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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE MARYLAND COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS AND WHITE MARSH MALL SUCCESSFULLY CONCILIATE ACCESSIBILITY COMPLAINT

BALTIMORE, MD – In a landmark moment for accessibility and inclusion, The Maryland Commission on Civil Rights (MCCR) proudly announces the successful resolution of an accessibility case at White Marsh Mall, highlighting a powerful commitment to equal access for all patrons.

In 2019, a mall visitor seeking access to the food court discovered that parking spaces designated for people with disabilities had been replaced by electric vehicle charging stations, forcing her to navigate over 100 feet from the nearest reserved space. Moved to action, she reached out to MCCR, initiating a journey of courage, collaboration, and ultimately, change.

Guided by MCCR's Advanced Lead Investigator Ryan Murray, the Commission conducted a thorough investigation, issuing a finding of Probable Cause and opening the door to impactful conversations. Through understanding and empathy, White Marsh Mall agreed to reinstate accessible parking close to the food court and to address additional barriers, ensuring a welcoming environment for all visitors.

“This successful conciliation is more than a solution; it’s a testament to the power of collaboration, advocacy, and a respect for all Marylanders,” said Cleveland L. Horton II, Executive Director of MCCR. “Accessibility is not just a compliance issue; it is a reflection of our commitment to equity and inclusion. By working together, we’re building a state where every resident and visitor can fully participate in public life without barriers.”

Lead Investigator Ryan Murray, who played a pivotal role in this case, expressed admiration for everyone involved. “I am grateful for the courage of the Complainant, who spoke up not only for herself, but for the countless others who may face similar challenges. Her actions demonstrate the importance of standing up for accessibility and inclusivity.”

This resolution represents Maryland’s dedication to creating spaces that honor the diversity and dignity of all its residents. MCCR remains steadfast in our mission to make Maryland a place free of any unlawful discrimination, where everyone feels they belong.

“Our vision is to have a State that is free from any trace of unlawful discrimination.”

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