A RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE THE MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION RESOLUTION REQUIRING COMPLIANCE WITH ACCESSIBILITY DESIGN STANDARDS:

Whereas, the City of Morgantown established the Human Rights Commission with the recognition and vision that the diversity found in our City brings forth richness in our community, a greater understanding of our world, a multitude of talent to benefit collective needs and an opportunity for enhanced living and learning for all; and

Whereas, Inherent in the development of the Human Rights Commission is a commitment to encourage and endeavor to bring about equal opportunity, mutual understanding, and respect for persons of all ages, abilities, ancestry, blindness, color, disability or handicap, ethnicities, familial status, national origins, sex, sexual orientations, races, religions, and other backgrounds or orientations: and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, the City Council of Morgantown West Virginia endorses the Human Rights Commission resolution requiring compliance with accessibility design standards.

Adopted this 1st day of September, 2015

Marti Shamberger
Mayor, City of Morgantown
RESOLUTION ON REQUIRING COMPLIANCE WITH ACCESSIBILITY DESIGN STANDARDS

Resolution Adopted by
City of Morgantown Human Rights Commission
August 20, 2015
RESOLUTION ON REQUIRING COMPLIANCE WITH ACCESSIBILITY DESIGN STANDARDS

Whereas, all buildings utilized by the public need to be designed to accommodate people of all ages and abilities.

Whereas, the construction or renovation standards for private or public structures utilized by the public or qualifying multi-family residences is directed by the federal and state standards to protect inclusive accessibility in the design of public structures utilizing standards which include:

Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, known as the Fair Housing Act
Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 (Effective March 13, 1991)
WV Human Rights Act: Chapter 5, Article 11 – Public Accommodations
WV Fair Housing Act: Chapter 5, Article 11A with the WV Human Rights Commission (Enforced by State Fire Commission – Chapter 29, Article 3)
WV State Building Code – IBC 2003, 2006, 2009 (in compliance w/ ANSI A117.1 and the Fair Housing Design Manual); and

Whereas, in addition, any federally subsidized construction must meet the accessibility requirements of the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design; and

Whereas, the burden of compliance with federal and state directives rest with the persons who design, construct and authorize development of a public facility and/or multifamily dwelling covered by a federal or state law and that failure to design and construct covered facilities to include certain features of accessible design will be regarded as unlawful discrimination; and

Whereas, an individual who thinks he or she may have been discriminated against may file a complaint against a building owner, the architect, the contractor or any other persons or government involved in the design, construction, and approval of a covered building; and

Whereas, enforcement of accessibility requirements violations is provided by the federal Department of Justice and non-compliance can create significant costs for builders and property managers as well as financial liability for government officials and code enforcement offices:

Be It Therefore Resolved, that City Council of Morgantown be called upon to enact a policy requiring all plans for public or private structures document compliance with applicable federal or state legal accessibility standards, connectivity with transportation, and directional signage by an ADA/504 compliance officer, or other qualified person authorized by the Morgantown City Manager or his or her designate.
Adopted by the Morgantown Human Rights Commission (and separately by Community Living Initiatives) this 20th day of August, 2015.

Jan Derry
Chairperson

Marlene Robinson-Savino
Vice Chairperson

Don Spencer
Secretary

Fran Whiteman
Commission Member

Billie Murray
Commission Member

Kristen Cooper
Commission Member

Matthew Blair
Commission Member