

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE CITY OF ATHENS AND OHIO UNIVERSITY
November 10, 2016**

APPENDIX J-1: DISABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY PLANNING

Introduction

This agreement is proposed between the City of Athens Commission on Disabilities and Ohio University's Presidentially-Appointed Committee on Disability and Accessibility Promotion (PACDAP).

The City of Athens Commission on Disabilities is an agency of the city government and its membership, mission, and charge are determined by city code. The Commission is tasked with reviewing and making recommendations to Athens City government on policies and procedures related to the needs of persons with disabilities; and to act as a liaison between members of the community and local government; and to consult with city officials, council and citizens of Athens in implementing special projects. Ohio University's Presidentially-Appointed Committee on Disability and Accessibility Promotion is an advisory body to Ohio University's President and is called on to provide input for continuous improvement towards Ohio University's compliance with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disability and Accessibility Planning Act of 1990 (as amended).

In an effort to promote communication, cooperation, and collaboration, the President of Ohio University and the Mayor of the City of Athens cooperatively acknowledge the relevance and value of these two entities and call upon the members of the commission and council to work together to address issues of mutual concern to our community members who are living with disabilities.

Scope of Agreed Collaboration

- Serve as a consultative resource on accessibility aspects of new building and renovation projects as requested by the University and City planners
- Review mechanisms for reporting accessibility barrier issues and provide recommendations for improvement to appropriate Ohio University or City of Athens officials
- Identify collaborative opportunities to raise awareness and eliminate barriers, obstacles, and limitations experienced by persons living with disabilities
- Provide recommendations for educating and disseminating information around disaster preparedness to persons living with disabilities.
- Provide annual reports to the President of Ohio University for PACDAP and to the City of Athens Mayor for the City of Athens Commission on Disabilities which include joint activities in the groups' individual reports

This letter of agreement is entered into between Ohio University and the City of Athens for purposes of providing a renewed focus on fostering a welcoming environment for all members of our community, especially those with limited abilities and ensuring a quality living environment where all members can fully participate in our community.

SIGNATURES

In witness hereof, we have affixed our signatures on this 9th day of November 2016.

Steven Patterson, Mayor
City of Athens

Roderick J. McDavis, President
Ohio University