

#### **DIVISION 4. - EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY BOARD**

##### **Sec. 2-134. - Creation and membership.**

- (a) The equal opportunity and accessibility advisory board shall consist of no less than five and no more than seven voting members. Members shall serve terms of three years.
- (b) The members of the equal opportunity and accessibility advisory board shall be drawn from diverse segments of the public community, and selected for their objectivity, ability and broad community interest.
- (c) Membership shall at all times include no fewer than two members with a disability, or who are relatives or primary caretakers of persons with disabilities. Those with experience in working with the disabled or with expertise in accessibility issues shall be given preference for appointment.
- (d) Membership shall at all times include no fewer than two members who are at least 60 years of age. Those with experience in working with the retired and senior citizens of the city shall be given preference for appointment.

##### **Sec. 2-135. - Duties of chairperson.**

In addition to general duties, the chairperson, or the vice chairperson in the absence of the chairperson, is responsible for the appointment of appropriate committees, and the preparation of an annual report to be presented to the board of city commissioners regarding the activities and concerns of the board. The board of city commissioners may elect to accept the monthly minutes of the board as a substitute for such an annual report.

##### **Sec. 2-136. - Purpose and duties.**

The equal opportunity and accessibility advisory board shall ensure the benefits of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act to citizens of the city. It also shall serve as a liaison between the retired or senior citizens of the city and the board of city commissioners. The board shall act in an advisory capacity as a clearinghouse for community concerns as outlined in this division and its duties shall be to:

- (a) help to preserve and further the good name of the city by fostering and promoting amicable relations among individual citizens and various groups;
- (b) help to ensure that each citizen, regardless of race, religion, color, age, sex, disability, language proficiency, national origin or any other protected class, has an opportunity to develop according to his or her abilities without limitations;
- (c) act as an agency with the responsibility of analyzing the depth and scope of community problems or needs in the general areas of community involvement and communications, accessibility, education, economic opportunity, recreation, racial inequality, transportation, housing needs, and concerns of the youth and retired or senior citizens of the community;

- (d) present such community problems or needs to the appropriate elected or appointed officials, the Kansas Human Rights Commission, or another appropriate local or state agency, civic group or business group, and ask that such problems or needs be examined and that the board be advised of any corrective actions taken;
- (e) enlist the resources of government, individuals, and groups toward the improvement of intergroup relations and living standards, and encourage community support and understanding of the board's concerns;
- (f) support local, state or federal legislation, where appropriate, to reduce or eliminate discriminatory practices and group or individual prejudices or improve the general welfare;
- (g) advise and make recommendations to the board of city commissioners on such matters related to accessibility as, from time to time, may be referred to the board;
- (h) evaluate public projects and activities, review plans for city construction projects with potential accessibility issues prior to implementation, and advise city staff on matters related to accessibility;
- (i) provide technical assistance to the city on matters related to the disabled population and serve as an advocate for citizens with disabilities;
- (j) serve as a resource on policy and/or procedure for members of the board of city commissioners and for city staff;
- (k) review federal and state regulations and guidelines on accessibility, and report its findings to the appropriate city department, division or board; and
- (l) regularly review and revise the city's American with Disabilities Act Transition Plan as needed, and make recommendations for its implementation.

**Secs. 2-137—2-155. - Reserved.**