



Hamilton

## **Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities**

### **Report 15-005**

**4:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, July 14, 2015**

**Rooms 192/193**

**Hamilton City Hall**

**71 Main Street West**

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**Present:** A. Mallett (Chair), P. Kilburn (Vice-Chair), K. Nolan, R. Semkow, T. Murphy, T. Wallis, J. Gilbreath, M. Sinclair, T. Manzuk, E. Lindeboom, S. Soto, E. Cardno, and C. Cruikshank

**Also Present:** Cindi Mercanti, Director, Customer Service, Access & Equity, Guest Speaker - Arthur Rendall, Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee

**Regrets:** Councillor S. Merulla – City Business, T. Nolan, and P. Cameron

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### **THE ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES PRESENTS REPORT 15-005 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

#### **1. TEXT with 9-1-1 in the City of Hamilton (Item 5.1)**

- (a) That Council be requested to review Text with 9-1-1 implementation for the City of Hamilton in the upcoming capital budget process, in efforts to assist those who are deaf, hard-at-hearing or speech impaired, as mandated January 2014 by the CRTC; and
- (b) That the Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities (ACPD) be part of the continued consultation process alongside the consultation of relevant community organizations.

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:**

**(a) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA (Item 1)**

The Legislative Coordinator advised of the following three changes to the agenda:

- (i) Added as Item 6.6 – Strengthening Urban Braille, Barrier-Free Design Design and AODA Initiatives in the City of Hamilton
- (ii) Added as Item 6.7 – Nominations for the AODA 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Champion Award
- (iii) Correction to Item 6.3(a) - Meeting date of the ACPD Built Environment Sub-Committee should read June 2, 2015, not July 7, 2015

The agenda for the July 14, 2015 meeting of the Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities was approved, as amended.

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

There were no declarations of interest.

**(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Item 3)**

- (i) **Minutes of the June 9, 2015 meeting of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities (Item 3.1)**

The Minutes of the June 9, 2015 meeting of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities were approved as presented.

**(d) PRESENTATIONS (Item 6)**

- (i) **Arthur Rendall, from the Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee, respecting 9-1-1 Accessibility (no copy)**

Mr. Arthur Rendall, Member of the Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee, provided the Committee with an overview of Text with 9-1-1 and his advocacy efforts relating to the initiative. Discussion included, but was not limited to, the following:

- ETAC and the Next Gen 9-1-1 initiative, which aims to update the 9-1-1 service infrastructure in Canada and the United States to improve public emergency communications for persons who are deaf, hard-at-hearing or speech-impaired; Outlined his efforts in collaborating with the CRTC, Bell Canada, and emergency response agencies to bring Text with 9-1-1 to municipalities throughout Ontario;
- Hamilton—one of the largest cities in Ontario which boasts large hospitals and schools—was identified as the first municipality to be contacted about Text with 9-1-1 and is still without the service;
- Encourages the City of Hamilton to join the list of Ontario municipalities (over 500 communities) currently offering Text with 9-1-1 to approve safety and 9-1-1 accessibility for the deaf, hard-at-hearing and speech impaired;
- Text with 9-1-1 efforts are leading to the consideration of NextGen 9-1-1, which essentially aims to offer a text-to-9-1-1 service geared towards youth and persons of all abilities;
- Implementation costs are much lower than would be expected as this service is built within existing systems. Many small municipalities within Ontario have already implemented the service;
- The list of Ontario communities is available at: <http://textwith911.ca/service-availability/ontario/>

The verbal presentation by Arthur Rendall, respecting 9-1-1 Accessibility, was received.

Refer to Item 1 for disposition of this matter.

**(e) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 6)**

**(i) The StopGap Ramp Initiative (FCS15026) (City Wide)**

Report FCS15026 respecting The StopGap Ramp Initiative, was received.

**(ii) Update from the Transportation Sub-Committee (Item 6.2)**

This item was withdrawn and an update will be heard at a future ACPD meeting.

**(iii) Minutes from the June 2, 2015 meeting of the ACPD Built Environment Sub-Committee (Item 6.3 (a))**

The Minutes the June 2, 2015 meeting of the ACPD Built Environment Sub-Committee, as amended, were received.

**(iv) Establishment of Working Group respecting the Review of the process for Parking Permits for Home Caregivers (Outstanding Business List) (Item 6.4)**

Committee agreed that this item remain on the Outstanding Business List until staff report back and more information becomes available.

**(v) Accessible Housing (Outstanding Business List) (Item 6.5)**

Mary Sinclair discussed concerns respecting Accessible Housing and noted that ACPDs motion to GIC regarding the Investigation of Partnership Opportunities and Utilization of Chedoke Campus to Support Provincial Longterm Housing Strategy was received.

Committee requested that this item remain on the Outstanding Business List.

**(vi) Strengthening Urban Braille, Barrier-Free Design and AODA Initiatives in the City of Hamilton (Added as Item 6.6)**

Cindi Mercanti, Director, Customer Service, Access & Equity, outlined the capital budget process and advised that a Special GIC meeting will be held to discuss the above.

**(vii) Nominations for the AODA 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Champion Award (Added as Item 6.7)**

Committee referred this item to the next ACPD Meeting to be held on August 11, 2015.

**(g) ADJOURNMENT (Item 10)**

There being no further business, the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities Committee adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Mallet, Chair  
Advisory Committee for Persons with  
Disabilities

Denis Farr  
Legislative Coordinator  
Office of the City Clerk