



## **Minutes**

### **Accessibility Advisory Committee**

**October 26, 2021, 1:00 p.m.**

**City Hall - 808 2nd Avenue East - Council Chambers**

#### **MEMBERS**

##### **PRESENT:**

Chair Christine Farrell  
Member Donald Anderson  
Member Warren Bazinet (via video)  
Councillor Scott Greig  
Councillor Brock Hamley  
Member Rebecca Knisley

#### **MEMBERS**

**ABSENT/REGRETS:** Member Jason Crone

##### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Amy Cann, Manager of Planning and Heritage  
Kevin Linthorne, Chief Building Official  
Chris Webb, Manager of Engineering Services  
Bethany Chandler, Human Resources Assistant  
Peter Paquette, Engineering Technologist  
Staci Landry, Customer Service Facilitator

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#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Farrell called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

#### **2. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

2.a Member Knisley Re: Subsidized Bus Pass Program

#### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

- 4.a Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting held on September 28, 2021

AC-211026-001

Moved by Councillor Greig

**"THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee approves the minutes of the meeting held on September 28, 2021."**

Carried.

#### **5. DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

There were no depositions or presentations.

#### **6. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions from the public.

#### **7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR WHICH DIRECTION IS REQUIRED**

There were no correspondence items presented for consideration.

#### **8. REPORTS OF CITY STAFF**

- 8.a Verbal Report from the Engineering Technologist Re: New Pedestrian Cross-Overs in the River District

The Engineering Technologist advised that the pedestrian cross-over (rainbow crossing) on 8th Street East has been completed and is a hard-wired system that is fed off the grid for electrical power. The two new systems that have not been actuated yet are solar powered. These cross-overs will be located on 2nd Avenue East in the 800 and 900 blocks. An inspection is scheduled for next Tuesday by the Electrical Safety Authority and the cross-overs will be operational following that inspection.

Each of the cross-overs has an audible button on either side of the roadway that says "yellow lights are flashing", approach signage indicating that there is a cross-over ahead, a no passing sign, and flashing beacons that will flash for 22 seconds. It is a requirement under the *Highway Traffic Act* that vehicles are legally bound to stop when the lights are flashing. These cross-overs are approved Ontario Traffic Manual crossings and the current crosswalks on 2nd Avenue East are non-conformant with the Ontario Traffic Manual which is why they are being replaced. These new cross-overs will improve pedestrian safety in the River District.

In response to a question from Committee, the Engineering Technologist advised that there is currently not a beat tone on the posts for the cross-over at 8th Street East. Member Anderson noted that this will make it extremely difficult for a

person with visual impairment to find the audible button. The Engineering Technologist will follow up with the supplier and find out if the software will allow the beat tone to be actuated on these cross-overs.

In response to a question from Committee, the Engineering Technologist noted that the equipment for each cross-over cost approximately \$11,000, the new poles for the overhead signage for each cross-over cost approximately \$3,500, plus the labour to install the equipment.

Committee members suggested that a "New" sign be installed before the cross-over for the short-term. It was also suggested that capital projects go forward to Committees first for evaluation prior to construction. This is a project that is relevant to this Committee and members could have provided valuable input and feedback on the design and functionality prior to construction.

AC-211026-002

Moved by Councillor Greig

**"THAT in consideration of the Verbal Report provided October 26, 2021 from the Engineering Technologist respecting the new pedestrian cross-overs in the River District, the Accessibility Advisory Committee recommends that City Council receive the Verbal Report for information purposes."**

Carried.

## **9. MATTERS POSTPONED**

There were no matters postponed.

## **10. MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE WAS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN**

There were no motions for which notice was previously given.

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATION**

11.a Memorandum from the Planning Division Re: Site Plan Approvals for September 2021

11.b Mobility Transit Dashboard - Month Ending September 30, 2021

11.c Committees Information Sheet

The Customer Service Facilitator advised that there are several vacancies for City Committees with terms beginning February 1, 2022 and that applications are now open with a deadline of November 26, 2021.

AC-211026-003

Moved by Member Anderson

**"THAT in consideration of correspondence provided for information purposes listed on the October 26, 2021 Accessibility Advisory Committee agenda, the Accessibility Advisory Committee recommends that City Council receive Items 11.a to 11.c for information purposes."**

Carried.

Councillor Greig left the meeting.

## **12. DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

### **12.a Subsidized Bus Pass Program**

Chair Farrell noted that a subsidized bus pass program is being recommended as part of the Transit Study. Councillor Hamley advised that the final details of implementing those decisions from the Transit Study would come after the staff report has been approved. This staff report will come forward to the Operations Committee for consideration at its meeting on November 9, 2021. These minutes would then go forward to Council for review and approval at its meeting on November 29, 2021. If approved by Council, staff will issue a Request for Proposals based on this staff report and approved recommendations.

Committee members discussed the Mobility Transit Application Form and suggested that it may be time for staff to review and update the application form to ensure that it is inclusive of all types of disabilities.

AC-211026-004

Moved by Member Anderson

**"THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee recommends that City Council direct staff to bring forward a report at a future Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting respecting how to address the accessibility issues identified by the Accessibility Advisory Committee in the current Mobility Transit Application Form."**

Carried.

## **13. NOTICES OF MOTION**

There were no notices of motion.

## **14. ADJOURNMENT**

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Chair Farrell adjourned the meeting at 1:51 p.m.