



**PUBLIC AGENDA
SASKATOON ACCESSIBILITY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Friday, March 10, 2017, 12:00 p.m.
Committee Room E, Ground Floor, City Hall
Committee Members:

Mr. J.D. McNabb, Chair
Ms. J. Dawson, Vice Chair
Councillor H. Gough
Councillor Z. Jeffries
Ms. M. Baxter
Ms. G. Kozlow

Director of Community Development L. Lacroix
Director of Facilities & Fleet Management T. LaFreniere
Ms. O. Nicholson
Ms. C. Warlow

Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Recommendation

That the agenda be approved as presented.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee held on February 10, 2017, be adopted.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. COMMUNICATIONS

6. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

6.1 Report of the Access Transit Manager (CK. 225-70)

Verbal Update - B. Howe, Access Transit Manager

7. ROADWAYS AND OPERATIONS DIVISION - WINTER MOBILITY ENGAGEMENT (File No. CK. 225-70)

At the meeting held on February 10, 2017, Director of Roadways and Operations Harris informed the Committee that there would be an engagement exercise related to winter mobility. The engagement will have two phases: a survey that will be open for the month of March, and an innovation co-design session in mid-April. The Committee is invited to take part in the survey portion of the engagement at this time.

The survey is found at: <http://shapingsaskatoon.ca/>

Recommendation

That the information be received.

8. 2016 ANNUAL REPORT (File No. CK. 225-70)

4 - 6

The draft revised 2016 Annual Report is attached for review and approval prior to forwarding to the Standing Policy Committee on Finance to submit to City Council.

Recommendation

That the 2016 Annual Report be approved for submission to City Council through the Standing Policy Committee on Finance.

9. MATTERS FOR FOLLOW UP (CK. 225-70)

7 - 14

Attached is a copy of the Committee's follow-up list for review.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

10. STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES (CK. 1704-5)

15 - 15

Recommendation

That the direction of the Committee issue.

11. PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2018 (CK. 225-70)

The Committee is requested to put forward a proposed budget submission for 2018 for inclusion in the 2018 Operating Budget Review.

For the Committee's information, the following is the budget from 2017:

- Conferences - \$3,000.00

Recommendation

That the direction of the Committee issue.

12. ADJOURNMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

TO: Standing Policy Committee on Finance
FROM: Chair, Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee
DATE: February 3, 2017
SUBJECT: 2016 Annual Report – Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee
FILE NO. CK. 430-1

RECOMMENDATION: That the information be received and forwarded to City Council as information.

REPORT

The mandate of the Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee is to promote universal accessibility to ensure that the City of Saskatoon's services, facilities and infrastructure are barrier-free for citizens of all abilities.

In order to advise and assist City Council with its jurisdictional options in achieving this barrier-free goal, so that the City of Saskatoon is a leader by example, the Committee developed an Implementation of Accessibility Action Plan in October 2008.

The 2016 membership on the Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee was as follows:

Councillor Charlie Clark
 Councillor Mairin Loewen
 Ms. Lynne Lacroix, Director of Recreation & Community Development
 Mr. Del Elhert, Acting Director of Facilities & Fleet Management
 Mr. Robin East, Chair
 Mr. J.D. McNabb, Vice Chair
 Ms. Odette Nicholson
 Ms. Gladys Kozlow
 Ms. Janice Dawson
 Ms. Muriel Baxter (representative of seniors' community)

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSIONS UNDERTAKEN IN 2016

Accessible Audible Pedestrian Signals

Administration provided updates to the Committee regarding the matter of accessible audible signals. Over the past few years the new model of accessible pedestrian signals have been installed in a number of locations and the City has achieved the target of an average of 5 intersections retrofitted annually. Further the City has formalized these audible/accessible pedestrian signals as the required standard in all new development where there is high volume signalized intersections. The Committee will continue to receive updates from the Administration.

Disabled Parking

Transportation and Utilities Department reviewed and submitted a report regarding proposed loading zones policy and disabled parking zones policy. The Committee resolved that the Administration look into options for placing a term limit on residential loading zones and look into options for follow-up regarding tracking the removal of these signs. Community Standards Division also provided information regarding loading zone placards and loading zone sticker issuance along with the installation of loading zones. Further parking updates to be received as they become available.

Sidewalk assessment/improvements

Major Projects, Traffic Management staff presented information on the city-wide sidewalk assessment study that took place and answered questions of the committee regarding the study. Committee provided feedback on sidewalk safety and access ramps in the downtown area.

Planning and Development staff provided the Committee updates on the 2016 sidewalk improvements and Urban Design's upgrade to the tree grates and improved designs to ensure they are not creating barriers or tripping hazards in the downtown in particular for people with visual disabilities.

The Committee also arranged a walking/wheeling tour for all committee members and City staff to have a first-hand experience about the design and layout of sidewalks in the downtown area, reviewed the obstacles (trees, placards, flower pots, parking stations, etc) within the amenity strips that can create obstacles, barriers and tripping hazards for people with a disability. The staff in the applicable Divisions will be using this feedback in consideration for future design and development standards in the downtown.

Access Transit

The Access Transit Manager and Access Transit Supervisor provided updates regarding several matters of concern for the Committee. Automated voice announcements along with the visual display of upcoming bus stops were install in all transit buses to address an outstanding matter raised by the Committee and Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission. Transit also continued to add low floor buses to the fleet to expand routes with these accessible buses.

Miscellaneous Updates

Traffic Management staff also provided Committee with an update on the implementation plan to install curb ramps in priority areas around the City based on the recommendations in the Accessibility Action Plan.

The Committee hosted an informal retreat in mid-2016 to discuss areas of focus for the Committee and to outline recommendations for things to consider in the upcoming review of the Accessibility Action Plan. This information will be used to help formalize the terms of reference for the review and update of the future years of the Accessibility Action Plan.

Plans for 2017

The Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee, in consultation with the Administration, will be undertaking a project to review the progress made on the implementation of the Accessibility Action Plan over the past 7 to 8 years. The project will also consult with the community and applicable internal staff to then make recommendations for priorities for addressing accessibility and continuing the work towards ensuring the City of Saskatoon programs, services, and infrastructure are accessible for people with a disability.

The Committee will also be reviewing the new Federal Building Code to address any concerns regarding accessibility within the universal standards, and for best practices moving forward.

Submitted by:

JD McNabb, Chair
Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee

Dated: _____

2016 Annual Report.doc

Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee

Matters for Follow-up

Snow Removal

Accessibility and Criteria for Snow Removal on Sidewalks and Accessibility of Saskatoon Streets

February 10, 2017

Director of Roadways and Operations Harris was in attendance to provide an update on the snow clearing status. Mr. Harris advised the Committee of the formal level of service and the main areas of concern for the Division related to accessibility. The Committee was informed that a pilot project related to the logistics around snow removal, which will include a detailed engagement exercise, will help assist in resolving common problems and issues. The Committee will be notified once project is underway.

January 13, 2016

Committee Assistant to request Administration attendance for update on snow clearing on roadways and sidewalks.

October 15, 2015

Director of Community Standards, Hildebrandt gave a brief update on the snow removal clearing bylaw. Mr. Hildebrandt stated that it was Community Standards main goal to keep the sidewalks clear and putting the responsibility on the homeowner rather than the City.

June 12, 2015

Dir. of Community Standards Hildebrandt gave a brief update on the snow clearing bylaw similar to what was presented to the Committee in Feb. 2015.

May 8, 2015

Email from M. Simmonds was discussed. No further updates were provided.

March 13, 2015

Dir. of Community Services Lacroix informed the Committee that awareness campaigns continue to be worked on in order to help make the city more accessible for everyone. The City also understands that they have to be role models by ensuring snow is being removed from City-owned property.

February 13, 2015

Dir. of Community Standards Hildebrandt gave an update on sidewalk snow clearing enforcement report being presented to City Council at their Feb. 23/15 mtg.

Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee Matters for Follow-up

January 9, 2015

Dir. of Transportation Gardiner and Dir. of Community Standards Hildebrandt gave an update on snow removal bylaw enforcement report.

Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee

Matters for Follow-up

Accessible Audible Pedestrian Signals (APS)

The matter has been put back on the follow-up list after Sept. 11/15 meeting to further determine course of action.

October 9, 2015

80/275 signalized intersections in Saskatoon are equipped with audible pedestrian signal devices. There is work being done to retrofit existing high pedestrian traffic intersections with APS. New development areas will have APS installed.

February 12, 2016

Planning and Development, Senior Planner Lau spoke and answered questions of the Committee regarding pedestrian signals in the Downtown area.

October 9, 2015

Traffic Operations Engineer, Transportations Lazic gave an update on the downtown audible pedestrian signals. Mr. Lazic reported that since the last Committee meeting held on September 11, 2015 that all audible pedestrian signals have been replaced, or fixed.

September 11, 2015

G. Lazic and J. Magus both with COS Transportation Division presented a letter written by the Transportation & Utilities Department to the AEBC, Saskatoon Chapter addressing this matter. Mr. Lazic will update the Committee in Oct. on the 25th St. & Idylwyld Dr. intersection.

Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee

Matters for Follow-up

Disabled Parking

The matter has been put back on the follow-up list after Sept. 11/15 meeting to further determine course of action.

February 10, 2017

Follow up to discussion the Committee requested to have the Director of Community Standards to attend the next meeting to address loading zone placards loading zone signage in residential areas. and disabled parking signage.

Sept. 9/16 – Y. Li, Transportation & Utilities, reviewed the submitted report regarding proposed loading zones policy & disabled parking zones policy. The Committee resolved that the Admin look into options for placing a term-limit on residential loading zones and look into options for follow-up regarding tracking the removal of these signs & update the Committee at a later date. L. Saar, Community Services updated the Committee regarding loading zone placards and loading zone sticker issuance along with the installation of loading zones.

Feb. 12/16 – Community Standards, Director Hildebrandt spoke and answered questions of the Committee regarding the disability placards and stickers for parking.

Nov. 13/15 – The Committee discussed the availability of Handicapped Parking Stalls in front of businesses in Saskatoon. The Committee suggested that the Director of Community Standards Hildebrandt attend the January 8, 2016 meeting.

Oct. 9/15 – Director of Community Standards, Hildebrandt provided an update on the intent of future work to more accessible parking spots and their size; loading zones; and asked the Committee their views on the permit parking policy and what they believe is needed. The Committee agreed that the City should continue to use both the stickers and vehicles tags, as well as, moving to more defined impaired parking spots.

Sept. 11/15 – It was determined to invite Dir. of Community Standards Hildebrandt to the Oct. mtg. to provide an update.

Jun 12/15 – Dir. of Community Standards Hildebrandt provided an update on the intent of future to accessibility spots and their size, loading zones, and a review of the permit parking policy. Administration welcomes feedback from the public on any parking services project.

Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee

Matters for Follow-up

Disabled Parking – Continued.

May 8/15 – G. Kozlow circulated a Star Phoenix article on the shortage of downtown disabled parking. It was suggested to invite parking services administration for an update.

Mar 13/15 – There are a few glitches with the new system that are being rectified. Max. time currently allowed to park is 90 mins., meters work by inputting the vehicle license, payment at the meters can be cash, credit card or PayPal, parking ambassadors are patrolling the streets to assist the public with the operation of the new meters.

Jan 9/15 – Parking issues/concerns are to be addressed to Community Standards Division. Parking policies are being reviewed through the 2015 Parking Study.

Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee

Matters for Follow-up

Public Transit and Access Transit - Accessible Calling Out Bus Stops

Follow up as appropriate

January 13, 2016

Approximately 30 Access transit buses in the current fleet. All buses have automated voice announcements.

October 9, 2015 – Access Transit Manager, Bob Howe was in attendance and provided an update to the Committee on the Access Transit Annual Report. Mr. Howe updated the Committee on the following:

- Seeking information from the public regarding their personal limitations with Transit and Access Transit buses.
- The future idea is to have all buses be more accessible for those with mobility issues, including turning radius, announcements over the speakers, and digital destination boards.

Operations Managers, Michael Moellenbeck and Harold Matthies spoke and answered questions of the Committee on Transit updates. Mr. Matthies and Mr. Moellenbeck updated the Committee on the following:

- Transit is looking at developing a mobile app based system for the public to use regarding public transit.
 - Training bus drivers to become more of a 'tour guide bus driver' to aid those impaired when taking the bus to aid the public that take the bus.
-

September 11, 2015 – Committee members shared experiences from Aug. 26/15 regarding their participation with Saskatoon Transit Voice Announcement System (ITS). On-going issues remain with bus drivers not calling out bus stops.

May 8, 2015 – Access Transit Manager Howe was updated on staff inconsistencies with calling out bus stops.

March 13, 2015 – All buses are now part of the new tracking system implemented due to the new City website. Some staff continues to not call out bus stops.

Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee Matters for Follow-up

Sidewalks and Access Ramps

Action Plan for Accessibility and Safety Sidewalks and Access Ramps Accessibility of Saskatoon

January 12, 2016

Curb ramps are being installed in new neighbourhood designs. The city developed a 10 year plan to address priority locations for curb ramps.

February 12, 2016

Major Projects, Traffic Management Engineer Frank spoke on the city-wide sidewalk assessment study that took place and answered questions for the Committee and answered questions of the Committee regarding the city-wide sidewalk assessment study. Discussion ensued regarding sidewalk safety and access ramps in the Downtown area. The Committee shared their appreciation toward the improvements made so far on the sidewalks.

Planning and Development, Senior Planner Lau spoke and answered questions of the Committee regarding plans for 2016 sidewalk improvements. Mr. Lau shared Urban Design's upgrade to the tree grates on the sidewalks and the improvements they have made to them and future plans pertaining to tree grates.

Transportation, Traffic Management Engineer Matt spoke and answered questions of the Committee regarding access ramps throughout the city. Discussion ensued regarding the condition of access ramps and funding for improvements.

Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee Matters for Follow-up

Establishing Accessible Design Standards for New Buildings, Renovated Buildings and New Areas of Saskatoon.

Ensuring an enhanced accessibility level

January 13, 2017

Committee discussed the sidewalk accessibility at the new hotel site adjacent to the Saskatoon Fieldhouse. Director of Recreation and Community Development Lacroix to provide an update regarding the site plan related to accessibility. Accessibility at linear parks was another subject of discussion.

01-5576-103 - ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 2017 BUDGET - \$3,000

DATE	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT	BALANCE	GL	TOTAL SPENT	BUDGET REMAINING
		Beginning Balance			0			\$3,000
		Remaining Balance						\$3,000