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## **The Regional Municipality of Durham**

### **MINUTES**

#### **ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, May 28, 2019**

A meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 in Meeting Room 1-A, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 1:04 PM.

Present: S. Sones, Whitby, Vice-Chair  
M. Sutherland, Oshawa, Chair  
C. Boose, Ajax  
K. Galloway, Oshawa  
D. Hume-McKenna, DMHS, left the meeting at 2:40 PM  
Councillor R. Mulcahy

Absent: R. Atkinson, Whitby  
D. Campbell, Whitby  
M. Roche, Oshawa

#### **Staff**

Present: S. Austin, Director of Corporate Policy and Strategic Initiatives  
J. Traer, Accessibility Coordinator, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer  
N. Prasad, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

#### **1. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **2. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by K. Galloway, Seconded by D. Hume-McKenna,  
That the minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting  
held on March 26, 2019, be adopted.

**CARRIED**

Councillor Mulcahy addressed the Committee with regards to National Volunteer Week. She spoke of the importance of volunteers and thanked the committee members for their work and dedication.

#### **3. Presentations**

A) Dan Hughes, President and Managing Director, Liberty Hamlets Inc.  
regarding the Axxess Condo Project in the City of Pickering

D. Hughes, President and Managing Director, Liberty Hamlets Inc. provided a PowerPoint Presentation with regards to the Axxess Condo Project in the City of Pickering.

D. Hughes stated that Liberty Hamlets Inc. is a Canadian developer in the Greater Toronto Area committed to bringing housing solutions to communities with specific attention to creating inclusivity for every demographic. He stated that their condominium designs promote functionality and independence for those with mobility challenges. He advised that the first 20% of units at Axess Condos Pickering will be available for individuals and families with disabilities to purchase.

D. Hughes provided an overview of the floor plans for the different sized condominiums and a review of the characteristics that make them accessible, including: exterior cladding on balconies; wider entrance ways; wider turning locations; placement of washers/dryers; daily shuttle service to local amenities; service animal and a dog run area; gym; multi-purpose room; areas of refuge; and outdoor and sensory gardens.

D. Hughes advised that Liberty Hamlets Inc. has brought in Trillium Support Services to provide the following services to residents, on an as needed basis: personal support workers; developmental service workers; and respite support workers. He advised that the services can be purchased at the concierge desk.

D. Hughes responded to questions with regards to qualifiers to obtaining a condominium; whether there is a screening process of the support workers provided; and the possibility of expanding to other municipalities.

The committee recessed at 1:48 PM and reconvened at 1:58 PM.

B) Carol Slaughter, Works Technician, Waste Management, regarding  
Feedback on Blue Bin Covers

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C. Slaughter, Works Technician, Waste Management, stated that staff was requested by Regional Council in 2018 to investigate ways to help prevent litter caused by the Blue Box program on windy days. She advised that one of the options was to create a new prototype lid. She noted that the lids are made from recycled tires, slip over the corners of the blue box, are heavy enough not to blow away, and hold recyclable materials securely in place.

C. Slaughter provided committee members with blue boxes and lids and requested that they try the lids at the meeting and provide feedback on placing the lids on and off the boxes.

Committee members tried the lids and provided the following comments:

- People with issues such as arthritis, carpal tunnel syndrome, and loss of nerve sensitivity may have issues with placement and removal of the lids;
- Black lids may be hard to spot when blue boxes are turned over on the side;

- Look into the possibility of having a reflective logo placed on top of the lids;
- Look into the possibility of branding the corners of the lids with reflective material to provide better visibility for drivers; and
- The lids may get hot when stored in sunlight.

C. Slaughter advised that any additional comments may be provided by way of feedback on the following web page: [Blue box litter project](https://www.durham.ca/en/living-here/blue-box-litter-project.aspx) (<https://www.durham.ca/en/living-here/blue-box-litter-project.aspx>).

C) Jamie Austin, Deputy General Manager, Business Services, and Mark Duffy, Manager of Safety and Training, Durham Region Transit, regarding Accessibility and Transit Overview

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J. Austin, Deputy General Manager, Business Services, and M. Duffy, Manager of Safety and Training, Durham Region Transit provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding accessibility and Transit.

J. Austin provided an overview of the Durham Region Transit Strategic Framework. He advised that the following are the 2019 Priorities of Durham Region Transit:

- Investing in service enhancements
- Strengthening transit services in Rural North Durham
- Building upon customer amenity and outreach initiatives
- Managing fleet assets and transit innovations
- Continuing the transition to electronic fare media
- Advancing higher-order transit

J. Austin stated that members of the public can get involved through the following:

- Customer Service Centre
- Annual Public Information Centres
- Transit Advisory Committee Membership
- Annual Joint DRT-Metrolinx Accessibility Forum
- Five Year Service Plan Consultations
- Regional Budget Process

With regards to operator training, J. Austin stated that DRT operators receive a minimum of 16 days in-class and in-vehicle training; mandatory AODA training through the Region; and participate in a Cyclical Training Program.

J. Austin and M. Duffy responded to questions with regards to pre-loaded cards and challenges associated with getting rid of them; and participation in cyclical training sessions. J. Traer requested that any further comments be provided to her directly to be subsequently provided to DRT.

**4. Correspondence**

There were no items of correspondence to consider.

**5. Information Items**

A) Education Sub-Committee Update

There was no update to be provided.

B) Update on the Transit Advisory Committee (TAC)

J. Traer inquired whether any members were interested in sitting on the Transit Advisory Committee as an Accessibility Advisory representative and advised that so far, M. Roche has volunteered.

Moved by K. Galloway, Seconded by S. Sones,  
That we recommend to the Finance and Administration Committee  
for approval and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That Mike Roche be appointed as the Accessibility Advisory Committee  
representative to the Transit Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

C) Accessibility Coordinator Update

J. Traer reminded the committee of National Awareness Week scheduled for May 27 to May 31, 2019. She requested that members contact her if they wish to attend one of the two lunch and learn seminars.

**6. Discussion Items**

There were no discussion items to consider.

**7. Reports**

There were no reports to consider.

**8. Other Business**

There were no items of other business.

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 in Meeting Room 1-A, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 1:00 PM.

**10. Adjournment**

Moved by K. Galloway, Seconded by C. Boose,  
That the meeting be adjourned.  
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 3:02 PM

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M. Sutherland, Chair  
Accessibility Advisory Committee

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N. Prasad, Committee Clerk