

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

## **MEETING REPORT** - Monday, April 10, 2017

Present: J. Madden, F. de Lasa, A. Forrest, J. Sanders, M. Cairns, M. Dawthorne

Start: 7:00 pm

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

- a) FADS document review:
  - Lengthy discussion with regard to the recent GC presentation, with a consensus opinion of disappointment with the proposed changes. Most notable was that the working group did not include ACCAC, nor any of the other local agencies that had helped to develop the original FADS document, with the development of these proposed changes.
  - Further discussion was around the limits of the AODA's Outdoor Space Requirements, and/or the OBC's building requirements as those documents are intended as minimum limits only that often, and intentionally, do not include design specifications for practical reasons.
  - Attached is the start of a summary listing of items that City Staff should consider as they move forward with their "resource documents" relative to design parameters that go above and beyond published regulatory web-links. And in that regard we, ACCAC and/or the BEFSC welcome further discussions.
- b) Site Plan Review Process:
  - Documents presented for our review, within month of March:
    - 3 application submissions, 12 consultation submissions
  - Follow up was received that the Draft Site-plan Review Checklist is currently being evaluated, with hopes that their review will be completed within this month.

### **2. New discussion: Sidewalk Blockage**

- As construction season has started, a concern was brought to our attention (by photo examples) of a sidewalk being blocked on a main street (Wharnclyffe Rd) that did not have an alternative (safe) path of travel available during construction. Suggestion was made that City Staff return again (last presentation Nov 2014) to our committee to discuss the challenges of both residents and construction crews in this regard.

#### **Request for Motion:**

**That a representative of Roads Division, Construction Management attend an upcoming ACCAC meeting to further discuss any policy, or best practice procedures, that they use with regards to Temporary Paths of Travel during Road/Sidewalk Construction.**

### **3. Update: Thames Talbot Land Trust (TTLT)**

- On behalf of the Built Environment Sub-Committee, J. Sanders has provided the TTLT with a letter of support for their recent funding application. (see attachment, dated March 29, 2017)

### **4. Update: Trail Advisory Group (TAG)**

- As this group has requested that an ACCAC member be represented on their Committee, J. Sanders has volunteered to be the ACCAC representative/contact in this regard, ongoing.
  - Trail review scheduled: Dingman Creek, Apr 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm
  - Trail review scheduled: Westminster Ponds / Dearness Trail, May 11 at 5:30pm

### **5. Next Meeting**

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

Adjournment: 8:10 pm

March 29, 2017

**Rick Hansen Foundation**

300-3820 Cessna Drive

Richmond BC

V7B 0A2

**To whom it may concern:**

**Re: Support for Rick Hansen Access4All Barrier Buster Project**

I Jim Sanders, on behalf of the City of London's Accessibility Advisory Committee (ACCAC) am pleased to offer our support to the Thames Talbot Land Trust and Re-Forest London in their application for funding from the Rick Hansen Foundation Access4All program. Our Committee recognize the importance of building a country that is accessible for all and feel that the Accessible Nature: London's Environment and Sustainability Centre project will leave a lasting legacy of improved accessibility and awareness in our community.

We believe that this project is needed because a flagship Environment and Sustainability Centre in London, ON should be available to all community members. In the long-term, this Centre will offer nature-based, accessible programming such as community gardens and trails. In our experience, access to nature and nature-focused programming is particularly challenging for persons with disabilities. A first step into making the site physically accessible via ramps and bathrooms will lead the path to greater accessibility throughout the Centre's site.

The City of London's Accessibility Advisory Committee plans to provide its expertise and input, as needed, to ensure that the design of the accessibility features in the Environment and Sustainability Centre are accommodating for citizens of all abilities (universal accessibility) within our community.

If you require any additional information, please contact myself at the following email address or phone number.

Sincerely,



Jim Sanders,

Chair of ACCAC, Built Environment and Facility Sub-Committee for The City of London, ON

Email: [accessibility@london.ca](mailto:accessibility@london.ca)

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519-495-4438

April 10, 2017

## **ACCAC Discussion Notes with regards to recent changes to the original FADS document (2007)**

As the City has recently proposed to use linked documents as reference points for their Accessible Design Standards, at ACCAC we have recognised that there made be a need for further consideration towards the devolvement of future "accessibility practices for the design of public spaces" that go above and beyond the minimum legislated, or best practice, limits of the following resource documents;

1. AODA, O. Reg. 191/11, Integrated Accessibility Standards, Part IV Design of Public Spaces Standards for the Built Environment
2. OBC, Ontario Building Code, O. Reg. 332/12
3. GAATES, Illustrated Technical Guide to the Accessibility Standard for the Design of Public Spaces
4. CAN/CSA-Z614-14, Annex H, National Standard of Canada for Children's Playspaces and Equipment
5. CSA-B651-12, Accessible Design for the Built Environment

Our concerns include, but are not limited to the following aspects (that are not covered by the above mentioned documents) ;

### **Community Gardens:**

- Design specifications for Raised Garden Beds
  - Heights, width, depth
  - Percentage of barrier-free plots to ground level plots
- Design specifications for watering paraphernalia
  - Access, reach height, handle type (lever?)
- Design specifications for perimeter fence gates (if provided)
  - Opening width, latch type, placement
- Design specifications for tool storage sheds (if provided)
  - Accessible route, door width

### **Outdoor Playspaces:**

- Design specifications for EWF surfacing (re: installation and maintenance for firm and stable limits)
  - Compacted installation specs
- Design specifications for playspace perimeter curbing (re: ramped or curb-cut access points)
  - Re: minimum of only 1 access point (can we do better?)
- Design specifications for site amenities
  - Benches, tables, shade structures
  - Proximity to playspace
- Design specifications for labelling and signage
- Proximity to access points (parking, street)

**Outdoor Public Use Eating Areas:**

- Design specifications for site amenities (re: picnic-tables, barbeques, benches, shade)
- Design specifications for labelling and signage

**Recreational Trails:**

- Clarification of “recreation” versus “wilderness”
- Design specifications for surfacing (re: installation and maintenance for firm and stable limits)
- Design specifications for site amenities (re: boardwalks, ramps, bridges, lookouts, stairs, benches, shade)
- Design specifications for labelling and signage
- Design specifications for rest areas (benches: style and frequency)

**Exterior Paths of Travel:**

- Design specifications for surfacing (re: installation and maintenance for firm, stable, and slip-resistant)
- Design specifications for “street furniture”
- Design specifications for labelling and signage
- Design specifications for benches (style and frequency)
- Design specifications for “Audible Pedestrian Signals” (tones, types, decibels)
- Design specifications for “Tactile Walking Surface Indicators” (colour, contrast)

**Accessible Parking:**

- Design specifications for surfacing (re: installation and maintenance for firm and stable limits)
- Design specifications for labelling and signage

**Outdoor Events:**

- Design specifications for surfacing (re: installation and maintenance for firm and stable limits)
- Design specifications for labelling and signage

**Sidewalks:**

- Alternative paths of travel for closures (temporary, emergency, planned)
- Review of slopes and profiles (shop drawings)
- Snow clearance, maintenance (transit stops, mailboxes, etc.)
- Rest areas (benches) at transit stops
- Maintenance inspection protocol (overhead branches, shifted edges, etc.)