



Town of Aurora
Accessibility Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, September 11, 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: Adam Robb, Manager, Policy Planning and Heritage
Gregory Peri, Accessibility Advisor
Ishita Soneji, Deputy Town Clerk

*Attended electronically

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7 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 Peter Angelo

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 May 8, 2024

Moved by Alison Hughes
Seconded by Jo-anne Spitzer

1. That the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of May 8, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

6. Delegations

None.

7. Matters for Consideration

7.1 Presentation from Manager, Policy Planning and Heritage; Re: Draft Affordable Housing Action Plan

Staff provided a presentation on the draft Affordable Housing Action Plan including details on Aurora's growth context, the current affordable price threshold, the six key objectives of the plan: (1) Increase housing supply; (2) Promote housing affordability and stability; (3) Ensure complete community growth; (4) Streamline approvals; (5) Enhance partnerships; and (6) Continually monitor, assess and educate, and the next steps.

The Committee provided feedback and sought clarification on the various action items and considerations under the key objectives including inclusionary zoning to make housing affordable, impact on accessible parking if minimum parking requirements are eliminated, maintaining accessibility components in vertical housing, and accessible barriers in secondary and tertiary units impacting availability.

The Committee and staff further discussed about action items for accessible housing such as the benefits of universal design standards, providing incentive opportunities, and supporting a range of care-based housing.

Moved by Peter Angelo

Seconded by John Lenchak

1. That the presentation regarding Draft Affordable Housing Action Plan be received; and
2. That the Accessibility Advisory Committee comments regarding Draft Affordable Housing Action Plan 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:

- National AccessAbility week and the Town's accessibility videos;
- Recreation Needs Assessment Plan will be brought for Council's consideration to the October 1, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting;
- Update to verbiage in site plan memorandums to staff and applicants emphasizing recommendations from committee lived experiences and Town of Aurora's Accessible Design Standards;
- Review of Design of Public Space Standards;
- Ongoing accessibility assessment of Town trails and parks by AccessNow;
- Inclusion of accessibility assessment of playgrounds in the upcoming budget process;
- Final assessment of accessible features at the new Town Square facility before the opening;
- Availability of sensory equipment and tents for events;
- Update to the Accessibility training for staff; and
- Forthcoming projects such as the Downtown Promenade project replacing the Yonge Street streetscape and the installation of multi-use path on Yonge Street.

The Committee sought clarification and provided suggestions on the various accessible features at the Town Square facility such as the railings surrounding the outdoor stairs, accessible and companion seating in the Performance Hall, overall priority and designated seating and signage, and consideration of interpreters during events and performances.

Moved by Alison Hughes

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

None.

10. Adjournment

Moved by Peter Angelo

Seconded by Jo-anne Spitzer

That the meeting be adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Carried