



Hamilton

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES
REPORT 20-003**

4:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 10, 2020
Rooms 192 and 193, City Hall
71 Main Street West**

Present: A. Mallet (Chair), S. Aaron, P. Cameron,
J. Cardno, M. Dent, L. Dingman, J. Kemp,
T. Manzuk, C. McBride, M. McNeil, T. Murphy,
K. Nolan, T. Nolan and M. Sinclair

Absent

with regrets: P. Kilburn (Vice-Chair), A. Frisina, S. Geffros and
A. Wilson

Also Present: J. Bowen, Supervisor, Diversity and Inclusion
J. Savoie, Hamilton Police Service

**THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES PRESENTS REPORT 20-003 AND
RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

- 1. Installation of Urban Braille along Cannon Street East
(PW20018) (Ward 2) (Outstanding Business List Item)
(Item 10.1)**

WHEREAS, urban braille is a system of tactile information serving the needs of people with vision loss by using both colour and texture contrast to provide warning signals and clues related to orientation;

WHEREAS, a number of people with disabilities (especially with visual limitations) live in the Cannon Street area;

WHEREAS, existing urban braille at the corners do not include all accessible features at the three heavily used intersections on Cannon Street East at Wellington Street North, Catherine Street North, and John Street North;

WHEREAS, City staff determined that it is feasible to install urban braille at all four corners of the intersection at Cannon Street East/Catherine Street North and Cannon Street East/John Street North and at three corners (North East, South East, and North West) of the intersection at Cannon Street East/Wellington Street North; and,

WHEREAS, urban braille is already installed at the South West corner of the intersection at Cannon Street East/Wellington Street North with the exception of the tactile strip due to an existing hydro manhole located in the sidewalk;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That urban braille, including 150mm shorelines, street name plates, and tactile strips with directional lines be installed at all four corners of the intersection at Cannon Street East/Catherine Street North and Cannon Street East/John Street North and at three corners (North East, South East, and North West) of the intersection at Cannon Street East/Wellington Street North, as per City of Hamilton

drawing no. RD-124 detail (Urban Braille Sidewalk – Typical Details (Size 24” x 36”)).

2. Inaugural Public Meeting of Accessibility Standards Canada (Added Item 10.4)

WHEREAS, Accessibility Standards Canada will host its first ever annual public meeting where the Board of Directors will meet the Canadian public for the first time;

WHEREAS, the event will also act as the official launch of Accessibility Standards Canada; and,

WHEREAS, the event is scheduled on Monday, April 6, 2020 from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Marriott Downtown at CF Toronto Eaton Centre (525 Bay Street, Toronto);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) That the following Members be approved to represent the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities at the public meeting of Accessibility Standards Canada on April 6, 2020 with the transportation costs to be funded from the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities 2020 approved budget for conferences and related travel expenses, to an upset limit of \$1,000:

- (i) Jayne Cardno
- (ii) Michele Dent
- (iii) James Kemp
- (iv) Paula Kilburn
- (v) Aznive Mallett
- (vi) Tom Manzuk
- (vii) Mark McNeil

3. Overview of Meeting with the Mayor, Chief of Police, and City Manager (Item 13.6)

WHEREAS, the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005* (AODA) requires municipalities with populations in excess of 10,000 to establish an accessibility advisory committee (section 29(1));

WHEREAS, the primary role of such committees is to advise municipal Councils on their accessibility plans and review of site plans (section 29(4));

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton's Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities provides recommendations and advice to City Council and City staff on matters of disability and accessibility as requested, per the Committee's Terms of Reference;

WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities has been without a Council representative since May 22, 2019; and,

WHEREAS, the appointment and presence of a City Councillor to the Committee would be an endorsement of the work of the Committee and would be of great value to both the Committee and Council;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities respectfully requests that City Council assign a Council representative to the Committee; and,

- (b) That the Council representative attend regular monthly meetings of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities for the balance of the Term of Council.

4. Hamilton Street Railway (HSR) Municipal Bus Service Cuts (Added Item 13.9)

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the General Issues Committee (Budget) approved service adjustments, including a cut of 19,000 hours, to Hamilton Street Railway (HSR) "underperforming" municipal bus service routes;

WHEREAS, cutting 19,000 hours of municipal bus service routes puts pressure on both the disabled community and DARTS (Disabled and Aged Regional Transit System); and,

WHEREAS, the decision was made without consultation of the disabled community which goes against the principals and values of an equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) framework;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities respectfully requests that City Council consult the Committee respecting service adjustments to Hamilton Street Railway (HSR) municipal bus service routes.

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 2)

The Committee Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda:

7. CONSENT ITEMS

- 7.2 Housing Issues Working Group Update
 - 7.2(a) Housing Issues Working Group Meeting Notes – January 21, 2020
- 7.4 Transportation Working Group Update
 - 7.4(a) Transportation Working Group Meeting Notes – January 28, 2020
 - 7.4(b) Ban of Electric Scooters from Public Property

10. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 10.4 Inaugural Public Meeting of Accessibility Standards Canada

13. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS

- 13.8 Hamilton Steel City Wheelers Trivia Night Fundraiser

CHANGES TO THE ORDER OF ITEMS:

Item 9.1 - Consultation respecting Duration of HSR Bus Transfers for Persons with Disabilities and Item 10.1 Installation of Urban Braille along Cannon Street East (PW20018) (Ward 2) were moved up on the agenda to be considered immediately following Item 4.1.

The agenda for the March 10, 2020 meeting of the

Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities was approved, as amended.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Item 4)

(i) February 11, 2020 (Item 4.1)

The minutes of the February 11, 2020 meeting of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities, were approved, as presented.

(d) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 9)

(i) Consultation respecting Duration of HSR Bus Transfers for Persons with Disabilities (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 9.1)

Nancy Purser, Manager, Transit Support Services, appeared before the Committee to acquire input respecting the Duration of HSR Bus Transfers for Persons with Disabilities.

The discussion respecting the Duration of HSR Bus Transfers for Persons with Disabilities was received.

(e) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 10)

(i) Installation of Urban Braille along Cannon Street East (PW20018) (Ward 2) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 10.1)

Report PW20018, respecting the Installation of Urban Braille along Cannon Street East, was received.

For further disposition of this matter, see Item 1.

Item 13.5 - Update on Donation to the Hamilton Conservation Foundation's Tribute Tree Program in Honour of the Late John Hawker and Item 13.7 - Refreshments at Committee and Working Group Meetings was moved up on the agenda to be considered at this time.

(f) GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS (Item 13)

(i) Update on Donation to the Hamilton Conservation Foundation's Tribute Tree Program in Honour of the Late John Hawker (Item 13.5)

Jessica Bowen, Supervisor, Diversity and Inclusion, advised the Committee that a donation was made to the Hamilton Conservation Foundation's Tribute Tree Program in honour of the late John Hawker (see Item 1 of Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities 19-010 for reference). His name is recognized on signage in Beckett Forest in the Dundas Valley Conservation Area. The Committee requested that John Hawker's family receive notification of the tribute and that the exact location of the sign be determined.

The verbal update from Jessica Bowen, respecting a Donation to the Hamilton Conservation Foundation's Tribute Tree Program in Honour of the Late John Hawker, was received.

(ii) Refreshments at Committee and Working Group Meetings (Item 13.7)

The Committee's refreshment preferences were communicated to the Staff Liaison.

(g) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 7)

(i) Built Environment Working Group Update (Item 7.1)

T. Manzuk advised that on February 13, 2020 the General Issues Committee directed City staff to report to the General Issues Committee on the benefits and challenges associated with universal winter sidewalk snow removal no later than August 10, 2020 and engage with the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities as it relates to assisting those with mobility issues. On March 2, 2020 the General Issues Committee received and referred the correspondence from the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities respecting Sidewalk Snow Removal Report PW19022(a) to City staff for review and consideration when preparing the report back to the General Issues Committee respecting Sidewalk Snow Removal.

The Built Environment Working Group thanked Michael Becke and Mitchell Knott from Engineering Services for attending their recent meeting and providing valuable expertise.

The verbal update from T. Manzuk, respecting the Built Environment Working Group, was received.

(ii) Housing Issues Working Group Update (Item 7.2)

The Housing Issues Working Group Meeting Notes of January 21, 2020 (Added Item 7.2(a)), were received.

(iii) Outreach Working Group Update (Item 7.3)

The Committee was advised that the first meeting of the newly established Outreach Working Group is scheduled for Wednesday March 25, 2020 from 4:00p.m. - 6:00p.m. at Hamilton City Hall.

(iv) Transportation Working Group Update (Item 7.4)

(a) Transportation Working Group Meeting Notes of January 28, 2020 (Item 7.4(a))

The Transportation Working Group Meeting Notes of January 28, 2020 (Added Item 7.4(a)), were received.

(b) Ban of Electric Scooters from Public Property (Item 7.4(b))

Consideration of the following motion respecting the Ban of Electric Scooters from Public Property, was deferred to the April 14, 2020 Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities meeting to allow for consultation with City staff from Transportation Planning and/or Licencing and By-law Services:

WHEREAS, other Canadian cities such as Montreal and Toronto have implemented a ban on the use of electric scooters in their communities;

WHEREAS, the province of Ontario has permitted Ontario cities to self-determine

whether to permit electric scooters on its roads and sidewalks;

WHEREAS, there are no regulations in place regarding the use of electric scooters on roads and sidewalks apart from an age limit of 16 years to operate;

WHEREAS, electric scooters can run at a speed of close to, or in excess of, 30km / hour posing a significant safety risk to persons with disabilities particularly those with mobility or sensory disabilities;

WHEREAS, operators of electric scooters are not required to possess either a license or insurance to operate;

WHEREAS, operators of electric scooters are not required to undertake any specific or regulated training in order to own or operate an electric scooter; and,

WHEREAS, other disability advisory committees in the province of Ontario have recommended a ban on the use of electric scooters on municipal sidewalks and roadways because of their risk to safety of others;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities for the City of Hamilton respectfully recommends that City Council

ban the use of electric scooters on all City roads, sidewalks, pathways and in all other areas of the City until such time that electric scooters are fully and completely regulated and their operators properly trained, licensed and insured in the same manner as any other motor vehicle in the province of Ontario.

(h) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 10) (CONTINUED)

(i) Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification™ (RHFAC) (Item 10.2)

The Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification™ (RHFAC) is a rating system that uses trained professionals to provide organizations with a snapshot of their building's level of meaningful accessibility for people with disabilities. The Government of Ontario is supporting 250 complimentary RHFAC ratings (25 in each of the selected municipalities) to be awarded to public, private and not-for-profit organizations across various municipalities, including the City of Hamilton. The call for applications closes on March 27, 2020.

The Rick Hansen Foundation would like to engage the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities in selecting finalists from the community for the complimentary RHFAC ratings. To facilitate this, the Rick Hansen Foundation would share all completed applications with the Committee for the purposes of ranking the submissions into a top 25 list based on certain criteria (representation of non-profit, private and public sites, representation of urban and rural buildings, etc.). The Committee will have from April 14 - June 19, 2020 to complete this selection, after which time the list

will be sent back to the Rick Hansen Foundation for review, approval and commencement of the ratings process. If the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities does not want to rank the applications, then the Rick Hansen Foundation will form a Committee similar to the BC Accessibility Grants program, in which there was a cross country selection of members that reviewed grant applications.

A. Davenport, Legislative Coordinator, advised that this initiative falls outside the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities' mandate and scope. If the Committee wishes to participate, they will be required to seek Council approval. Furthermore, administrative support shall not be available to the Committee for this project.

The Rick Hansen Foundation will be advised that the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities has declined to participate in the ranking of submissions for the complimentary Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification™ (RHFAC) ratings, which will result in the Rick Hansen Foundation forming a Committee for this purpose.

(ii) Attendees to the L'Arche Hamilton Fundraising Dinner on April 25, 2020 (Item 10.3)

On February 11, 2020, the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities approved eight tickets to be purchased to L'Arche Hamilton's fundraising dinner on April 25, 2020 at the Venetian Club of Hamilton (269 John Street North) to allow members of the Committee to attend the event (see Item 2 of Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities 20-002 for reference).

The following Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities' members volunteered to attend:

- (1) Michele Dent
- (2) James Kemp
- (3) Aznive Mallett
- (4) Tom Manzuk
- (5) Mark McNeil
- (6) Tim Murphy
- (7) Kim Nolan
- (8) Tim Nolan

**(i) GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS (Item 13)
(CONTINUED)**

**(i) Accessibility Complaints to the City of Hamilton
(Item 13.1)**

No update.

**(ii) *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act,
2005 (AODA) Update (Item 13.2)***

No update.

**(iii) Presenters List for the Advisory Committee for
Persons with Disabilities (Item 13.3)**

(a) The following presenters were removed from the Presenters List for the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities:

- (i) Director of Housing Services (or their designate)

(ii) Emergency Management Staff

(iv) Review of Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities Outstanding Business List (Item 13.4)

Item 13.4, respecting a Review of Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities Outstanding Business List, was deferred to the April 14, 2020 Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities meeting due to time constraints.

(v) Overview of Meeting with the Mayor, Chief of Police, and City Manager (Item 13.6)

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities met with the Mayor, Chief of Police, and the City Manager on February 18, 2020, as per the Committees request on November 12, 2019 to discuss various topics including, but not limited to, the following:

- Hamilton Police Service representative
- Council representative
- Meeting procedures related to requests for expertise from City staff
- Outstanding accessibility concerns related to City-owned buildings

For further disposition of this matter, see Item 3.

(vi) Hamilton Steel City Wheelers Trivia Night Fundraiser (Added Item 13.8)

The Committee was apprised of the Hamilton Steel City Wheelers trivia night fundraiser to support individuals

with disabilities participating in the 2020 Canadian National Square Dance Convention held in Surrey, British Columbia in July 2020. The event is scheduled on April 18, 2020 from 7:00p.m. - 10p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 58 (1180 Barton Street East, Hamilton). Tickets cost \$20 per person.

(vii) Hamilton Street Railway (HSR) Municipal Bus Service Cuts (Added Item 13.9)

The Committee discussed the service adjustments made to the Hamilton Street Railway for the “underperforming” municipal bus service routes.

For further disposition of this matter, see Item 4.

(j) ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

There being no further business, the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Mallet, Chair
Advisory Committee for
Persons with Disabilities

Alicia Davenport
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk