



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

Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers, Aurora Town Hall

Committee Members: Peter Angelo (Vice Chair)*
Alison Hughes*
Hailey Reiss*
Jo-anne Spitzer

Members Absent: Councillor Harold Kim (Chair)
Lois Davies
John Lenchak

Other Attendees: Gregory Peri, Accessibility Advisor
Jaclyn Grossi, Deputy Town Clerk

*Attended electronically

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:08 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 Alison Hughes

Seconded by Jo-anne Spitzer

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 January 10, 2024

Moved by Hailey Reiss

Seconded by Alison Hughes

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

Carried

6. Delegations

None.

7. Matters for Consideration

7.1 Memorandum from Accessibility Advisor; Re: Site Plan Application SP-2023-01 (Submission #2) 100 Goulding Avenue

Staff provided an overview of the site plan and comments submitted to the Planner on behalf of the Committee. The Committee and staff discussed various aspects of the site plan and further suggestions were made regarding: consideration of additional barrier-free parking; and consideration of the location of tactile walking surface indicators for curb ramps to be on the flat top surface instead of the slope.

Moved by Hailey Reiss

Seconded by Alison Hughes

1. That the memorandum regarding Site Plan Application SP-2023-01 (Submission #2) 100 Goulding Avenue be received; and
2. That the Accessibility Advisory Committee comments regarding Site Plan Application SP-2023-01 (Submission #2) be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Carried

7.2 Memorandum from Accessibility Advisor; Re: 2024 Accessibility Significant Dates

Staff provided an overview of the memorandum, noting that most of the accessibility significant dates are also listed on the Town's online Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) calendar, and the dates would be further recognized through the Town's social media channels. The Committee and staff discussed various aspects including: consider recognizing other, less visible, days of significance that are recognized by the AODA (*Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act*), such as brain injury awareness and mental health disorders, including Invisible Disabilities Week; consider the language used in messaging and amplify messages of partner organizations where the Town does not create/post content; and consider testimonials, discussions with community members affected to highlight lived experiences, celebrate successes, and increase disability awareness. Staff agreed to connect with the Communications team and provide the Committee with additional significant dates, social media messaging, and promotions for National AccessAbility Week.

Moved by Alison Hughes

Seconded by Hailey Reiss

1. That the memorandum regarding 2024 Accessibility Significant Dates be received; and
2. That the Accessibility Advisory Committee comments regarding 2024 Accessibility Significant Dates be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Carried

7.3 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) Staff met with AccessNow and Parks staff to launch the project to assess the Town's fourteen trails and remaining seven facilities throughout the year; the Committee will be invited to participate during the assessment and mapping exercise; and a report will be provided to the Committee and Council by the end of the year; and (2) On January 30, 2024, Town Council endorsed and signed the Dear Everybody Agreement, in support of the initiative from Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital, and to demonstrate the Town's commitment to champion inclusivity and support people with disabilities; Aurora is the first municipality to sign this agreement.

Moved by Alison Hughes

Seconded by Hailey Reiss

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

Staff extended a reminder that today is the last opportunity to provide feedback on the Town's Recreation Needs Assessment survey at engageaurora.ca/rna and the Committee was encouraged to share the information and invite others to provide input.

Staff advised that Jeffrey Preston has resigned from the Committee and the vacancy is currently posted at aurora.ca/committees until February 25, 2024. The Committee was encouraged to share this information within their networks.

10. Adjournment

Moved by Hailey Reiss

Seconded by Alison Hughes

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Carried