

## CITY OF BRECKSVILLE, OHIO

### SERVICE ANIMAL POLICY

The City of Brecksville, Ohio allows service animals assisting individuals with a disability to enter City buildings and facilities with their owner to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of the individual with a disability. *Service animal* means any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purposes of this definition. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the handler's disability. Examples of work or tasks include, but are not limited to, assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision with navigation and other tasks, alerting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to the presence of people or sounds, providing non-violent protection or rescue work, pulling a wheelchair, assisting an individual during a seizure, alerting individuals to the presence of allergens, retrieving items such as medicine or the telephone, providing physical support and assistance with balance and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities, and helping persons with psychiatric and neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors. The crime deterrent effects of an animal's presence and the provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship do not constitute work or tasks for the purposes of this definition. Individuals with disabilities are permitted to be accompanied by their service animals in all areas where members of the public are allowed to go.

The City of Brecksville is hereby implementing this policy to permit the use of a service animal by an individual with a disability. A service animal shall be under the control of its handler. A service animal shall have a harness, leash, or other tether, unless either the handler is unable because of a disability to use a harness, leash or other tether, or the use of a harness, leash or other tether would interfere with the service animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks, in which case the service animal must be otherwise under the handler's control (e.g., voice control, signals, or other effective means.) The City of Brecksville is not responsible for the care or supervision of a service animal. The City may inquire whether an animal is a "service animal", but the City may not inquire as to an individual's disability and may not require further documentation or proof regarding the service animal. The City may ask an individual with a disability to remove a service animal from the premises if: (i) the animal is out of control and the animal's handler does not take effective action to control it; or (ii) the animal is not housebroken. However, if these circumstances arise so that the City of Brecksville properly excludes a service animal under applicable laws and regulations, it shall give the individual with a disability the opportunity to obtain goods, services, and accommodations without having the service animal on the premises.



If you have any questions regarding the City of Brecksville Service Animal policy, please contact Mr. Scott Packard, Section 504/ADA Facilities Coordinator at (440)526-4351. Specific reasonable accommodations will be considered upon request.