



**Town of Aurora
Accessibility Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Holland Room, Aurora Town Hall

Committee Members: Councillor Harold Kim (Chair)
Peter Angelo (Vice Chair)*
Lois Davies
Alison Hughes*
John Lenchak
Sean Noble*
Hailey Reiss*
Jo-anne Spitzer

Other Attendees: Matthew Volpintesta, Manager, Parks and Fleet*
Gregory Peri, Accessibility Advisor
Linda Bottos, Council/Committee Coordinator

*Attended electronically

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

The Committee consented to extend the hour to 9:10 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Committee acknowledged that the meeting took place on Anishinaabe lands, the traditional and treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island, recognizing the many other Nations whose presence here continues to this day, the special relationship the Chippewas have with the lands and waters of this territory, and that Aurora has shared responsibility for the stewardship of these lands and waters. It was noted that Aurora is part of the treaty lands of the

Mississaugas and Chippewas, recognized through Treaty #13 and the Williams Treaties of 1923.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Jo-anne Spitzer

Seconded by John Lenchak

That the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services be approved.

Carried

4. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50*.

5. Receipt of the Minutes

5.1 Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2024

Moved by Alison Hughes

Seconded by Jo-anne Spitzer

1. That the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

6. Delegations

None.

7. Matters for Consideration

7.1 Memorandum from Manager of Parks and Fleet; Re: Town Park Accessible Playground Update

Staff provided an overview of the proposed Town Park accessible playground features and key components. The Committee expressed general support for the proposed playground design and provided feedback regarding consideration for: (1) wider slides to accommodate

larger persons/caregivers accompanying a child; (2) at least one metal slide in addition to plastic slides, which can be problematic for children with cochlear implants; (3) platform swing for wheelchairs, potentially to replace some other feature; (4) musical sensory areas; (5) quality and durability standards; (6) signage indicating the intended users of the accessible features, to also serve as an educational opportunity to inform people about those with disabilities; (7) communication boards; (8) fencing, especially on any side of the park facing a street; (9) painted games area; (10) inclusivity of the park; (11) learnings from deficiencies of previously built accessible parks; (12) sticker solutions for signage; (13) park orientation video; (14) upgraded washrooms, parking, and shade options; (15) signage in accessible formats; and (16) connectivity.

Moved by Alison Hughes

Seconded by Hailey Reiss

1. That the memorandum regarding Town Park Accessible Playground Update be received; and
2. That the Accessibility Advisory Committee comments regarding Town Park Accessible Playground Update be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Carried

7.2 Round Table Discussion; Re: Town of Aurora Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2022 to 2026

[\(Link to Multi-Year Accessibility Plan\)](#)

Staff provided an update on matters including: (1) National AccessAbility week and the Town's accessibility videos; (2) Accessibility assessment of Town trails and parks by AccessNow; (3) Compliance reporting to the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility; (4) York Region private affordable housing meeting and action plan; (5) Recreation Needs Assessment survey results, key themes, and next steps; (6) Review of the Committee's initiatives and Terms of Reference; and (7) Planning for the next Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, including Special Events and new strategies to address the accessibility gaps.

The Committee provided input on accessible video options, continuity of trails between municipalities within York Region, standards for percentage of accessible housing, and the importance of creating accessible, two-way communication with the community. The Committee provided further feedback and priorities on the six draft goals of the Recreation Needs Assessment survey.

Moved by Hailey Reiss

Seconded by John Lenchak

1. That the Accessibility Advisory Committee comments regarding the Town of Aurora Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2022 to 2026 be received and referred to staff for consideration and action as appropriate.

Carried

8. Informational Items

None.

9. New Business

The Committee announced that the Voices of Joy Community Choir would be holding its 25th Anniversary Concert on Saturday, June 1, 2024, at 2 p.m. at Bethel Church, 333 Davis Drive, Newmarket, and all were encouraged to attend.

10. Adjournment

Moved by Lois Davies

Seconded by John Lenchak

That the meeting be adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Carried