

**Responses Provided by the Hamilton Police Services Board  
respecting the June 2, 2022 Correspondence from the  
Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities**

**Bullet 1**

**Q. What policing resources will be allocated to address wayward e-scooter riders and abandoned e-scooters in an effort to keep people with disabilities and other pedestrians safe following the launch of the City's e-scooter pilot program?**

A. The HPS has a Traffic Safety Unit that is dedicated to the safety of all community members, drivers and pedestrians. There are additionally Divisional Crime Managers that can address localized concerns that are brought forward.

**Bullet 2**

**Q. Does Police Services have any ability to enforce sidewalk outdoor dining that blocks pathways of access for people with disabilities or other pedestrians from using sidewalks during the outdoor dining season? Alternatively, where any person with a disability ambulates in their own way on the roadway because of a sidewalk restaurant blocking the sidewalk, will any consideration be granted by Police Services for people with disabilities in this regard?**

A. This is a matter best dealt with by the City of Hamilton By-Law enforcement section. To date not aware of any offence notices

levied for the circumstance laid out in this question. The responding Officers exercise common sense and respond to investigations on a case by case basis.

**Bullet 3**

**Q. In what way does Police Services respond to calls for assistance by people with disabilities when their mobility devices break down, especially under inclement weather? Is there a possibility that this type of data can be collected from across Police Services or other emergency Services in the City?**

A. The Hamilton Police Service will prioritize these type of calls appropriately based on the Priority Response System. Although this would typically not be considered a Police call the HPS will assist in these circumstance by making phone calls to more appropriate agencies as a means to assisting. According to our contacts database DARTS will respond and assist with transportation to any existing DARTS client. Blue Taxi also has accessible vehicles in operation until 1900 hrs. They are able to respond and assist if they are available. The HPS also has ramps that can be used in each of the 3 wagons. These can be picked up at Central Station and used as well. This would not typically be something that the Police would be responsible for however we do receive calls of this nature and the above are ways that we at the HPS can assist our Community.

As for the second part of the question, unfortunately we do not collect data on calls of this nature and we can not speak to the data collection practices of other departments within our City.

**Bullet 4**

**Q. What role does Police Services play in responding to emergencies? How is this responsibility reflected in any emergency response plan Police Services follow? How frequently is this emergency plan reviewed and what effort is undertaken to communicate with the ACPD or any other community disability agency in the development of this plan?**

A. The Police Service participates in conjunction with all identified stakeholders in reviewing and developing emergency response plans every 5 years at minimum. During this time consideration is given to all community members. A disability lens is applied where applicable and possible.

**Bullet 5**

**Q. Do front line officers seek sufficient information from citizens to understand whether a disability may need consideration when communicating with, or apprehending, a person with a disability? What effort, and instruction to front line officers, does Police Services undertake in attending to persons with disabilities?**

A. Every member of the services is required to take an AODA (Access for Ontarians with Disabilities Act) course as part of mandated training. In addition annual courses are available that address specific issues related to but not limited to autism, deaf and hearing impaired and mental health.

**Bullet 6**

**Q. Does Police Services have any wheelchair accessible vehicles in its fleet for transporting persons with disabilities? Are the Police Services facilities accessible? If not, what effort will be undertaken to ensure accessibility within and across its facilities and vehicle inventory?**

A. The Services does not have traditional wheelchair accessible vehicles. Should transportation be required arrangements are made with the appropriate external agency. Occasionally a police vehicle (wagon) is used for transportation of the equipment (chair) itself, where appropriate and other measures prove unavailable. All buildings are AODA compliant.