



Hamilton

## Minutes

Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities  
Built Environment Working Group  
Tuesday, July 3, 2018, 4:00pm – 6:00 p.m.  
City Hall, 71 Main St. W., Room 192

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**Present:** Terri Wallis (Chair), Mary Sinclair, Al Nicolls, Tom Manzuk, Aznive Mallett, Patty Cameron

**Absent with Regrets:** Paula Kilburn.

**Also Present:**

Jessica Bowen, Human Rights, Diversity and Inclusion  
Lukas Keermaa, Project Manager, Public Works  
Tom Kyle, Principal, Stantec Architecture  
Dan Bowman, Facilities Director, Hamilton Police Services

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### 1. Changes to the Agenda

The agenda of July 3, 2018 be accepted as presented.

### 2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of June 1, 2018 be approved as presented.

### 3. Presentations

Hamilton Police Service, Investigative Services Division  
Facility

Tom Kyle shared the following information about the project: The approved project design is in alignment with the Ontario Building Code, the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and the City of Hamilton's Barrier-Free Design Guidelines (BFDG).

The following questions and/comments were raised by Committee members:

**Q:** What direction does the building face?

**A:** It faces North on Wilson Street.

The entrance of the building is adjacent to the park and the back of the building is toward Rebecca Street.

The walkway that connects Wilson Street to the front door is 1:25 slope; the walkway to the plaza is a publicly accessible space and is an extension of the park.

**Q:** How many parking spots are at this facility and how many spots are barrier-free?

**A:** There are 10 parking spots and two (2) are designated as barrier-free. The path of travel from the barrier-free spots to the entrance is also a weather protected route.

**Q:** Do you anticipate any employees with disabilities in the building and/or how accessible is the workspace for a person with a disability?

**A:** The parking on-site is for official use; an employee would have barrier-free access via the parking lot initially. There are no stairs on the ground floor. The work areas meet the requirements of the OBC. The basement also includes a barrier-free shower.

**Q:** Is there a drop off area for DARTS?

**A:** There is no designated area but there is an area on Wilson Street where individuals would be safe exiting from DARTS just after the lights.

**Q:** Are there washrooms that are accessible to the public?

**A:** There is a public washroom that will be available at the entrance of the building. The washroom aligns with the BFDG.

The Committee suggested including an emergency call button and a panic strip around the room approximately 8 inches off the floor. Committee members advised that when an emergency arises, it is frequently because an individual has fallen to the floor.

**Q:** How would someone access the washroom?

**A:** It is accessible via a card reader (swipe) access.

**Q:** Will there always be someone at that front desk who can permit access to that washroom?

**A:** No, but there is a call button that will connect to a person.

Committee members shared concerns related to card access washrooms as many people may urgently require a washroom but be unable to access one.

The Committee also inquired into the level of accessibility in relation to elevators. They were advised that there is a single, freight elevator as with barrier-free access. The elevators and related features (i.e. call buttons, audible notification, etcetera) are consistent with the BFDG.

The Committee inquired why the purpose of having stairs in the forecourt as well as an accessible route.

**Q:** If a person were being held for any reason at this facility, would the space accommodate a wheelchair or other type of assistive device?

**A:** The holding rooms are designed with safety at the forefront. They are not designed to include accessibility features as their function is to hold people safely.

The Committee engaged in a substantial discussion regarding the Urban Braille elements of the forecourt/plaza area. Committee members expressed concerns that this area of the design presented several barriers including potential structural obstacles (i.e. garden/trees/flowered perimeter) and a lack of Urban Braille to assist with way-finding / navigation in this area.

The Committee strongly encouraged the incorporation of Urban Braille into this area to increase accessibility.

#### **4. Discussion Items**

- i. Barrier-Free Design Guidelines Revision Project (BFDG)**  
Deferred to next meeting.
- ii. New Capital Projects**  
Deferred to next meeting.
- iii. Tour of Facilities**  
Deferred to next meeting.
- iv. Accessible Pedestrian Signals**  
Deferred to next meeting.
- v. Beach Strip Trail Washroom**  
Deferred to next meeting.
- vi. Bus Stop Audit & Design**  
Deferred to next meeting.
- vii. City Hall Wish-list**  
Deferred to next meeting.
- viii. MacNab Street Terminal Deficiency Audit**  
Deferred to next meeting.
- ix. Social Housing Accessibility Issues & Concerns**  
Deferred to next meeting.
- x. Tim Hortons Stadium**  
Deferred to next meeting.
- xi. Washroom Accessibility**  
Deferred to next meeting.
- xii. Urban Braille/Curbing at Intersections**

Deferred to next meeting.

**xiii. Elevator/Washroom/Changeroom Checklist**

Deferred to next meeting.

**5. Other Business**

**6. Adjournment**

Meeting concluded at 6:00pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, August 7, 2018