

Notes from wheelchair/scooter safety and break down working group meeting on July 24 1:30 PM.

Examples of breakdown/safety issues for persons with disabilities and persons using mobility devices:

- **if a guide dog or service dog is injured, that person is stranded and unable to navigate his or her way.**
- **if a person with vision impairment is dropped off in the wrong place or an isolated place, and or if the weather is bad and they have no one that can help them, they will have to call a taxi. This could be a huge financial burden.**
- **If a person uses a Rollator or Walker and it breaks down, they are stranded and unable to ambulate.**
- **the wheelchair or scooter or any type of Walker breaks down, and it can't be repaired immediately, is a loaner available? Will the loaner be suitable for the person to be independent again?**
- **If the loaner is not adequate for the person to be independent and the chair or equipment cannot be repaired immediately, and there is no family member or friend available to help, can a Personal Support Worker be made available? (Can LHIN or ODSP or OW be involved in this?)**
- **If a person has been in hospital and is being discharged, will darts deliver the chair to the hospital? How much me this cost and who would pay for it?**
- **In the situation Patti shared, Steel City Dancers were stranded because of an emergency. Could the HSR accessible ELF bus be used to remove the persons with disabilities from the dangerous site and keep them safe until individual bus rides to go home are arranged?**
- **Often, people with disabilities do not have disposable money to pay for an urgent situation. Especially people on social assistance cannot afford this issue to be resolved with their own finances.**

The meeting:

- **Community Roundtable regarding wheelchair/scooter safety and break down will be on Wednesday, November 21 between 1:30 PM and 3:30 PM.**
- **Invite people from previous list and add: Andrea Horvath and an MPP representing progressive conservatives.**
- **There may be a need for funding to cover the costs of rescue and repair. If city is unable to provide this, is there an opportunity for us to raise funds from a private donor or donors?**
- **Possible donors may be a bank. Could we get a sponsor for “pay-as-you-go” cell phones for persons with disabilities? This is an important part of getting help when rescue is needed.**
- **Letter to invite attendees needs to be approved by ACPD and city Council.**
- **Need a list of invited attendees. Need to list purpose and goal of meeting. Ask people who attended previously if they have new goals or solutions. Inform new attendees of core issues and what is needed for solutions.**