



The Regional Municipality of Durham
Accessibility Advisory Committee Agenda

Tuesday, September 28, 2021

1:00 P.M.

Regional Headquarters Building
605 Rossland Road East, Whitby

Please note: In an effort to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, and to generally comply with the directions from the Government of Ontario, it is requested in the strongest terms that Members participate in the meeting electronically. Regional Headquarters is closed to the public, all members of the public may [view the Committee meeting](#) via live streaming, instead of attending the meeting in person. If you wish to register as a delegate regarding an agenda item, you may register in advance of the meeting by noon on the day prior to the meeting by emailing delegations@durham.ca and will be provided with the details to delegate electronically.

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Declarations of Interest**
- 3. Adoption of Minutes**
 - A) Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting held on June 22, 2021 (Attachment #1)
- 4. Presentations**
 - A) Alan Robins, Director, Housing Services, re: Micro-Homes Project
 - B) Ryan McCaul, Founder of Inclusive Instruments, re: Overview of Inclusive Instruments
 - C) Councillor Mulcahy re: Autonomous Vehicle Pilot

5. Discussion Items

There are no discussion items

6. Correspondence

There are no items of correspondence

7. Information Items

A) Education Sub-Committee Update

B) Update on the Transit Advisory Committee (TAC)

C) Accessibility Coordinator Update

8. Reports for Information

There are no reports to consider

9. Other Business

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, November 23, 2021 at 1:00 PM.

11. Adjournment

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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

A meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at Regional Headquarters, Council Chambers, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 1:00 PM. In accordance with Provincial legislation, electronic participation was permitted at this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: C. Boose, Chair
D. Campbell, Whitby, Vice-Chair
H. Hall, Participation House
D. Hume-McKenna, DMHS
Councillor R. Mulcahy attended the meeting at 1:04 PM
M. Peters, Clarington
R. Purnwasie, Ajax
M. Roche, Oshawa
L. Schisler, Whitby
***all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: A. Beach, Oshawa
S. Sones, Whitby

Staff

Present: S. Austin, Director of Corporate Policy and Strategic Initiatives
M. Binetti, Supervisor, Service Design, Durham Region Transit
A. Burgess, Manager, Corporate Initiatives
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
L. Kubilis, Transit Planning and Scheduling, Durham Region Transit
J. Traer, Accessibility Coordinator, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
N. Prasad, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by M. Roche, Seconded by R. Purnwasie,
That the minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting
held on May 25, 2021, be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Presentations

A) Alison Burgess, Manager, Corporate Initiatives, re: Intelligent Communities

Alison Burgess, Manager, Corporate Initiatives, provided a PowerPoint Presentation with regards to Intelligent Communities.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Smart 21 Communities of the Year
- Durham's Smart Cities Forum
- Smart Cities – Intelligent Communities
- Intelligent Communities Framework
- Intelligent Community Project
- What's Next?

A. Burgess stated that in 2021, the Region of Durham was named one of the smart 21 communities of the year by the global organization, Intelligent Communities Forum. She advised that in 2018, there was a Smart Cities Forum that was held to bring the community together which resulted in new collaborations and projects. The concept of smart cities was revisited in 2020 with the help of a consultant which resulted in the Intelligent Communities Framework.

A. Burgess stated that an Intelligent Community is focused on solving problems that matter to citizens, not just problems that can be fixed by technology. She advised that through the consultation sessions, the following four focus areas were developed for 2021:

1. organizational structure
2. data governance
3. evaluation framework
4. formalized partnership

A. Burgess provided an overview of some of the Region-led Intelligent Community Projects: Canada Learning Bond; City Studio Initiative; myDurham311; COVID data tracker. She stated that staff is still in the early days of implementing the framework and many more projects are being led by local municipal partners, post secondary institutions and other community and private partners across the Region. She advised that a regional steering committee has been set up to collect and gather information and staff is looking to set up a community advisory committee to work collectively as partners.

A. Burgess responded to questions with regards to the representation on the advisory committee and whether staff is considering certain communities to encourage diverse voices at the table; whether staff will be incorporating an accessibility component; as well as whether accessibility in terms of employment will be addressed in future conversations.

B) Michael Binetti, Supervisor, Service Design, Durham Region Transit re: Self Service Kiosks

Michael Binetti, Supervisor, Service Design, and Lauren Kubilis, Transit Planning and Scheduling, Durham Region Transit, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Self Service Kiosks.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Kiosk Information – DRT Age-Friendly Grant
- Background
- Tablet Devices
- Option 1 – Wall Mount
- Option 2 – Sitting Podium Kiosk
- Option 3 – Standing Kiosk
- Option 4 – Keeping Device at Front Desk
- Additional Resources Provided

M. Binetti advised that Durham Region Transit received an age friendly grant from the federal government in May 2021. The grant allows funding to enhance access to transit for seniors and vulnerable populations. He advised that iPads, kiosks and promotional items will be granted to 9 senior facilities as well as the Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health.

M. Binetti stated that 8th generation iPad devices will be used and each facility will be asked to choose one of four kiosk options (wall mount, sitting kiosk, standing kiosk or front desk) which will be placed in a main lobby location. He advised that each iPad will be loaded with the Transit App as well as DRT On Demand.

L. Kubilis provided a detailed overview with regards to each of the 4 options for the iPad placement. She also advised that in addition to the kiosk facilities, additional resources will be provided such as travel training (which will most likely be in a virtual environment unless COVID restrictions are lifted); user-friendly guides; and magnets.

M. Binetti responded to questions with regards to how the printed material can be made accessible for those with vision impairments; the possibility of having audio options; and whether trips have a return component.

Comments provided included: the importance of having good colour contrast on screens; reviewing the height of the kiosks; the importance of educating all parties on the use of the kiosks; the importance of being open to feedback from those who have used the kiosks; and the consideration that some people may be colour blind.

C) Lori Schisler, AAC Member re: Community Care Durham Services

Lori Schisler, AAC Member provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Community Care Durham and services provided.

Highlights of the Presentation included:

- Supporting and Enhancing Independence
- About Us
- COVID-19
- Our Mission
- Services
 - Adult Day Program
 - Assisted Living/Supportive Housing
 - Community Food Box
 - COPE Mental Health
 - Meals on Wheels
 - Respite
 - Telephone Reassurance
 - Transportation
 - Exercise and Falls
 - Foot Care Clinics
 - Home At Last (HAL)
- Suspended Services

L. Schisler advised that Community Care Durham (CCD) is a multi service, registered charitable organization providing a broad range of community support services for adults and their caregivers who have needs related to aging, physical and/or mental health. She advised that the organization enriches the well-being and quality of life for clients by offering services and programs that help them maintain their independence while continuing to live at home. She advised that a lot of services had to be adapted/changed due to COVID and that they continue to work closely with Public Health and other partners to protect the ongoing safety of staff, volunteers and clients.

L. Schisler provided a detailed overview of the following services offered at CCD: Adult Day program; assisted living; community food box; COPE Mental Health Telephone Support; Meals on Wheels; Respite, Telephone Reassurance; Transportation; Exercise and Falls; Foot Care Clinics; Home At Last. She advised that some services such as Luncheon Out and In-Person Friendly Visiting have been suspended due to COVID.

L. Schisler responded to questions with regards to challenges encountered with services; the possibility of more hybrid services in the future; the intake process to access the variety of programs; whether there is a cost to access any of the services; the availability of subsidy for those with limited incomes and whether referrals are needed; and whether more people are living and aging at home.

The Committee recessed at 2:22 PM and reconvened at 2:30 PM.

Following the recess, the Committee Clerk conducted a roll call and all members of the Committee were present except for A. Beach and S. Sones.

5. Discussion Items

There were no items of discussion.

6. Correspondence

There were no items of correspondence to consider.

7. Information Items

A) Education Sub-Committee Update

J. Traer advised that staff will be proceeding with the Joint AAC Forum in a virtual format. She requested that members provide thoughts and suggestions on speakers.

B) Update on the Transit Advisory Committee (TAC)

M. Roche provided an update on the Transit Advisory Committee via email prior to the meeting.

He advised that Reports of the following 4 matters were discussed at the May 18th TAC Meeting:

- Report on what happened when DRT conventional transit charged no fares for the period from late March to the end of June. This enabled riders to enter the bus through the front doors and leave using the back doors thereby minimizing physical contact due to COVID-19;
- Report on Transit Assistance Program for all social assistance clients in Durham (OW and ODSP). There were 5000 TAP cards issued of which 2800 were used on a regular basis. Clients were surveyed and, recommendations were made for DRT to continue with the program;
- Report on the Secondary Student Transportation Incentive program in conjunction with the school boards; and
- Report on the ON Demand program used in areas with very low ridership resulting in suspension of regular bus service.

C) Accessibility Coordinator Update

J. Traer provided the following update:

- There were two Lunch and Learn Sessions held during National AccessAbility Week. The presenters were Julie Sawchuk, Sawchuk Accessible Solutions and Stephanie Skopyk, from Mission United.
- The Corporate Communications Division sent out numerous messages during AccessAbility Week regarding inclusion and identifying barriers, etc.
- J. Traer recently met with Works Department staff, M. Roche and D. Campbell to discuss the installation of an accessible electric vehicle charging station at Regional Headquarters. She advised that there are accessible parking spots outside the west entrance of the building and two extra spots will be made accessible with a charging station installed between them.
- J. Traer will be reaching out over the summer months to discuss what should be included in the Region's 2022 to 2025 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.
- The balance of the 2021 AAC meetings will be held virtually at this time. J. Traer requested that the Committee provide feedback on their thoughts with regards to future speakers, technology advances or other related accessibility initiatives.
- Meaghan Peters has resigned from the Committee as she will be moving out of Durham Region. Meagan was thanked for her time as an AAC member and wished well with regards to her move and future endeavours.

8. Reports for Information

There were no reports to consider.

9. Other Business

There were no items of other business.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 1 PM.

11. Adjourment

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM

C. Boose, Chair
Accessibility Advisory Committee

N. Prasad, Committee Clerk