women Voters, Latino Leadership Coalition, Salem State Civic Engagement Director, V.O.C.E.S., and the Commission on Disabilities, therefore, we, the City Council, are confident that no adverse impact exists due to the above changes.

Ward 1 Precinct 2 – Current location - 135 Lafayette Street – Community Room to be relocated to 211 Lafayette Street, Saltonstall School

The reason for this relocation is based on the determination that the public health, safety and welfare of our voters and poll workers can be better served and managed in another location directly under the City's control. Due to the new social distancing guidelines, requiring poll workers, voters entering, voters in line at the check-in table, space between voting booths, and voters in line to insert their ballot in the tabulator/ballot box to a minimum of 6 feet apart is not feasible within the original poll location. Also, the inability to control others from entering or leaving the building since it is a 51 unit (1, 2 & 3 bedroom) residential apartment dwelling is another determining factor why the public health would be better served in another polling location. The new polling location for the 2020 primary and general elections will be the Saltonstall School, 211 Lafayette Street.

According to MapQuest, the school is only .2 miles from 135 Lafayette St. (See enclosed map). This location is already considered handicap accessible by the State when it became a polling location for Ward 5. The designated voting area is large enough to house 3 precincts inside all while accommodating social distancing requirements. Many of the same poll workers and translators from W1 P2 will be working at this new location. Also Ward Five is adjacent to Ward 1 Precinct 2. Therefore, it is anticipated that no adverse impact on the basis of race, national origin, disability, income or age exists. Voters may also have access to voting by mail, Early Voting in Person and the use of a secured Drop off Ballot Boxes that will be placed around the city for those who do not want to or are unable to go to the polls on election day. Voters may also contact the Council on Aging regarding transportation options.

Ward 2 Precinct 1 & 2 – Current location - St. Peter's Church, 24 St. Peter Street - Social Hall to be relocated to 401 Bridge Street, Community Life Center

The reason for this relocation is based on the determination that the public health, safety and welfare of our voters and poll workers is better served in another location. It would not be feasible at the current polling location to accommodate the new social distancing guidelines, to keep poll workers, voters entering, voters in line at the check-in table, space between voting booths, and voters in line to insert their ballot in the tabulator/ballot box apart a minimum of 6 feet apart.

The relocation to the City of Salem's Community Life Center (CLC) is an ideal location in order to be fully accessible to all voters and the ability to maintain proper social distancing. This new location would not have a disparate adverse impact on access to the polls on the basis of race, national origin, disability, income or age. The Community Life Center was built on the above fundamental basis. Although this center is handicap accessible, a survey has been sent the Secretary of the Commonwealth's Election Division since it has not been a prior voting location. The CLC has, as its function, provided programs for all ages. It has a large parking lot with many handicap accessible spaces available, the main entrance is level with the parking lot and has automated doors. Also, this location is in Ward 2 already and was being considered as a permanent location pre-Covid. Most of the same poll workers and translators will be at this new location. In order to accommodate voters residing in close proximity to the Church, the City Clerk has worked with the COA Director, Transportation Coordinator and the LSW for Social Services and they will be using the COA vans to transport voters in need of their service. Voters may also vote by mail, Early Vote in Person and use Secured Drop off Ballot Boxes that will be placed around the city for those who do not want to or are unable to go to the polls on election day.

Ward 7 Precinct 1 & 2 – Currently located at the Enterprise Center, 121 Loring Avenue to be relocated to 77 Willson Street, Salem High School

After reaching out to the Executive Director of the Enterprise Center (EC), it was determined that due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 and in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of its staff and the tenants, this location is unavailable to serve as a polling location for the 2020 elections. In addition, I also determined that the conference room used for voting would be unable to maintain the proper social distancing guidelines. Since this space at the EC cannot be meet our COVID related requirements, I needed to move the location.

The relocation of Ward 7, to the Salem High School, 77 Willson Street, within the library, will not cause an adverse impact on the basis of race, national origin, disability, income or age. Since the Salem High School currently houses the polling location for Ward 3, it is already considered accessible by the Secretary of State's office. Ward Three is adjacent to Ward 7. The library has room to maintain the new social distancing guidelines and according to MapQuest, the distance between the two locations is .9 miles. The Council on Aging will be providing transportation to those who are in need of their service as well. The same poll workers and a translator will be relocated to this new location. Voters may also vote by mail, Early Vote in Person and use Secured Drop off Ballot Boxes that will be placed around the city for those who do not want to or are unable to go to the polls on election day.

Based on the information provided for you, I hope that the City Council will find that these proposed changes 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 these locations.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ilene Simons". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Ilene Simons
City Clerk
City of Salem



Ward 1 Precinct 2
135 Lafayette Street
Community Room



W 1 P 2
135 Lafayette Street
Community Room

YOUR TRIP TO: FROM 135 Lafayette St.

To: 211 Lafayette St

0.2 MI 

Est. fuel cost: \$0.02

Trip time based on traffic conditions as of 9:19 AM on July 26,
2020. Current Traffic: Heavy



Print a full health report of your car with HUM
vehicle diagnostics (800) 906-2501



1. Start out going south on Lafayette St/MA-1A toward Washington St/MA-114.

Then 0.25 miles

0.25 total miles



2. 211 Lafayette St, Essex, MA, 01970-4769, 211 LAFAYETTE ST.

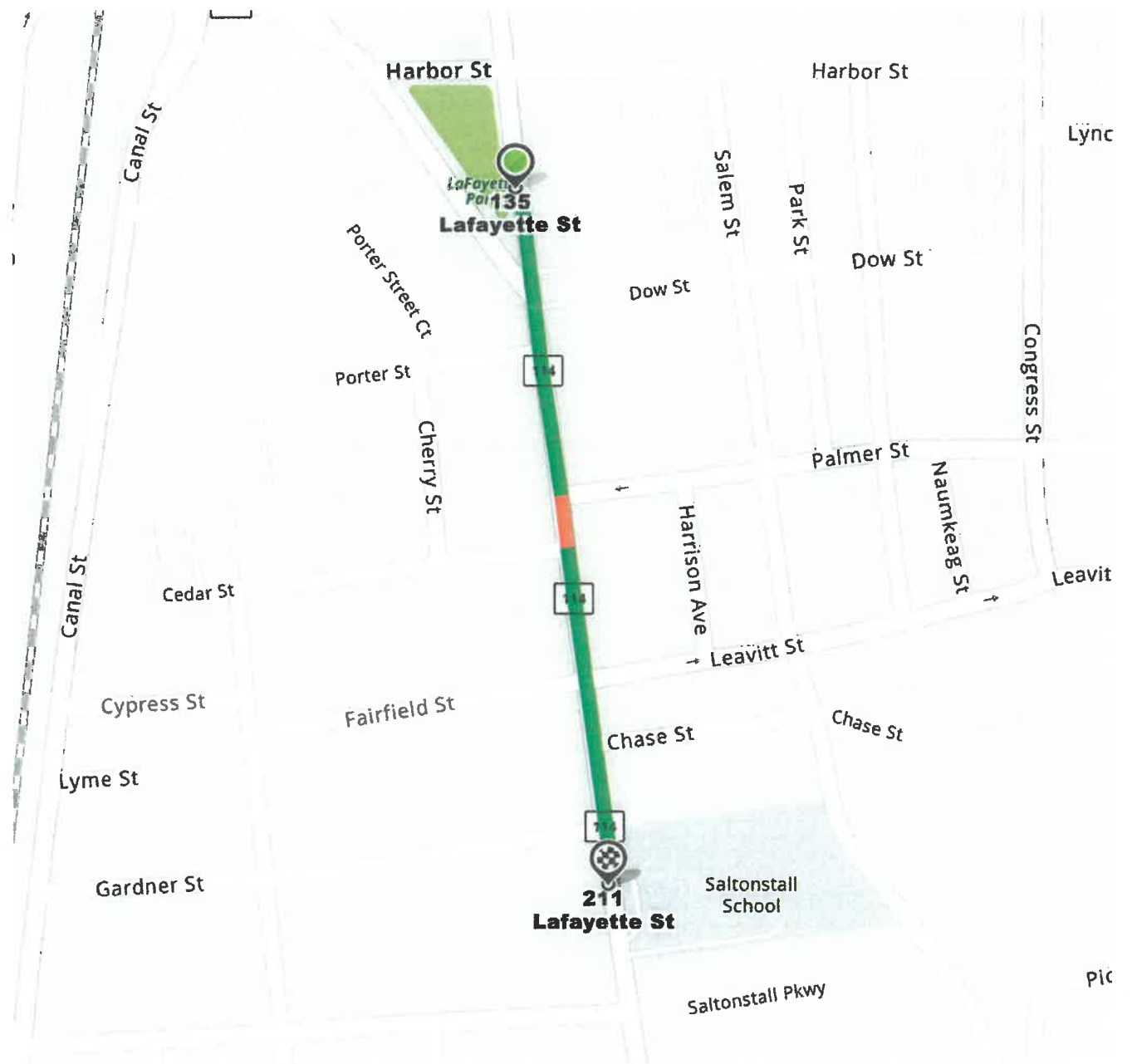
Your destination is just past Gardner St.

If you reach Hancock St you've gone a little too far.



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Harbor St

Harbor St

Lync

Lafayette Poi 135

Lafayette St

Salem St

Park St

Dow St

Dow St

Porter Street Ct

Porter St

Cherry St

Congress St

Palmer St

Naumkeag St

Leavit

Cedar St

Harrison Ave

Leavitt St

Canal St

Cypress St

Fairfield St

Chase St

Chase St

Lyme St

211

Lafayette St

Saltonstall School

Gardner St

Saltonstall Pkwy

Pic



Ward 5
Handicap pkg
Handicap entrance



Ward 5

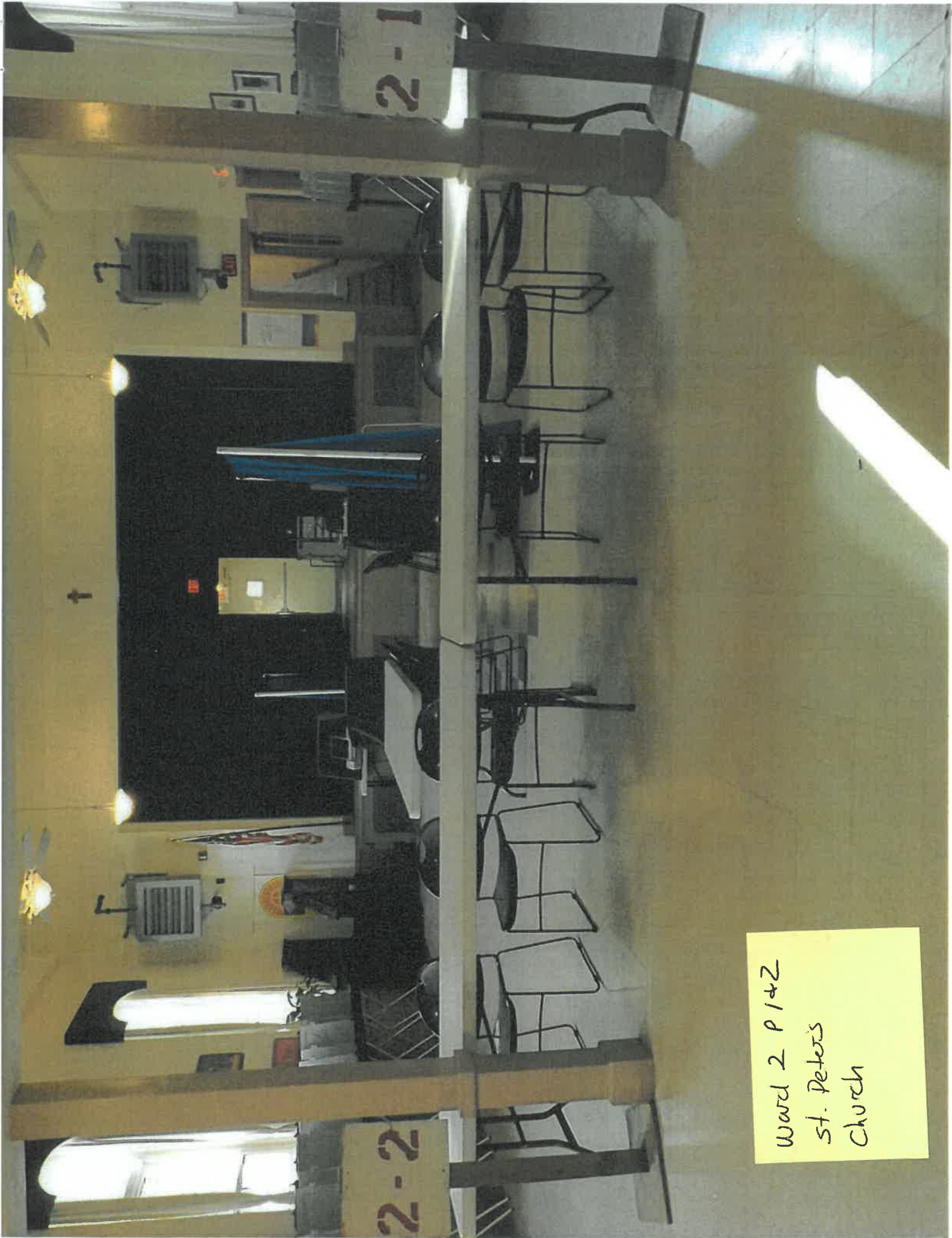
Handicap sign for ramps

Word 5 ~~Room~~
Room pre-Covid
W1 P2 would
be set up where
units are





Photo of Ward
5 (Pre-covid)
carpet is all
clear floor space



Ward 2 P1+2
St. Peter's
Church

POLLING PLACE AND REGISTRATION SITE ACCESS

LOCATION: Community Life Center 401 Bridge Street **DATE:** July 23, 2020

WARD: 2 **PRECINCT:** (s) 1 & 2

SURVEYOR: Maureen Fisher **SURVEYOR:** Ray Jodion

TITLE: Assistant City Clerk - Council **TITLE:** Operations Manager

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):

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

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

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

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

2. Parking:

Yes (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:

Yes (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.

Yes (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:

Yes (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.

Yes (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.

Yes (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."

Yes (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.

N/A (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.

<p>Comments (City/Town Representative):</p> <p>Access aisle is painted / striped on white</p>	<p>Comments (Monitor):</p>
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3. Entrance

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

Yes (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.

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

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

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

N/A (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

N/A (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.

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

N/A (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):
No Ramp, Flat Surface	

5. Building Interior

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

Yes (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):
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6. Voting Equipment

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

Yes (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.

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

Yes 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**



July 22, 2020

Mrs. Ilene Simons, City Clerk
Salem City Hall
95 Washington Street
Salem MA 01970

Dear Mrs. Simons,
Due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 and in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of our staff and tenants, the Enterprise Center is unable to serve as a polling location for the September 2020 and November 2020 elections.

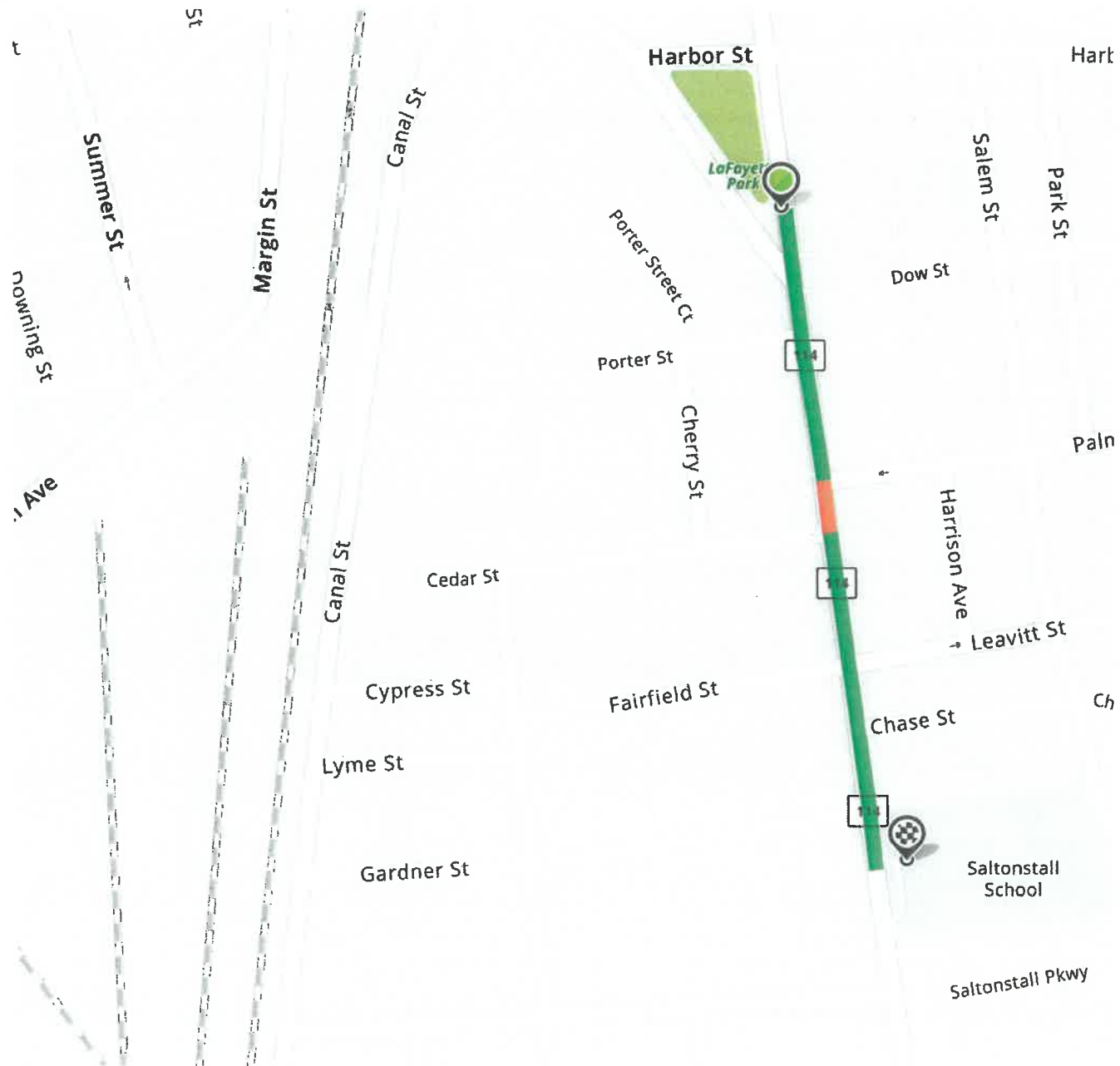
We look forward to welcoming the Ward 7 community back to our building when it safe and feasible to do so.

Best regards,



Laura Swanson
Executive Director





YOUR TRIP TO: FROM 121 LORING AVE

TO:

77 Willson St

2 MIN | 0.9 MI 

Est. fuel cost: \$0.07

Trip time based on traffic conditions as of 3:11 PM on July 25, 2020. Current Traffic: Light



Print a full health report of your car with HUM vehicle diagnostics (800) 906-2501



1. Start out going north on Loring Ave/MA-1A toward Jefferson Ave.

Then 0.06 miles

0.06 total miles



2. Turn left onto Jefferson Ave.

If you are on Canal St and reach Kimball Rd you've gone about 0.1 miles too far.

Then 0.56 miles

0.61 total miles



3. Turn left onto Willson St.

Willson St is just past Arthur St.

The Tin Whistle is on the corner.

If you reach Cloutman St you've gone a little too far.

Then 0.25 miles

0.86 total miles



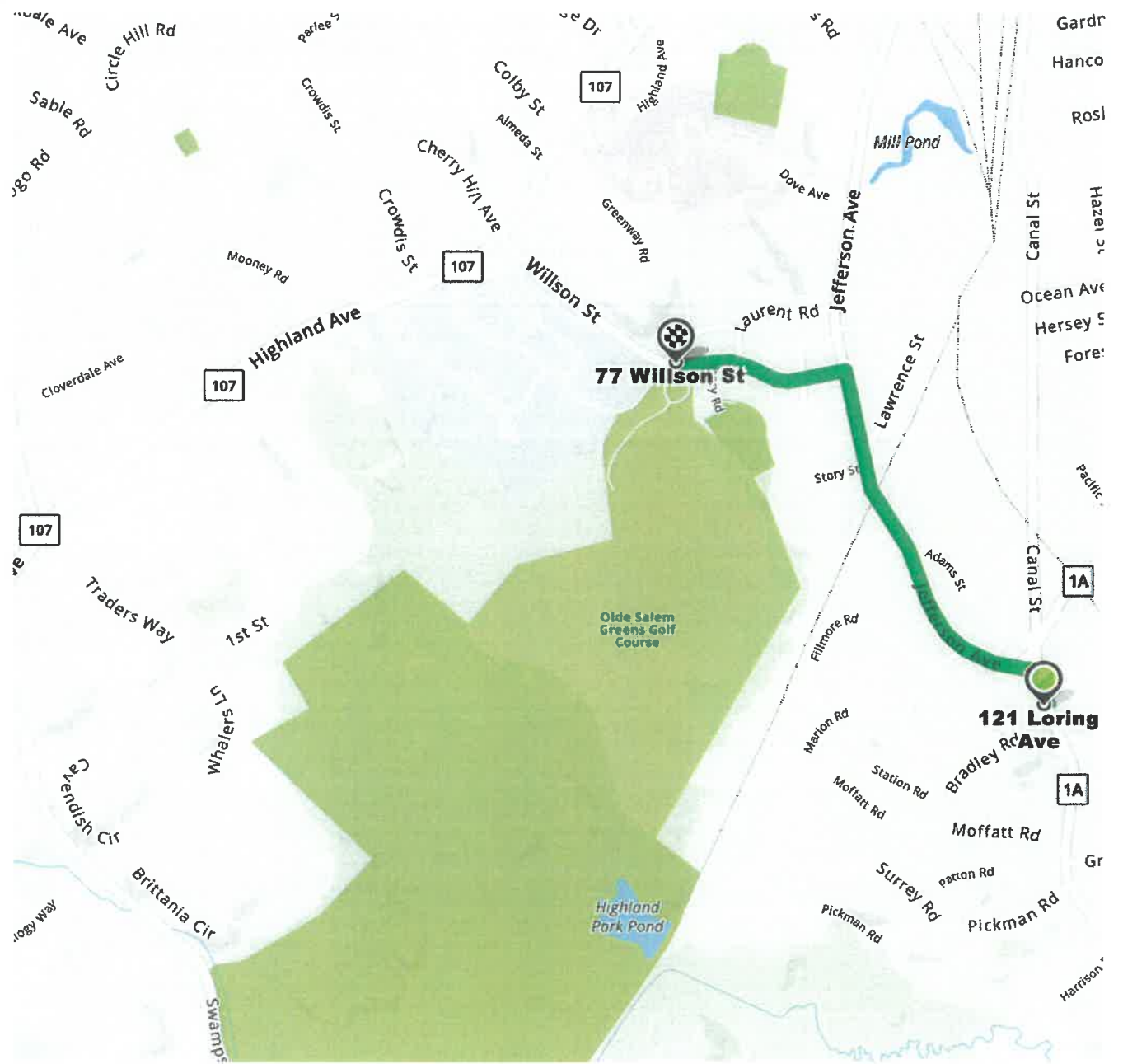
4. 77 WILLSON ST is on the left.

Your destination is just past Old Rd.

If you reach Willson Rd you've gone about 0.2 miles too far.

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CITY OF SALEM



In City Council, August 10, 2020

ORDERED: That the following polling location changes be adopted by roll call vote for the upcoming 2020 primary and general elections:

1. Ward 1 Precinct 2 from 135 Lafayette Street to the Saltonstall Elementary School, 211 Lafayette Street.
2. Ward 2 Precinct 1 & 2 from 24 St. Peter St., St. Peter's Church – Parish Hall to the Community Life Center, 401 Bridge Street.
3. Ward 7 Precinct 1 & 2 from 121 Loring Avenue, Enterprise Center to the Salem High School, 77 Willson Street.

And it shall be further Ordered that attached Evaluation Report shall be made available on the City's website and at the office of the City Clerk. Furthermore, when the new polling places have been designated pursuant to the new legislation, the board of registrars shall post on the municipal website and at other such places as it may determine, a description of the polling places and shall notify voters by using an electronic means, to the extent possible, such as, email, or Code Red calls.



CITY OF SALEM

In City Council August 10, 2020

ORDERED: That the meetings of the qualified voters of the City of Salem be held in the several voting precincts in the city at the polling places designated hereinafter on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the purpose of casting votes in the State Primary Election for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

- SENATOR IN CONGRESS. FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
- REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS. FOR THE SIXTH DISTRICT
- COUNCILLOR. FOR THE FIFTH DISTRICT
- SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT FOR THE SECOND ESSEX DISTRICT
- REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT. . . FOR THE SEVENTH ESSEX DISTRICT
- REGISTER OF PROBATE. FOR ESSEX COUNTY

Be it FURTHER ORDERED: That the following places be and hereby are designated as polling places for said voting:

WARD ONE

- PRECINCT ONE Bentley School, Memorial Drive
- PRECINCT TWO *Saltonstall School, 211 Lafayette St.

*Please note the above for WARD 1 Precinct 2 is a Polling location change. This change is temporary for State Primary September 1, 2020 and State/Federal Election November 3, 2020.

WARD TWO

- PRECINCT ONE & TWO *Community Life Center, 401 Bridge St.

*Please note the above for WARD 2 Precincts 1 & 2 is a Polling location change. This change is temporary for State Primary September 1, 2020 and State/Federal Election November 3, 2020.

WARD THREE

- PRECINCT ONE & TWO Salem High School Auditorium, 77 Willson St.

WARD FOUR

- PRECINCT ONE & TWO Witchcraft Heights School Gym, 1 Frederick St.

WARD FIVE

- PRECINCT ONE & TWO Saltonstall School, 211 Lafayette St.

WARD SIX

PRECINCT ONE & TWO Bates School Gymnasium, Liberty Hill Avenue

WARD SEVEN

PRECINCT ONE & TWO *Salem High School Library, 77 Willson St.

*Please note the above for WARD 7 Precinct 1 & 2 is a Polling location change. This change is temporary for State Primary September 1, 2020 and State/Federal Election November 3, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That the polls for said voting be opened at 7:00 A.M. and closed at 8:00 P.M. and that the City Clerk be instructed to post this notice as required by law.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

City of Salem

In the year Two Thousand and Twenty

**An Ordinance to amend an Ordinance relative to Traffic, Ch. 42, Sec. 75
Parking Prohibited Tow Zone (Resident Sticker)**

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Salem, as follows:

Section 1. Section 75 of Article V-A be amended by repealing the following:

Lafayette Street – Parking Prohibitions Towing Zones (Resident Sticker) – ZONE B-COLOR RED, westerly side, starting at a point of twenty (20) feet north of Raymond Avenue and continuing in a northerly direction for four hundred ten (410) feet to the southeast property line of number 410 Lafayette Street. "Resident Sticker Parking only Tow Zone, Monday through Friday 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M." (3/24/16)

And replacing it with:

Lafayette Street – Parking Prohibitions Towing Zones (Resident Sticker) – ZONE B-COLOR RED, westerly side, starting at a point of twenty (20) feet north of Raymond Avenue and continuing in a northerly direction for five hundred forty (540) feet. Resident Sticker Parking only Tow Zone, Monday through Friday 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect as provided by City Charter.

In City Council July 9, 2020

Adopted for first passage by roll call vote of 11 yeas, 0 nays and 0 absent

ATTEST:

ILENE SIMONS
CITY CLERK

City of Salem

In the year Two Thousand and Twenty

An Ordinance to amend an Ordinance relative to Traffic

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Salem, as follows:

Section 1. Section 49 of Article IV be amended by adding the following:

Dodge Street Court – Obedience to Isolated Stop Signs – south bound traffic on Dodge Street Court at Dodge Street.

Dodge Street Court – Obedience to Isolated Stop Signs – north bound traffic on Dodge Street Court at Dodge Street.

Section 2. Section 51 of Article V be amended by adding the following:

Dodge Street – Parking Prohibited on Certain Streets – northerly side between Washington Street and Dodge Street Court.

Section 3. Section 56 of Article V be amended by repealing the following:

Dodge Street – Parking Meter Zones Established – northerly side between the intersection of Dodge Street Court and the intersection of the parking lot on the east side of Washington Street. Four (4) Hour Parking. (5/5/94) (7/14/11)

Dodge Street – Parking Meter Zones Established – westbound on the northerly side and extending seventy (70) feet from Riley Plaza East, Metered Zone Established, Four (4) hour limit, adds 3 metered spaces on Dodge Street. (4/23/09) (7/14/11)

Section 4. Section 56 of Article V be amended by adding the following:

Washington Street – Parking Meter Zones Established – easterly side beginning at Dodge Street in a southerly direction to the intersection with Canal Street and Mill Street. Four (4) hour parking.

Dodge Street – Parking Meter Zones Established – southerly side between Washington Street and Dodge Street Court. Four (4) hour parking.

Section 5. Section 57C of Article V be amended by repealing the following:

Dodge Street – Parking Time Limited; Monthly Zones – southerly side from Riley Plaza East to a point 60 feet east of the intersection with Dodge Street Court. (7/14/11)

Section 6. This ordinance shall take effect as provided by City Charter.

In City Council July 9, 2020

Adopted for first passage by roll call vote of 11 yeas, 0 nays and 0 absent

ATTEST:

ILENE SIMONS
CITY CLERK

CITY OF SALEM

In the Year Two Thousand and Twenty

An Ordinance to amend an Ordinance relative to Traffic, Ch. 42. Sec. 50B

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Salem, as follows:

Section 1. Amending Chapter 42, Section 50B – “Handicap Zones, Limited Time” is hereby amended by adding the following:

Washington Square East, in front of #96 starting at a point forty-two (42) feet southeast of Andrew Street, running southeast for twenty (20) feet, “Handicapped Parking Only, Tow Zone.”

Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect as provided by City Charter.

In City Council July 9, 2020

Adopted for first passage by roll call vote of 11 yeas, 0 nays and 0 absent

ATTEST:

ILENE SIMONS
CITY CLERK