



Accessibility Advisory Committee

Minutes

March 5, 2025, 4:00 p.m.
White Rock Community Centre

PRESENT: Alex Michaels, Community Member
Colleen Turnley, Community Member
Jasvinder Dhesi, Community Member
Kelly Douglas, Community Member
Marissa Hadland, Community Member (arrived at 4:01 p.m.)
Darcy Villeneuve, Community Member

COUNCIL: Councillor Elaine Cheung, Vice-Chairperson

ABSENT: Leanne Utendale, Community Member

STAFF: Anne Berry, Director of Planning and Development Services
Jim Gordon, Director of Engineering and Municipal Operations
Kari Laing, Director of Human Resources
Janessa Auer, Committee Clerk

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Cheung assumed the role of Chairperson and called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

M. Hadland arrived at 4:01 p.m.

Motion Number 2025-AAC-001: It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee adopts the agenda for the March 5, 2025 meeting as amended to include an item for introductions following Item 3: *Adoption of Minutes*.

Motion CARRIED

3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Motion Number 2025-AAC-002: It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee adopts the minutes of the October 29, 2024 meeting as circulated.

Motion CARRIED

4. **INTRODUCTIONS**

Roundtable introductions took place.

5. **ACCESSIBLE PIER MAT SIGNAGE**

Staff clarified that this discussion topic was suggested by the Committee during the October 29, 2024 meeting, when feedback submitted by a member of the public, regarding the Accessible Pier Mat being slippery, was reviewed.

The Director of Engineering and Municipal Operations noted that this feedback had been submitted quite soon after the mat had been installed, and that it was normal to experience slippery conditions on the mat for a short time after installation. He confirmed that he visited the Pier to test the mat's surface the day prior to this meeting and did not find it to be slippery anymore.

A photo of the "SLIPPERY WHEN WET" sign installed beside the mat at the Pier entrance was shown to the Committee for their awareness, following which no further signage concerns were noted.

6. **IMPROVING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF VAN-ACCESSIBLE PARKING STALL LOCATIONS**

The Director of Engineering and Municipal Operations provided a PowerPoint presentation reviewing accessible parking stalls throughout the City. He clarified that 2.7% of the City's parking stalls are accessible, which is above the 2% recommendation in the City's Zoning Bylaw and in other standard guidelines. It was also noted that half of the accessible stalls in the City are van-accessible, which exceeds the recommendation of 12.5% in the Zoning Bylaw.

To improve public awareness, the Director of Planning and Development Services noted that a link to the map displaying van-accessible parking stall locations throughout the City, as shown in the presentation, can be included on the City website's Parking page.

7. **BEACH WHEELCHAIR STORAGE OPTIONS**

The Director of Engineering and Municipal Operations advised that he is working on a report to Council about this topic, and that he is interested in receiving feedback/suggestions from the Committee regarding potential methods for storage and facilitation of a beach wheelchair program.

During a roundtable discussion, the Committee shared several examples and suggestions that will help guide staff in completing this report.

8. **BEACH ACCESS RAMP WORKING GROUP UPDATE**

Working group members provided an overview of their report outlining key safety considerations and suggested accessibility improvements for the City's Bay Street and Findlay Street beach access ramps and surrounding areas.

The Chairperson advised that some potential improvements would require further Council consideration to assess factors such as budget requirements, staff time, potential traffic warrant analysis required, etc. For this reason, a feasibility study from staff will be necessary prior to initiating some of the suggested actions.

Staff did note that some suggested improvements without substantial budget or time requirements, as well as communications with Burlington Northern Sante Fe Railway (BNSF), could be completed in the near future.

Action Item: Director of Engineering and Municipal Operations to send BNSF any suggested safety improvements from the working group's report that are within their jurisdiction.

Motion Number 2025-AAC-003: It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee recommends that Council direct staff to complete a feasibility assessment of the accessibility improvements suggested in the Beach Access Ramp Working Group's report.

Motion CARRIED

9. **ANNUAL LIGHTING OF WHITE ROCK PIER FOR INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

Staff provided a brief overview of the City's Lighting the White Rock Pier Policy, which includes a list of annual celebrations to be supported for the 2023 - 2026 Council term. Following an inquiry to staff from the previous Chairperson about

lighting the Pier to honour International Day of Persons with Disabilities, it was noted that the Committee may wish to discuss a recommendation to Council to amend the policy to include this occasion in its list of annual celebrations to be recognized.

Motion Number 2025-AAC-004: It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee recommends that Council amend the City's Lighting the White Rock Pier Policy 168 to include International Day of Persons with Disabilities (December 3) in the list of annual celebrations to be supported during the 2023 - 2026 Council term, for which the Pier will be lit purple.

Motion CARRIED

10. CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 REVIEW OF ACCESSIBILITY WEBPAGE FEEDBACK SUBMISSIONS

None

11. OTHER BUSINESS

None

12. INFORMATION

12.1 COMMITTEE ACTION TRACKING

Staff provided an update regarding action items and recommendations noted in the action and motion tracking document.

13. 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE

The following 2025 meeting schedule was previously approved by the Committee and was provided for information purposes:

- April 22, 2025;
- July 29, 2025; and,
- October 28, 2025.

All meetings are scheduled to take place from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the White Rock Community Centre.

14. **CONCLUSION OF THE MARCH 5, 2025 ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

The meeting was concluded at 5:20 p.m.



Councillor Cheung, Chairperson

Janessa Auer, Committee Clerk

Unapproved