

**NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT  
PROHIBITION ON DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF DISABILITY**

The City of Ocean Springs (hereinafter referred to as “City”) , along with its respective departments, agencies, and other instrumentalities, will not discriminate on the basis of disability in any of the City’s programs, services, or activities, including zoning and land use decisions. Accordingly, the City, in providing any aid, benefit, or service, will not, directly or through contracting, licensing, or other arrangements:

- (i) Engage in discriminatory policies and practices against individuals with disabilities, entities that serve individuals with disabilities, or individuals and entities associated with them;
- (ii) Deny equal benefits or services to individuals with disabilities and individuals and entities associated with them, on the basis of disability;
- (iii) Provide different benefits or services to individuals with disabilities, and individuals and entities associated with them, than is provided to others, unless such action is necessary to provide benefits or services that are as effective as those provided to others;
- (iv) Limit individuals with disabilities, and individuals and entities associated with them, in enjoyment of any right, privilege, advantage, or opportunity enjoyed by others; or
- (v) Utilize methods of administering its programs and services that have the effect of subjecting individuals with disabilities, and individuals and entities associated with them, to discrimination on the basis of disability.

In addition, the City will make reasonable modifications in its policies, practices, or procedures when necessary to avoid discrimination on the basis of disability, unless the City can demonstrate that making the modifications would fundamentally alter the nature of the service, program, or activity.

The City will administer services, programs, and activities in the most integrated setting appropriate to the needs of individuals with disabilities. The City will not, in determining the site or location of a facility, make selections:

- (i) That have the effect of excluding individuals with disabilities from, denying them the benefits of, or otherwise subjecting them to discrimination; or
- (ii) That have the purpose or effect of defeating or substantially impairing the accomplishment of the objectives of the service, program, or activity with respect to individuals with disabilities.

And the City will not place a surcharge on a particular individual with a disability, any group of individuals with disabilities, or any persons or entities associated with them to cover the costs of measures, such as the provision of auxiliary aids or program accessibility, that are required to provide that individual, group, or entity with the nondiscriminatory treatment required.