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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

A meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, September 27, 2022 at Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 1:11 PM. Electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: D. Campbell, Whitby, Chair
A. Beach, Oshawa
H. Hall, Participation House
Councillor R. Mulcahy
R. Purnwasie, Ajax, Vice-Chair, attended the meeting at 1:26 PM
M. Roche, Oshawa
S. Sones, Whitby
***all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: W. Henshall, Whitby
L. Houston, Community Care Durham
D. Hume-McKenna, DMHS

Staff

Present: J. Christianson, Program Coordinator, Office of the Chief Administrative Officers
D. Dunn, Manager, Rapid Transit Office, Durham Region Transit
A. Hector-Alexander, Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
J. Phelan, Program/Project Manager, Transit Operations, Durham Region Transit
L. Talling, Program Specialist – Tourism, Planning and Economic Development
K. Wall, Accessibility Coordinator, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
***all staff except R. Inacio participated electronically**

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by H. Hall, Seconded by A. Beach,
That the minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting held on
Tuesday, June 28, 2022, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Presentations

A) David Dunn, Manager, Rapid Transit Office, and Jack Phelan, Program/Project Manager, Transit Operations, re: Bus Shelter Design and Collaboration with Working Group

David Dunn, Manager, Rapid Transit Office, and Jack Phelan, Program/Project Manager, Transit Operations, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Median BRT Shelter Design.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Durham-Scarborough BRT TPAP
- Proposed Cross-Section
- ICIP Update Ajax, Whitby & Oshawa Rapid Transit
- ICIP Update – Pickering
- Intersection Design
- Median Shelter Platform Design
- Shelter Layout
- Median Shelter Design Back
- What we have learned so far

D. Dunn provided a brief overview of the project leading up to today from the Scarborough Town Centre to Downtown Oshawa. He advised that buses will use the median lanes and shelter infrastructure will be placed in the center of the road.

D. Dunn discussed the intersection design and advised how pedestrians will cross the road and the safety precautions in place.

J. Phelan provided descriptions for the median shelter platform design for the 3.6 meter shelter for constrained locations and the 4.2 meter shelter for standard locations.

Staff responded to questions with regards to median transit for King Street and Bond Street in Oshawa, east of Harmony Road; shelter space design for downtown Whitby; how next bus information is provided to persons with visual impairment; and the location of an audible button being standard at all bus shelters.

B) Judy Christianson, Program Coordinator, and Lori Talling, Program Specialist – Tourism, re: 2023 Parasport Committee Access Now App

Judy Christianson, Program Coordinator, and Lori Talling, Program Specialist – Tourism, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to 2023 Parasport Committee Access Now App. The presentation provided pictures of various parasports and examples within the Access Now app.

J. Christianson advised that Durham Region is hosting the 2023 Ontario Parasport Games from February 3-5, 2023. She also advised that when Durham Region hosted the Parasport Games in 2019 they were recognized with a number of local, provincial, and national awards, including the Lieutenant Governor's Award for Economic Development Excellence.

J. Christianson provided an example of a location pin and reviewed this within the Access Now app. She advised that prior to the 2023 Parasport Games beginning, they will be working together with Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce across Durham Region to get as many business members reviewed and mapped as possible in the app.

J. Christianson responded to questions with regards to how to download the Access Now app on smartphones.

L. Talling advised that volunteer registration for the 2023 Parasport Games will open at the beginning of November.

C) Rachel Bromberg, International Crisis Response Association, re: Durham Alternative Crisis Response

Rachel Bromberg, International Crisis Response Association, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to the Durham Alternative Crisis Response.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Durham Alternative Crisis Response
- Who is developing the service?
- What is our plan?
- Community Engagement Plan

R. Bromberg advised that the purpose of the service is to create a civilian led team to respond to mental health, substance use, and social disturbance calls that do not involve violence or danger and do not require police. She also advised that the service will be available through existing community safety infrastructure such as 911 and 211 and will be led by crisis workers such as peer workers, social workers, nurses and EMTs, with specialized training in crisis response.

R. Bromberg advised that the International Crisis Response Association has been engaged as a consultant to support Durham Region in developing this service.

R. Bromberg advised that the first stage of the plan was to conduct an environmental scan of existing community agencies, resources and assets and was completed in August 2022; the second stage of the plan was to develop and implement an extensive community engagement plan and was completed in September 2022; the third stage of the plan is to create a final plan with recommendations for developing the service and is projected for January 2023; and the final stage of the plan is to support Durham Region with implementation and evaluation throughout 2023.

R. Bromberg advised that there will be focus groups held between October and December 2022 to assist with community wants for the service with some sessions being held for specific populations including those with lived experience with mental health, substance use and homelessness; service providers; family members with lived experience; and, Black, Indigenous, and people with disabilities.

R. Bromberg responded to questions with regards to the service being provided to surrounding areas; and whether different initiatives will be provided for BIPOC communities.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recess at this time. The Committee recessed at 2:12 PM and reconvened at 2:20 PM.

Following the recess, the Committee Clerk conducted a roll call, and all members of the Committee were present with the exception of W. Henshall, L. Houston, and D. Hume-McKenna.

5. Discussion Items

A) Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule and Location

K. Wall advised that the suggested meeting schedule was shared with Committee Members on September 1, 2022 regarding moving to a bi-monthly meeting schedule, eliminating the June meeting. She also advised that any change to the meeting schedule would require a change to the Terms of Reference.

Discussion ensued regarding the suggested schedule change. It was the consensus of the Committee to continue with the current schedule of six meetings per year.

B) Accessibility Advisory Committee Membership Application Forms

K. Wall advised that Committee members wishing to reapply to the Accessibility Advisory Committee must submit their application forms by October 27, 2022.

K. Wall responded to questions with regards to current committee members having to reapply and the length of the application process. K. Wall advised she would provide assistance to anyone filling out the application form if required.

6. Correspondence

There were no items of correspondence to consider.

7. Information Items

A) Education Sub-Committee Update

K. Wall advised there is no education sub-committee update at this time.

B) Update on the Transit Advisory Committee (TAC)

M. Roche advised that he was unable attend the Transit Advisory Committee meeting on September 20, 2022 and that the meeting did not proceed due to lack of quorum.

M. Roche also advised that he will be stepping down from the Accessibility Advisory Committee and today will be his last meeting.

K. Wall thanked him for his long-term, dedicated service on the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

C) Accessibility Coordinator Update

K. Wall provided the following update:

- Working in collaboration with the disabilities subcommittee on updating the Living Here accessibility website and requesting direction from Committee members on ways to improve the page and general look of the buttons and information.
- The 18th Annual Joint Forum is being held virtually on November 22nd from 6:00 to 7:30 PM with keynote speaker Rabia Khedr.
- The nominees for the Accessibility Awards for each municipality have been announced and will be shared in a video at the November 22nd Joint Forum.
- An updated for the International Day for Persons with Disability's will be provided at the November 22nd meeting.

8. Reports for Information

There were no reports to consider.

9. Other Business

Discussion ensued with regards to agenda preparation for the Accessibility Advisory Committee meetings; how health charities are assisting newly

diagnosed people and a potential presentation opportunity from public health; and new site plans or builds happening in Durham Region.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at 1:00 PM.

11. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Mulcahy, Seconded by R. Purnwaise,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

D. Campbell, Chair, Accessibility Advisory Committee

K. Smith, Committee Clerk