



Legislation Text

File #: 47692, **Version:** 1

Fiscal Note

The development of the comprehensive language access plan will be accomplished with existing resources. The Department of Civil Rights anticipates that there may be additional costs associated with the implementation of the plan which would be requested at the time of plan adoption.

Title

Approving an extension to Resolution #34666 and amending the date by which the Department of Civil Rights will submit a comprehensive language access plan to the Common Council.

Body

WHEREAS, the City of Madison is home to 15.2% residents over 5 years of age who speak a language other than English at home, many of whom are limited English proficient (LEP); and,

WHEREAS, accurate communication with its residents is of the highest priority for the City; and,

WHEREAS, the City Department of Civil Rights has created a Language Assistance Program to ensure compliance with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and to provide equal access to and full participation in all City services, programs and activities; and,

WHEREAS, on September 20, 2016, the City resolved that the City of Madison shall use professional, qualified human translation for official communications and its websites, and shall not use automated machine translation for the same, and further resolved that the Department of Civil Rights (DCR) will review its language access plan and submit a comprehensive language access plan to the Common Council by June 2017; and,

WHEREAS, in order to engage appropriate city committees and LEP community members who may experience disparate outcomes if the Language Assistance Program is implemented without their input, additional time is necessary,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Civil Rights shall present an interim report with suggested FY18 language access budget by September of 2017; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Department of Civil Rights shall be granted an extension and will submit a comprehensive language access plan to the Common Council by December of 2017.