

MEETING NOTES

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting notes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting held on Wednesday November 27, 2024, Via Zoom.

Members Present: Councillor M. Albano, Chair, J. Bray, J. Pearce, L. McKenzie

Regrets: Councillor D. Keene, S. Calvert, W. Farrow-Reed

Staff Present: S. Howard, Director of Recreation Services, M. Roj, Traffic Coordinator, E. Kaiser, Manager of Economic Development and Innovation, R. Brown, Deputy Clerk - Administration

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor M. Albano, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Due to a lack of quorum the committee proceeded with the presentations but did not make any decisions.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary and/or conflict of interest.

3. RECEIPT OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Due to lack of quorum the Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting held on June 26, 2024, will be added to the next agenda for receipt by the committee.

4. SCHEDULED ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

4.a Inclusive Recreation

S. Howard, Director of Recreation Services, made a presentation to the committee regarding Inclusive Recreation.

S. Howard advised the committee that goal 2 of the Recreation and Parks Strategic Action Plan is to increase inclusion and access to recreation for populations that face constraints to participation. As part of the Town's initiatives to promote inclusion and access are levels of support, professional instructors and inclusion facilitators, recreation partners, financial assistance and access to resources.

Recreation and Parks is experiencing increased demand for one-on-one support for camps, more supports in aquatics and with an aging population more adult participants requiring additional supports for Town offered programs. To assist with this recreation staff, work with community groups and leverage services available in the community as well as increasing internal resources such as staff and programming to meet the demands.

Recreation and Parks staff will continue to respond to the demands with dedicated inclusion resources and looking at best Canadian practices in Inclusive Recreation to model Town programming.

4.b Accessible Signals Update

M. Roj, Traffic Coordinator, made a presentation to the committee regarding Accessible Signals. M. Roj noted that three projects were completed in 2024. Signals were updated at the following locations:

- Mountainview Road South & Barber Drive
- Guelph Street & Mountainview Road
- Main Street North & Moore Park Crescent

Part of updating and improving accessible signals is the installation of tactile surfaces, this became a requirement in 2016. M. Roj provided an overview of how the signals and tactile plates work and noted that the Town commenced the Accessible Pedestrian Push Button project in 2006 and with the installation of the above signals the implementation of the initial project is complete. Traffic will continue to install new sidewalk platforms with tactile plates in 2025 at the signalized intersections.

M. Roj offered to do an in-person demonstration at a future meeting.

4.c John Elliott Theatre (JET) Hearing Loop Update

This item will be moved to a future meeting.

4.d Accessibility CIP - Application

E. Kaiser, Manager of Economic Development and Innovation, made a presentation to the committee regarding an Accessibility Application through the Community Improvement Plan project for King's Cove Medical Clinic and IDA Pharmacy.

E. Kaiser advised the committee that the King Cove Medical Clinic & IDA Pharmacy are looking to add an accessible door to the main door of the clinic and to create an accessible washroom. The fund will match 50% of the project up to a maximum of \$5,000. The proposed project will cost roughly \$11,875 + HST and therefore would be eligible for the maximum amount of \$5,000.

Staff requested feedback from the committee about the application to assist staff in ensuring the application meets the accessibility requirements.

L. McKenzie noted that the application did not include grab bars or the height of the toilet. L. McKenzie advised staff that for a washroom to be truly accessible the toilet height must be a minimum of 19” and a maximum of 21” and the washroom needs to have grab bars on either side of the toilet.

E. Kaiser noted the information provided by L. McKenzie and will ensure that these are included in the specifications of the washroom project prior to providing the funds.

4.e 2025 Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Dates

R. Brown, Committee Clerk, provided the committee with the 2025 Committee Meeting dates.

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

Wednesday, May 28, 2025

Wednesday, September 24, 2025

Wednesday, November 26, 2025

5. ITEMS TO BE SCHEDULED FOR NEXT MEETING

NIL

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.