

Accessibility Advisory Committee Report

4th Meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee
April 26, 2018
Committee Room #4

Attendance PRESENT: J. Madden (Chair), M. Cairns, M. Dawthorne, A. Forrest, J. Menard, P. Moore and P. Quesnel and J. Bunn (Secretary)

ABSENT: L. Chappell, J. Higgins, N. Judges, K. Ramer, K. Schmidt and F. Simmons

ALSO PRESENT: S. Corman, C. Da Silva, R. Hicks, K. Husain and J. Raycroft

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM.

1. Call to Order

1.1 Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

2. Scheduled Items

None.

3. Consent

3.1 Municipal Council Resolution - 3rd Report of the Accessibility Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the Municipal Council resolution from its meeting held on April 10, 2018 with respect to the 3rd Report of the Accessibility Advisory Committee, was received.

3.2 Municipal Council Resolution - 4th Report of the Environmental And Ecological Planning Advisory Committee

That the Municipal Council resolution from its meeting held on April 10, 2018 with respect to the 4th Report of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee BE DEFERRED to the May meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee (ACCAC) in order for the ACCAC to review the draft of the Green Standards for Light Pollution and Bird-Friendly Development and be prepared to make comments.

3.3 Township of Severn - Facility Accessibility Design Standards

That it BE NOTED that a communication dated March 28, 2018, from T. Wellhauser, Division Manager, Facilities, with respect to the adoption of the City of London 2007 Facility Accessibility Design Standards (FADS) by the Township of Severn, was received.

3.4 Notice of Public Information Centre 3 - Adelaide Street North / Canadian Pacific Railway Grade Separation - Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study

That it BE NOTED that the Notice of Public Information Centre 3 from A. Spahiu, City of London and J. Goldberg, WSP, with respect to the Adelaide Street North/Canadian Pacific Railway Grade Separation Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study, was received.

3.5 Notice of Public Meeting - The London Plan and the Downtown Plan

That it BE NOTED that the Notice of Public Meeting, dated April 11, 2018, from C. Parker, Senior Planner, with respect to the Official Plan, The London Plan and Downtown Plan Criteria for Downtown Temporary Surface Commercial Parking Lots, was received.

3.6 Notice of Public Meeting - Terms of Reference for Old East Village - Dundas Street Corridor Secondary Plan

That it BE NOTED that the Notice of Public Meeting, dated April 11, 2018, from C. Parker, Senior Planner, with respect to the Terms of Reference for the Old East Village Dundas Street Corridor Secondary Plan, was received.

4. Sub-Committees and Working Groups

4.1 Education and Awareness Subcommittee Meeting

That the following actions be taken with respect to the Education and Awareness Sub-Committee report, from the meeting held on April 3, 2018:

a) the "Top Asks" in each of the three key identified areas (transportation, employment, infrastructure), contained in the revised attached Education and Awareness Sub-Committee report, BE ENDORSED by Municipal Council as leading priorities and actions to be undertaken to support accessibility; it being noted that five community open house events identified these three key areas of deficiency as barriers to accessibility; and,

b) a request for delegation status for the Accessibility Advisory Committee BE APPROVED for the May 29, 2018 meeting of the Community and Protective Services Committee to speak to the above.

5. Items for Discussion

5.1 Accessible Election 2018

That it BE NOTED that the Voting Accessibility Checklist and the Poll Location documents, appended to the agenda, were received.

5.2 Jeffreybrook Close - Paratransit

That the communications dated April 6, 2018, from D. McDonald and B. Dunne, Participation House and B. Orr, Participation House, with respect to Paratransit service to Jeffreybrook Close BE DEFERRED based on the overlap with the identified priorities being presented to the Community and Protective Services Committee as part of clause 4.1 of this Report; it being noted that consultation, etc. with Paratransit is a part of the approved 2018 Accessibility Advisory Committee Work Plan.

5.3 Scooter Charging Stations - S. Connors

That the following actions be taken with respect to the communication dated March 24, 2018, from S. Connors with respect to improving accessibility:

- a) the Civic Administration BE ENCOURAGED to include designated scooter/wheelchair charging stations in any new municipal buildings, or significant renovations to municipal buildings, as well as including this concept in the next revision to the Facility Accessibility Design Standards (FADS); and,
- b) the City of London Accessible Customer Service Training BE AMENDED to include a process for accommodating requests for charging scooters/wheelchairs at existing municipal facilities.

6. **Deferred Matters/Additional Business**

6.1 Outdoor Event Guide

That the Manager, Special Events, Community Rentals, or designate, BE REQUESTED to provide an update regarding the status of the Outdoor Event Guide.

7. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:13 PM.

Minutes from the Education and Awareness Sub-Committee

Date: Apr. 3, 2018

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: Kiwanis Seniors Centre, 78 Riverside Dr., London, ON

Attendees: Jay Menard (chair), Michael Cairns, Ashton Forrest, Jacqueline Madden, and Penny Moore.

AGENDA

1. Top-Five Ask re: “Summary and Compilation of the Accessibility Advisory Committee’s Open House Project.”

The team reviewed the documentation and has put forward its top three categories, with actionable items under each. These items appear in the documentation below. We propose the following motion:

“Be it resolved that the following statement be forwarded and presented to CAPS, with the intent of receiving approval to move to council to undertake action on the priorities disclosed herein:

The Accessibility Advisory Committee asks for the following actions to be undertaken. These asks have been formed through a combination of community statements, lived experience, and historical reference, and galvanized by our five community open houses, wherein these three key areas of deficiency: Transit, Employment, and Infrastructure, were deemed to be of the highest priority and the greatest barriers to a fully inclusive community in London.

TRANSIT

The City of London, in order to provide an equitable accessible transit service, will commit to the following improvements:

- Reduction of wait time from three days to a maximum of one day
- Improvement of service call times to match call/wait/response times of that of the larger transit system
- Improve booking system to meet today’s standards
- Increase of availability of accessible spaces on LTC busing or increasing paratransit rides
- Appropriate training and education of transit providers to assist in the respectful and appropriate interaction with people with disabilities, both visible and invisible.

The City of London has a vested interest, from a financial standpoint, in paratransit through its LTC commitments. As such, there can be no deflection of responsibility. An improved overall service would also align with mandates listed in AODA compliance, efforts to increase employment access in the city, the London Plan, the various roadmaps to ending poverty, and a commitment to developing an age-friendly city.

EMPLOYMENT

City of London to be a leader in removing barriers currently preventing people with disabilities from becoming employed, by committing to the following:

- Removing artificial, non-job-essential requirements from all postings (CPR, driver’s license, vehicle)
- Improving transit to ensure that people are able to get to interviews or jobs throughout the city
- Providing examples to the community of successfully employed PWD to provide visual representation for youth career aspirational goals

- Work with unions to remove systemic barriers to hiring people with disabilities (flexible hours, work from home, ergonomic issues, breaking up a full-time job into two part-time jobs)
- Working with community partners to improve awareness of accessible hiring best practices and tangible improvements to employment issues, including that the application process is fully accessible

And INFRASTRUCTURE

To promote a safe environment and foster equitable access to the community for all Londoners, ACCAC requests that the city:

- Improves notification of construction projects, blocked passages, and road work, bus route changes, and review the timing of pedestrian crossovers to ensure adequate opportunity for people of all ages and abilities to safely navigate through the city;
- Work with heritage departments to find a human-focused solution to promote accessibility in heritage-designated buildings
- Change snow removal minimums and prioritize pedestrian pathways and bus access points when it comes to snow removal.
- Commit to ensuring that all community gathering areas and parks under the City's mandate be fully accessible
- Ensure that City-funded housing programs live up to AODA-compliance metrics and that accessibility is a key component in the approval of development projects, both residential and commercial.”
- Commit to a review and, if required, an update of the 2007 FADS report by the end of 2018.

The Accessibility Advisory Committee also requests delegate status to speak to this request at the May 29, 2018 CAPS meeting.”

2. Virtual meeting trial discussion

The committee engaged in a brief, albeit relatively informal, discussion about hosting virtual meetings.

The committee agreed that it may be easier to implement at a subcommittee level and will investigate opportunities to ensure that meeting areas have the facilities required to support these efforts.

What is needed is the following:

- A facility with free and steady wifi
- An opportunity for participants to phone into a meeting
- A technological solution (whether it's a laptop or tablet), that allows for broadcasting

Jay has committed to investigating the opportunities that are available and presenting these at the next subcommittee meeting.

3. Investigate/discuss benefits and impact of making ACCAC brochures/materials available in accessible formats.

Deferred to next meeting

4. Next Meeting Date.

Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at Kinsmen Recreation Centre, 20 Granville St., London, ON.

7 p.m.