

Introduced by: Presiding Officer Nicoletto, Dep. Presiding Officer Kopel, Alt. Dep. Presiding Officer Ford, and Legislators Gaylor, Muscarella, Kennedy, McKeivitt, Schaefer, Ferretti, Walker and Rhoads

LOCAL LAW NO. 17-2021

A LOCAL LAW TO ESTABLISH THE NASSAU COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Passed by the Nassau County Legislature on September 27, 2021

Voting; ayes 19, nays 0

Became a law on October 27, 2021 with the approval of the County Executive

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Majority Counsel

WHEREAS, the County of Nassau is committed to the health, safety, welfare, and independence of its residents with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the County of Nassau is dedicated to ensuring that its residents with disabilities and their advocates have a voice in County government and the ability to assist in the review of County policies, procedures, practices and programs, and to recommend legislation, funding priorities, and capital projects that address the needs of all Nassau County residents; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of an Advisory Council on People with Disabilities will assist Nassau County policymakers to address the issues and needs of Nassau County's residents with disabilities; NOW THEREFORE

BE IT ENACTED, by the County Legislature of the County of Nassau as follows:

Section 1. The County Government Law of Nassau County is amended to include the following section:

§1006. Advisory Council on People with Disabilities. Within the Department of Human Services, there shall be an Advisory Council on People with Disabilities. Members of the Council shall be appointed by the County Executive, subject to confirmation by the Legislature.

- (1) The Council shall consist of fifteen (15) members, to be appointed by the County Executive subject to confirmation by the Legislature as follows:
 - (a) Five upon the recommendation of the Presiding Officer;
 - (b) Three upon the recommendation of the Minority Leader;

(c) Seven (7) members each either having one (or more) of the following disabilities or being a representative of an organization that provides services to or advocacy on behalf of people with such disabilities as:

- a. Intellectual/Developmental Disability
- b. Physical Disability
- c. Blindness/Legal Blindness
- d. Deaf or Hard of Hearing
- e. Mental Health Disability
- f. Autism
- g. Learning Disability

(d) One representative from each of the following County Offices and Departments who shall be non-voting ex-officio members:

- a. Office of Mental Health, Chemical Dependency and Developmental Disabilities;
- b. Office for the Physically Challenged
- c. Department of Social Services
- d. Department of Parks
- e. Department of Health
- f. Department of Public Works
- g. Office of Emergency Management

(2) Each member of the Council shall be appointed to a three (3) year term and shall serve without compensation. Council members shall be allowed actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

(3) Powers and Duties of the Council

- a. The Council shall advise the County Executive and the Legislature on issues relating to people with disabilities and shall recommend to the County Executive and Legislature legislation, funding priorities and programs;
- b. The Council shall review County policies, procedures, practices and programs for their impact on people with disabilities and provide its recommendations to the County Executive and Legislature;
- c. The Council shall review Nassau County's Capital Budget and Four-Year Capital Plan, and shall make recommendations to the County Executive and Legislature on projects incorporated therein or for new projects;
- d. The Council shall review Nassau County's proposed budget and four-year plan, and shall make recommendations to the County Executive and Legislature on the spending programs contained therein;
- e. The Council shall periodically evaluate Nassau County's parks and preserve infrastructure and make recommendations to improve accessibility for Nassau County's disabled residents;
- f. The Council shall hold regular meetings at such times and places as the members of the Council shall determine;

- g. The Council shall adopt its own rules of conduct for its meetings and shall work closely with the various groups and organizations that provide support or assistance to disabled groups throughout the County.

§2. Severability. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this local law or the application thereof to any person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity or circumstance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, effect or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this law or in its application to the person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity or circumstance directly involved in the controversy in which such order or judgment shall be rendered.

§3. S.E.Q.R.A. It is hereby determined, pursuant to the provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act, 8 N.Y.E.C.L., section 0101 et seq. and its implementing regulations, Part 617 of 6 N.Y.C.R.R., and section 1611 of the County Government Law of Nassau County, that the adoption of this local law is a "Type II" Action within the meaning of Section 617.5(c)(20) and (27) of 6 N.Y.C.R.R., and, accordingly, is of a class of actions which do not have a significant effect on the environment; and no further review is required.

§4. Effective date. This local law shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED

County Executive

Date 10-27-21