

# **ACCAC – Built Environment and Facilities Sub-Committee (BEFSC)**

## **MEETING REPORT** - Monday, December 12, 2016

Present: M. Dawthorne, J. Madden, J. Sanders,  
S. Stafford (Parks and Community Sports)

Start: 7:00 pm

### **1. Review, updates of Active items**

#### a) Community Gardens:

- Presentation by Scott Stafford (see attachment)
- Site Plan review of both Ed Blake Park and Kiwanis Park (proposed for spring 2017)  
Our suggestions included:
  - Water tap – height, valve style, reachable by hard surface
  - Raised planters – variable heights and profiles, structural stability
  - Raised planters – access dimensions (reach-ability) and turning radius
  - Increased pathway width between and amongst std. plots (from 1.0 and 1.2m to 1.5m) for increased “visit-ability”
- Discussion and review of the City of Vancouver’s, 2011 design guidelines for accessible community gardens (see attachment)  
Re: was recognized as a positive resource as it includes both dimensions and rationale for good design practices
- Discussion of how best we (ACCAC) can work together with the City to improve access to community gardens going forward  
Suggestions included:
  - Review of site plans for both newly constructed and renovated gardens
  - Our assistance in the development of a general design guide
  - Note: there is currently a proposal by the City to designate a full-time staff position and/or department directly responsible for the management of Community Gardens

#### Request for Motion:

That prior to the development of a newly constructed or renovated Community Garden Project, ACCAC is provided with a proposed site plan for review, and opportunity for comments, with regards to design considerations for accessibility.

#### b) FADS document review:

- No further discussion at this time as we (the sub-committee) are awaiting updates from City Staff with regards to any revisions, deletions or updates to the current 2007 FADS document (as part of the 2016 work plan)

#### c) Site Plan Review Process:

- Documents presented for our review, within month of November:
  - 0 application submission, 8 consultation submissions
- Development Services Department has reviewed our draft document (site-plan review checklist) and with few changes will be provided to staff for their ongoing use in the new year. After a trial implementation period, it is expected that further review will be given to better address any update changes that are recognized.

### **2. Next Meeting**

- Monday, January 9, 2016, 7:00-8:00 pm  
**North London Optimist Community Centre (Mtg Rm #1)**  
1345 Cheapside Street


Adjournment: 8:30 pm



# Community Gardens and Accessibility

Meeting of ACCAC Built Environment Sub-Committee  
– December 12, 2016


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## Guidelines: How to start a community garden?

- Community gardens are neighbourhood initiated
- Must identify a possible site
- Need support from a minimum of 10 gardeners
- Site will be reviewed by City to meet certain criteria
- If accepted, the City will send a letter to all homes within 250 m of the proposed location
- If there is demonstrated support, a site plan will be prepared by the City that will comply with AODA and FADS
- Gardeners will work with the City to construct their garden beds – raised beds and other accessibility attributes are supported

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## From FADS (2007)

Community gardens should:

- Have 10% of plots, or a minimum of one accessible planting bed
- Shall be raised 460mm (18") above the ground surface
- Located on an accessible route (preferred minimum width of 1830mm (72"))

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## From Report to CPSC on CG Strategic Plan (2015-2019)


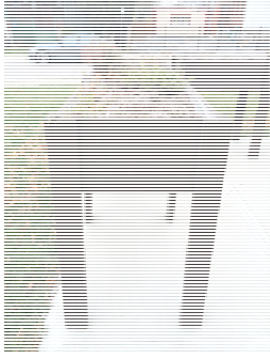
Primary Opportunities to significantly improve the Community Gardens Program:

- Work towards improving accessibility in all gardens for older adults and people with physical or mobility challenges...providing raised beds and accessible pathways to and within community gardens.
- Work towards aligning community garden design to the AODA standards.

2015/2016 Actions to Accomplish:

- Improve accessibility at gardens – status completed: portable raised beds that can be moved to a garden **based on request**

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### Planters at Hamilton Road Seniors Centre:

- 4 raised planters
- Size (each) : 0.6m by 1.8m (2' by 6')
- Height: 41"
- Accessible from one side
- On concrete surface, 3m by 6m (10' by 20')
- Beside an accessible route 1.5m (5')

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