

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting No. 01-2020

Date: Thursday, January 16, 2020

Time: 1:37 p.m.

Location: Thunder Bay 55 Plus Centre

700 River Street, Thunder Bay

MEMBERS

Ms. A. Antenucci
Mr. K. Crites
Mr. J.P. Gamache
Mr. J. Gobeil
Ms. D. Hamilton
Councillor R. Johnson
Mr. M. Rubenick
Ms. T. Soderberg
Mr. B. Spare
Mr. J.R. Wheeler

SECTOR REPRESENTATIVE

Parent to a Child with a Disability
Mental Health Representative
Mobility Disability Representative
Citizen Representative
Speech Impairment Representative
Council Representative
Senior with a Disability Representative
Visually Impaired or Blind Representative
Hard of Hearing/Late Deafened Representative
Brain Injury Representative

OFFICIALS

Ms. D. Earle
Ms. F. Track

Deputy City Clerk
Committee Coordinator

RESOURCES

Mr. B. Maxwell
Inclusion Services

GUESTS

Mr. D. Binch
Mr. B. Adams
Mr. M. Vogrig
Mr. G. Mason
Mr. J. Kirychuk
Mr. D. Smith

Traffic Technologist
Manager, Roads Section
Project Engineer
Planner II – Development & Emergency Services
Planner II – Development & Emergency Services
Mobility Coordinator

AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair called the meeting to order and a roundtable of introductions followed.

2. COMMUNICATION PROCESS

The Chair explained the communication process and Mr. B. Spare agreed to keep the speakers list.

3. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

On the evening of December 16, 2019, City Council passed a resolution reappointing Mr. K. Crites as the Mental Health Representative, Mr. J.P. Gamache as the Mobility Disability Representative, and Mr. B. Spare as the Hard of Hearing/Late Deafened Representative to the AAC for the remainder of a 4-year term expiring on November 30, 2023.

4. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR & VICE CHAIR

Ms. F. Track, Coordinator assumed the Chair at the request of the Chair and administered nominations for the position of the Chair and Vice Chair.

Ms. A. Antenucci, Mr. J.P. Gamache, Mr. K. Crites, Ms. T. Soderberg and Mr. B. Spare were nominated for the position of Chair, and agreed to let their names stand. AAC members decided to vote by secret ballot.

By a majority of votes by secret ballot, Mr. K. Crites was elected Chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Ms. A. Antenucci, Mr. J.P. Gamache, Ms. D. Hamilton, Mr. J. Gobeil and Mr. B. Spare were nominated for the position of Vice Chair and agreed to let their names stand. AAC members decided to vote by secret ballot.

By a majority of votes by secret ballots, Ms. A. Antenucci was elected Vice Chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

MOVED BY: Mr. B. Spare
SECONDED BY: Mr. J. Gobeil

WITH respect to the Chair and Vice Chair positions on the Accessibility Advisory Committee, we recommend that Mr. K. Crites be appointed Chair and that Ms. A. Antenucci be appointed Vice Chair of the Committee for the remainder of the 2020 calendar year, and until such time a replacement has been appointed, as required annually.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: Ms. D. Hamilton
SECONDED BY: Mr. R. Wheeler

WITH respect to the ballots for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee, we recommend that the ballots be destroyed following the meeting held on January 16, 2020.

CARRIED

The newly-appointed Chair assumed the position of the Chair for the duration.

5. AGENDA APPROVAL

MOVED BY: Mr. J.P. Gamache
SECONDED BY: Mr. B. Spare

WITH respect to the January 16, 2020 meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee, we recommend that the Agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Traffic Signal Updates

Mr. D. Binch, Traffic Technologist provided an update relative to the above noted and responded to questions.

Document entitled “Traffic Signals Requiring Increased Cross Time Allowance – Thunder Bay South Core” and document entitled “Traffic Signals Requiring Increased Cross Time Allowance – Thunder Bay North Core” were provided to members via email on Thursday, January 9, 2020 for information.

Some of the items discussed were:

-In 2018, 11% of pedestrian signal buttons were AODA compliant with respect to the distance from the curb, and 90% of the buttons were AODA compliant with respect to the height from the ground (position contributes to the low compliance in terms of distance from the curb)

-Intersections reconstructed or repaired over the last 5 years have audible signals, countdown walk timers and/or tactile plates (12% have countdown timers and 5% have tactile plates)

-113 Signalized intersections

-12 updated intersections that now follow the new 2016 standards. All existing intersections are still usable to pedestrians, however all newly built intersections are to the 2016 standards of button height, pole distance from sidewalk and audible indicators.

-In 2018, 26% of signalized intersections had locator tones associated with the push buttons and audible walk indicators, currently 30% of intersections have Audible Pedestrian Signal technology (APS). Utilizing capital projects funding, APS technology will be installed at intersections scheduled to be re-built during the construction season

-9 pedestrian crossovers have been installed since 2016, locations have been selected utilizing public input (public consultation, schools and the Accessibility Advisory Committee)

Mr. D. Binch, Traffic Technologist provided Crosswalk times at 2 locations and requested that the members test them and provide feed back. The 2 locations are:

Example to cross – River St & Rockwood

-Crossing Rockwood, no pedestrian push button needed
Walk time 24.2 seconds, flashing don't walk 12 sec = 36.2 sec total
1.2 m/s flashing don't walk time
-Crossing River, pedestrian button in place.
Walk time 7 seconds, flashing don't walk 15 sec = 22 sec total
1.2 m/s flashing don't walk time

Example to cross – River St & Madeline

-Crossing River
Walk time 10 seconds, flashing don't walk 17 sec = 27 sec total
1.0 m/s flashing don't walk time
-Crossing Madeline
Walk time 24 seconds, flashing don't walk 15 sec = 39 sec total

1.0 m/s flashing don't walk time

It was the consensus of the committee that members will test the current walk time settings at the 2 locations and report back.

The Chair, Mr. K. Crites thanked Mr. Binch for the presentation on behalf of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

The meeting recessed for a coffee break at 2:31 P.M.

The meeting reconvened at 2:45 P.M.

6.2 Boulevard Lake Dam Rehabilitation Project

Mr. M. Vogrig, Project Engineer, provided an overview relative to the above noted and responded to questions.

Project Drawings for the Boulevard Lake Dam Rehabilitation Project entitled "2019025 full set ADD#5" were provided to members via email on Thursday, January 9, 2020 for information.

Discussion was held relative to the above noted, some of the items discussed were:

- project will commence in June 2020 and be completed in November 2021
- original structure does not meet current standards
- changing to automated gates for seasonal use
- improved lighting and accessibility
- existing gatehouse will be removed to allow for viewing deck
- hand rails are 137 centimeters high and balusters have 9.5 centimeters maximum space between
- walkway is 3 metres across with a broom finished concrete surface
- snow will be removed for winter access
- there is no plan to provide restrooms
- there will be an art/history component at the viewing deck

Members requested that the following items be considered for accessibility:

- railing anchors be removed to prevent trip hazards
- ramps to access walkway be graded to ensure the slope is accessible
- the access trail be designed with curves to slow bicycle traffic
- a line be painted on middle of the path for directional and bicycle traffic
- signage for bicycle lane

The Chair, Mr. K. Crites thanked Mr. Vogrig for the presentation on behalf of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

7. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting No. 10-2019 Accessibility Advisory Committee, held on December 13, 2019, to be confirmed.

MOVED BY: Mr. J.P. Gamache
SECONDED BY: Mr. R. Wheeler

THAT the Minutes of Meeting No. 10-2019 of the Accessibility Advisory Committee, held on December 13, 2019 as amended, be confirmed.

CARRIED

8. MULTI YEAR ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Document entitled “City of Thunder Bay 2019-2024 MYAP – DRAFT” was provided to members via email on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 for information.

Discussion was held relative to the above noted.

It was the consensus of the Members that an upcoming meeting be held for review and development of the Multi Year Accessibility Plan.

9. ROUNDTABLE OF ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES

Committee members reported on accessibility issues encountered in the community.

A member advised that they encountered some difficulties with the voice over automated telephone system when calling the Canada Games Complex.

10. WORKING GROUP UPDATES

10.1 Built Environment

Item deferred.

10.2 Public Art Committee

Item deferred.

10.3 Walkability Committee

Item deferred.

11. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PAST MEETINGS

11.1 Terms of Reference

Item deferred.

12. NEW BUSINESS

Safety Shields for Transit Driver's

Item deferred.

13. NEXT MEETING

*Reminder: The Accessibility Advisory Committee will be meeting at the Thunder Bay 55 Plus Centre, 700 River Street, in the New Year on the following dates:

AAC 2020 Meeting Schedule

- February 13, 2020
- March 12, 2020
- April 9, 2020
- May 14, 2020
- June 11, 2020
- September 10, 2020
- October 8, 2020
- November 12, 2020

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.