



# *City of New Bedford*

## **BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS**

July 8, 2022

New Bedford City Council  
133 William Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear councillors:

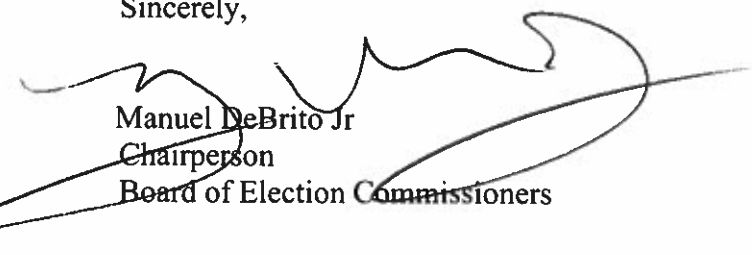
The Board of Election Commissioners is requesting to be placed on the July 21st City Council agenda to approve the change of a polling location, Campbell School (Ward 1B and newly created sub-precinct 1B-1) to CareOne of New Bedford. All voters impacted by these moves must be notified at least 20 days prior to the State Primary Election (September 6, 2022), thus necessitating this request. There will be roughly 2,000 registered voters impacted.

These changes are requested because our previous polling location (Campbell School) is already a double precinct and will not be adequate to house the newly created sub-precincts 1B-1 and 1C-1 in addition to 1B and 1C. Per State Law, each sub-precinct requires its own separate voting setup. To mitigate voter confusion, 1C and 1C-1 will remain at Campbell with 1B and 1B-1 now together at CareOne. CareOne is located a half mile down the street from the prior location and will have the least impact logistically on the voters. The new location will not have a disparate adverse impact on access to the polls on the basis of race, national origin, disability, income or age.

None of the other polling locations need to be moved at this moment but will be revisited in the future to ensure our polling locations are in fact based in the best possible locations to house them.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Manuel DeBrito Jr  
Chairperson  
Board of Election Commissioners

cc: Dennis Farias, City Clerk  
Ian Abreu, Councillor-At-Large  
Elizabeth McNamara, City Solicitor

## POLLING PLACE AND REGISTRATION SITE ACCESS

LOCATION: Care One DATE: 6/28/2022  
WARD: 1 PRECINCT: C & C-1  
SURVEYOR: Manny DeBrito SURVEYOR: \_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE: Election Commission-Chairperson TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

This checklist is based on the Secretary of the Commonwealth's regulations for polling place accessibility 950 CMR 51:00. To complete this survey, you will need a level and a tape measure. Please specify in the "Comments" section, below, any issues that need further clarification.

### 1. Site access (Path of Travel):

☒ (a) The paths of travel to the polling place from the parking lot and from the street are clear, reasonably lit, and unobstructed.

☐ (b) The paths have continuous common surfaces, not interrupted by steps or abrupt changes in level greater than 1/2 inch.

☒ (c) The path of travel is the same or a substantially similar distance for all persons entering the polling place.

Comments (City/Town Representative):

- unsure about lighting from parking lot to entrance. Have the ability to add extra lighting if necessary  
- only one curb cut on sidewalk & not directly to entrance. will add ramp to street

Comments (Monitor):

## 2. Parking:

- ✓ (a) The required number of handicapped parking spaces is provided as follows:
- | <u>total no. of parking spaces</u> | <u>no. of handicapped spaces required</u> |
|------------------------------------|---|
|------------------------------------|---|

1 - 25	1
26 - 50	2
51 - 75	3
76 - 100	4
101 - 150	5
151 - 200	6
201 - 300	7
301 - 400	8
401 - 500	9
501 - 1,000	2% of total
1,001 and over	20 plus 1 for each 100 over 1,000

### (b) for parking lots striped prior to 9/1/96:

\_\_\_\_ (1) The handicapped parking spaces are 8 feet wide and have an adjacent 4 foot access aisle which is painted or striped yellow. The parking lot is reasonably lit.

\_\_\_\_ (2) The handicapped parking spaces are identified by a sign at each space or pair of spaces containing the International Symbol of Accessibility, with the top of the sign between 5 and 8 feet high above the ground.

### (c) for parking lots striped after 9/1/96:

✓ \_\_\_\_ (1) The handicapped parking spaces are 8 feet wide and have an adjacent 5 foot access aisle which is marked by high contrast painted lines or other high contrast delineation. The parking lot is reasonably lit.

✓ \_\_\_\_ (2) Is there at least one "van accessible" space. (one in every eight accessible spaces must be van accessible, but no less than one) This space is 8 feet wide and has an adjacent 8-foot wide access aisle which is marked by high contrast painted lines or other high contrast delineation. The parking lot is reasonable lit.

✓ \_\_\_\_ (3) Each handicapped parking space is identified by a sign containing the International Symbol of Accessibility, with the top of the sign between 5 and 8 feet high above the ground. Van accessible spaces shall include the words "Van Accessible."

\_\_\_\_ (d) Any sidewalk provided at the handicapped parking spaces has a curb cut (sidewalk ramp), with a slope no greater than 1:12, at each space or pair of spaces.

\_\_\_\_ (e) If no parking lot is available, there is at least one on-street parking space which is at least temporarily designated as a handicapped parking space during the election in front of the polling place.

Comments (City/Town Representative): - will add ramp	Comments (Monitor):
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### 3. Entrance

☒ (a) At least one entrance to the building is accessible.

☒ (b) The approach to the accessible entrance is a paved walk or ramp with a non-slip surface uninterrupted by steps or changes in level greater than 1/2 inch. There is a level space 60 inches from the door on both the exterior and interior sides.

☒ (c) Lever handles or other accessible hardware are provided on doors, so that they may be operated with a closed fist.

☒ (d) Doorways are at least 32 inches clear width. Door thresholds are no higher than 1/2 inch above the floor.

☒ (e) If the main entrance is not accessible, signs direct people to the accessible entrance.

☒ (f) If the accessible entrance is not the main entrance, it is unlocked and able to be used without assistance during the same hours as the main entrance.

Comments (City/Town Representative):	Comments (Monitor):
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#### 4. Ramps

☒ (a) If the entrance has stairs, there is either a permanent or portable ramp. If permanent, the ramp has a slope no steeper than 1:12.

☒ (b) The ramp is at least 48 inches wide.

☒ (c) The ramp has two pairs of handrails along both sides that are round or oval in shape and are set in pairs, one at a height between 34 and 38 inches and a lower one at a height between 18 and 20 inches.

☒ (d) If the ramp is portable, it is as close to 1:12 as possible, and either handrails or wheel guards at least two inches high on both sides are provided.

(e) Please describe the portable ramp (if applicable):

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Comments (City /Town Representative):	Comments (Monitor):
-only one curb cut From street. will add portable wood ramp from street to voting entrance	

## 5. Building Interior

☒ (a) All interior doors, approaches, and ramps necessary to obtain access to the polling place comply with 3 and 4 above.

☒ (b) An accessible route which provides a continuous unobstructed path at least 36 inches wide is maintained inside the polling place and shall coincide with the route for the general public.

Comments (City/Town Representative):	Comments (Monitor):
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## 6. Voting Equipment

✓ (a) All Polls - A sample ballot will be posted on the wall no higher than 48 inches above the floor.

✓ (b) Paper or Datavote ballots - At least one marking shelf (one for each party in a primary for Datavote) provides a clear space under it at least 30 inches wide, at least 27 inches clear to the underside, and no more than 32 inches high to the top. Any Datavote stylus handle is at least 1 ¼ inches thick and at least 3 inches long.

✓ (c) Voting machines - At least one machine has a sample ballot posted inside, not higher than 48 inches.

✓ Voting levers are no higher than 48 inches above the floor, or a "reacher" is available for the upper levels.

Comments (City/Town Representative):	Comments (Monitor):

**PLEASE SEND THE COMPLETED SURVEY TO:**

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH  
ATTN: Bridget Simmons Murphy  
Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth  
Elections Division  
1 Ashburton Place, 17<sup>th</sup> floor  
Boston, MA 02108**

## **City of New Bedford 1B & 1B-1 Polling Location Change Impact Statement**

In accordance with Section 11 of Chapter 115 of the Acts of 2020, the New Bedford City Council reviews the impact of the Election Commission request to move Precinct 1B & 1B-1 polling location from Campbell School to CareOne Nursing Facility. The move is necessary due to the addition of sub-precincts and lack of space to house them all at Campbell School.

1. There is no adverse impact on the basis of disability or age.

CareOne, which is located .6 miles from Campbell School, is a senior care facility. The polling location is up to code with all accessibility rules. There are ample Handicapped accessible parking spots on the property. There will be a temporary ramp added by the entrance to voting ensuring adequate access and egress.

2. There is no adverse impact on the basis of race or national origin.

The location is a 10-minute walk from the previous location.

3. There is no adverse impact on the basis of income.

Transportation is a major economic factor. Most voters drive to Campbell to vote which is only .6 miles to the proposed location. SRTA bus lines has stops along Acushnet Ave which is within walking distance.