IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING SERVICE ANIMALS

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), State and local governments, businesses, and nonprofit organizations that serve the public generally must allow service animals to accompany people with disabilities in all areas of the facility where the public is allowed to go. Some specifics related to service animals:

- Service animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Miniature horses can also be service animals.

- A service animal must be under the control of its handler. Under the ADA, service animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless the individual’s disability prevents using these devices or these devices interfere with the service animal’s safe, effective performance of tasks.

- When it is not obvious what service an animal provides, only limited inquiries are allowed. Staff may ask two questions: (1) is the dog a service animal required because of a disability, and (2) what work or task has the dog been trained to perform.

- Establishments that sell or prepare food must generally allow service animals in public areas even if state or local health codes prohibit animals on the premises.

Please utilize the following resources for questions related to service animals, or any other ADA-related questions. City and Envision staff are more than willing to visit a business to discuss questions or concerns.