

ACPD Highlights and Achievements 2021-2022:

ACPD Engaged in the following initiatives:

- Creation of the ACPD Committee information pamphlet
- Creation of a Disability Awareness Calendar and addition of the calendar to the City's website
- Committee members held a media event for the 2021 International Day of Persons with Disabilities.
- Creation of an Accessible Open Spaces and Parklands Working Group for the purpose of developing accessible design guidelines for City-owned open spaces and parklands.
- Members of the Outreach Working Group are organizing and hosting an in-person Accessibility Event with a virtual component on October 5, 2022, including presentations, interactive programs and information tables for agencies and services related to ability and accessibility.
- The Committee held a Special Meeting of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities related to discussion the City's Outdoor Dining District Program with all relevant City staff being invited.

Committee Members Delegation and representation

- ACPD Committee members delegated at the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee respecting the integration of accessibility in heritage properties.
- ACPD Committee members delegated at a meeting of the Planning Committee to consult respecting accessibility issues related to the Outdoor Dining Districts Program.
- Committee members attended a Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee meeting(s) on behalf of the Housing Working Group of the ACPD to discuss common interests, concerns and future collaborations.
- Committee members represented the ACPD at the Climate Change Impact Adaptation Plan - Vision, Goals and Objectives Workshop.
- Committee members delegated at a meeting of the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee on behalf of the ACPD to consult respecting accessibility issues related to Accessible Transportation Services and the Eligibility Review Audit.
- That the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities for the City of Hamilton respectfully requests that City Council ban the use of electric and commercial rental electric scooters on all City roads, sidewalks, pathways and in all other areas of the City until such time that electric scooters, particularly commercial rental electric scooters, and their operators are trained, licensed, insured and are

fully and completely regulated by the province of Ontario in the same manner as any other motor vehicle in the province of Ontario.

- Committee members delegated to the Public Works Committee respecting Commercial E-Scooters Operations. The Public Works Committee decided to permit an e-scooter rental program on a pilot basis for 24 months, with quarterly consultation with the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities.

Transportation Roundtable:

- ACPD organized and hosted a virtual collaborative roundtable meeting in 2021, with key stakeholders and staff experts, to discuss changes and challenges to public transportation in Hamilton during the pandemic and beyond.

ACPD and its working groups received presentations on the following topics:

- Complete, Livable, Better Streets Design Manual - presentation from Trevor Jenkins, Project Manager – Sustainable Mobility and Brian Hollingworth, Director, Transportation Planning and Parking.
- Snow Removal Presentation from Bob Paul, Manager Roadway Maintenance and Stephen Gagne, Senior Project Manager came and announced their plan for the 2022/23 snow removal season.
- Susan Creer, Accessible Hamilton, addressed ACPD respecting accessibility concerns with the Outdoor Dining District Program
- Ryan Loft from the Crisis Response Branch, COAST Unit of the Hamilton Police Service and Katie Royle, Social Worker with COAST provided an overview of the services provided by COAST.
- Sherry Caldwell, Ontario Disability Coalition provided the Committee with a presentation respecting the Ontario Disability Coalition.
- David Lepofsky from the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act Alliance provided the committee with an overview of the current activities of the Alliance and the progress being made towards a fully accessible Ontario by 2025.
- Aine Leadbetter, Manager Elections, Print and Mail, Tammy Reeves, Coordinator Elections, and Conor Floor Coordinator Election consulted with the committee regarding respecting the poll locations and planning for accessibility for the 2022 Municipal Election.
- Chief of Police, Frank Bergen provided ACPD the committee with an update respecting topic of interest for the advisory committee related to Police Service
- Tanya Detmar, Senior Project Manager, Planning and Infrastructure, Transit Division provided a presentation to the Built Environment Working Group respecting bus stop and shelter review.

- Michelle Martin, Manager, Accessible Transportation Services, Hamilton Street Railway, updated the Committee respecting current mask mandates on Hamilton Public Transit.
- Rich Padulo, Founder of Treat Accessibly, addressed the Committee respecting the Treat Accessibly Campaign.
- Alison Carlyle, Project Manager - Sustainable Mobility, provided a presentation respecting the Ontario Cargo E-Bike Pilot Program.
- Andrea McDonald, Senior Project Works Manager, Public Works, provided a presentation respecting the location of a Wheelchair Swing in William Connell Park.
- Michelle Martin, Manager of Accessible Transportation Services provided a presentation respecting the Accessible Transportation Services Performance Report 2019-21 and Q1 2022,. Maureen Cosyn-Heath, Director of Transit answered questions respecting Hamilton Street Railway and Accessible Transportation Services.
- Cynthia Roberts, Project Lead, HamiltonCivicMuseums.ca and John Summers, Manager Heritage Resource Management, provided the Committee with a presentation respecting Hamilton Civic Museums.
- Michelle Martin, Manager, Accessible Transportation Services addressed Committee respecting updates to Accessible Transportation Services (ATS) policies.
- Manuel Do Carmo and Lawrence Rivers, discussion with C&DC Ortho-Mobility Solutions' regarding Wheelchair/scooter rescue.
- Lovaye Kaijura, McMaster University and the IMPACT Initiative regarding how they can help ACPD to address disability related issues in an educational setting with medical and engineering students
- Resident Care Facilities
- Roundtable for Poverty Reduction regarding the Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters Program

The following motions were made by ACPD:

- That Council allows the opportunity for ACPD to review and provide comment on the on the Staff report to the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee respecting the Consultant Report to Accessible Transportation Services funded by Provincial Audit and Accountability Fund and the Eligibility Review Audit, prior to consideration of that report by Council or any Standing Committee of Council.
- That Council directs staff to consult with the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities and to provide the opportunity to review and comment respecting the Staff Report on the Outdoor Dining Districts Program prior to consideration by the Planning Committee or Council.

- That staff be directed to investigate developing policies and procedures to rescue and safely transport stranded pedestrians and their mobility devices to an appropriate secure location.
- That City Council ban the use of electric and commercial rental electric scooters on all City roads, sidewalks, pathways.
- That ACPD's Housing Working Group correspond with CityHousing Hamilton to request CityHousing Hamilton review their policies for compliance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005.
- That members of the Transportation Working Group of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities be authorized to organize and host an in-person and virtual collaborative roundtable meeting by the end of 2022 with key stakeholders and staff experts, for the purpose of discussing changes and challenges to public transportation in Hamilton.
- That ACPD, in collaboration with the ACPD Outreach Working Group, work with staff to develop print materials for dissemination to Hamilton Business Improvement Area (Hamilton BIA) communities to provide guidance on how to ensure outdoor dining is fully accessible including space, facilities, amenities and services.
 - That the Hamilton BIA communities be advised that the ACPD and its Accessible Outdoor Spaces and Parklands Working Group are available to establishments that have outdoor dining facilities should they require advice or guidance on how to make their outdoor dining locations fully accessible including their space, facilities, amenities and services.
- That the ACPD Terms of Reference, be amended to reflect the following:
 - (i) requiring every member of the ACPD to be a member of at least one (1), and no more than two (2) Working Groups;
 - (ii) establishment of a fixed number of Working Groups with a specific purpose for the Term of Council;
 - (iii) establishment of time-limited Working Group(s) with a fixed purpose and fixed task or outcome when necessary;
- That Council establish an Accessibility Award Program for City of Hamilton individuals, businesses and organizations that have made significant contribution beyond legislative requirements, towards improving access for persons with disabilities in Hamilton; and That representation from the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities be included in the development of the eligibility and award criteria as well as the selection process for the Accessibility Award Program.
- That staff be directed to review the Accessible Transportation Services and the Disabled and Aged Regional Transportation Service policy to allow DARTS drivers to assist passengers who use a bundle buggy to safely load on and off the Accessible Transportation vehicle.

- Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities Request respecting Accessible Transport related to the City's Accessible Taxicab Financial Incentive Program and Accessible Taxicab Operators in Hamilton

That staff be directed to:

- a) Investigate methods of revamping or improving the Accessible Taxicab Financial Incentive Program in an effort to recruit drivers and to ensure the program's sustainability in the future;
 - b) Consider the feasibility of compensation to the Accessible Taxicab Operators that provided accessible service during the lockdown and the Accessible Taxicab Financial Incentive Program's suspension period;
 - c) Develop a pandemic contingency plan with respect to the Accessible Taxicab Financial Incentive Program's audit process to ensure continuity of service while maintaining pandemic protocols as well as the safety of the staff; and
 - d) Determine if Personal Transport Provider Operators that are providing Accessible Transport in the City are charging an additional fee for the service, if they have plans to provide accessible service in the future or if they are willing to pay a more proportionally equivalent annual fee to opt-out of the requirement to provide Accessible Transport.
- That the registration fee for up to two Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities members to participate remotely in the National Conference on Ending Homelessness, November 2 – 4, 2022, hosted by the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness.

ACPD submitted letters to the following:

- The Hamilton Police Services Board to highlight the questions and conversation held with the Chief of Police during the march 9, 2022 meeting. In this letter they also requested that the items discussed be shared with the Police Service Board; they requested that a HPS representative be assigned to attend the monthly ACPD meetings for the current and upcoming term of Council.
- General Issues Committee respecting homeless encampments as it related to people with disabilities. The Committee highlighted the need for the City and the province to re-evaluate related practices that unexpectedly can cause homelessness. Furthermore, that dismantling encampments and the use of overcrowded shelters potentially harm and provide no form of long-term, safe solution.

The ACPD confirmed their support for action that includes working with existing groups that have front-line knowledge of the problems