



ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

MINUTES ACPD 25-005

4:00 p.m.

May 13, 2025

Room 264, 2nd Floor Hamilton City Hall (Hybrid)
71 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario

Present: Councillor M. Tadeson (virtually), J. Kemp (Chair), P. Kilburn (Vice Chair) (virtually), H. Bonenfant (virtually), C. Hernould (virtually), H. Kaur (virtually), L. Janosi (virtually), L. Johanson (virtually), J. Maurice, M. McNeil (virtually), K. Nolan (virtually) and T. Nolan (virtually)

Absent with

Regrets: L. Dingman

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair J. Kemp called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Refer to the June 11, 2025 General Issues Committee Minutes for the disposition of these matters.

2. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

The Legislative Coordinator read the Land Acknowledgement.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(McNeil/Janosi)

That the agenda for the May 13, 2025, Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities meeting, be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

5.1 April 8, 2025

(Tadeson/Hernould)

That the minutes of the April 8, 2025, Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities, be adopted, as presented.

CARRIED

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 Camila Grullon respecting the Social Media Plan for the Accessibility Committee for

Refer to the June 11, 2025 General Issues Committee Minutes for the disposition of these matters.

Persons with Disabilities' "Ability First" Accessibility Fair

Camila Grullon addressed Committee respecting the Social Media Plan for the Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities' "Ability First" Accessibility Fair, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

6.2 Brad Evoy, Disability Justice Network of Ontario, respecting Item 9.1 - Feasibility of the Development of a New HSR Fare Program to Assist Disabled Riders – WITHDRAWN

(Kilburn/McNeil)

That the Delegation from Camila Grullon respecting the Social Media Plan for the Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities' "Ability First" Accessibility Fair, be received.

CARRIED

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

7.1 PW23024(c)

Hamilton Street Railway (HSR) Fare Policies

(a) (Tadeson/Hernould)

That Report PW23024(c), dated April 7, 2025, respecting Hamilton Street Railway (HSR) Fare Policies, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

J. Kemp relinquished the Chair to P. Kilburn in order to introduce the following Motion:

(b) (Kemp/McNeil)

That James Kemp, Chair of the Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities be directed to respond to Hamilton Street Railway staff respecting Report PW23024(c), Hamilton Street Railway (HSR) Fare Policies, pursuant to comment from the Transportation Working Group.

CARRIED

J. Kemp assumed the Chair.

7.2 Multi Year Accessibility Plan Status Report 2023

Jessica Bowen, Manager of Diversity and Inclusion, addressed Committee respecting the Multi Year Accessibility Status Report 2023, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

(K. Nolan/Kilburn)

That the Multi Year Accessibility Plan Status Report 2023 and the accompanying presentation, be received.

CARRIED

7.3 Accessibility for Entertainment in the City (no copy)

Jessica Bowen, Manager of Diversity and Inclusion, addressed Committee respecting Accessibility for Entertainment in the City.

(Kilburn/Janosi)

That the verbal update from Jessica Bowen, Manager of Diversity and Inclusion, respecting Accessibility for Entertainment in the City, be received.

CARRIED

7.4 Protected Intersection Guidelines – WITHDRAWN

7.5 Accessible Transportation Services 2024 Cumulative Performance Review – REVISED

Michelle Martin, Manager of Accessible Transportation Services, addressed Committee respecting Accessible Transportation Services 2024 – Cumulative Performance Review, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

(Hernould/McNeil)

That the Report respecting Accessible Transportation Services 2024 Cumulative Performance Review and the accompanying presentation, be received.

Refer to the June 11, 2025 General Issues Committee Minutes for the disposition of these matters.

CARRIED

J. Kemp relinquished the Chair to P. Kilburn in order to provide the following Working Group Updates.

7.6 Built Environment Working Group Update

- (a) Built Environment Working Group Meeting Notes – May 6, 2025

7.7 Housing Working Group Update

- (a) Housing Working Group Meeting Notes – April 15, 2025

7.8 Outreach Working Group Update

- (a) Outreach Working Group Meeting Notes – April 15, 2025

7.9 Strategic Planning Working Group Update

- (a) Strategic Planning Working Group Meeting Notes – April 29, 2025

J. Kemp assumed the Chair.

7.10 Transportation Working Group Update

- (a) Accessible Transportation Services Summary of Transportation Working Group Meeting - January 28, 2025

Refer to the June 11, 2025 General Issues Committee Minutes for the disposition of these matters.

- (b) Accessible Transportation Services Summary of Transportation Working Group Meeting Notes - February 25, 2025
- (c) Accessible Transportation Services Summary of Transportation Working Group Meeting Notes - April 22, 2025
- (d) Accessible Transportation Services Policy Review Working Group Meeting Notes - April 25, 2025
- (e) Accessible Transportation Services Performance Report Q4 2024

7.11 Open Spaces and Parklands Working Group Update (no copy)

No update.

(Kilburn/K. Nolan)

That the following Items for Information, be received:

7.6 Built Environment Working Group Update

- 7.6(a) Built Environment Working Group Meeting Notes - May 6, 2025

7.7 Housing Working Group Update

Refer to the June 11, 2025 General Issues Committee Minutes for the disposition of these matters.

- 7.7(a) Housing Working Group Meeting Notes – April 15, 2025
- 7.8 Outreach Working Group Update
 - 7.8(a) Outreach Working Group Meeting Notes – April 15, 2025
- 7.9 Strategic Planning Working Group Update
 - 7.9(a) Strategic Planning Working Group Meeting Notes - April 29, 2025
- 7.10 Transportation Working Group Update
 - 7.10(a) Accessible Transportation Services Summary of Transportation Working Group Meeting - January 28, 2025
 - 7.10(b) Accessible Transportation Services Summary of Transportation Working Group Meeting Notes - February 25, 2025
 - 7.10(c) Accessible Transportation Services Summary of Transportation Working Group Meeting Notes - April 22, 2025
 - 7.10(d) Accessible Transportation Services Policy Review Working Group Meeting Notes - April 25, 2025

7.10(e) Accessible Transportation Services
Performance Report Q4 2024

CARRIED

8. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

There were no Items for Consideration.

9. MOTIONS

**9.1 Feasibility of the Development of a New HSR
Fare Program to Assist Disabled Riders**

(Kilburn/K. Nolan)

WHEREAS, at the March 18, 2025 meeting of the Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities, Committee received Delegations from the Disability Justice Network of Ontario and the Accessibility Hamilton Alliance;

WHEREAS, the Delegates expressed concern about gaps in the eligibility of disabled community members for existing transit programs related to bus fares;

WHEREAS, the Disability Justice Network of Ontario and the Accessibility Hamilton Alliance authored a report entitled "Recommendation on Alternate Fare Program for Disabled Riders", attached as Appendix "A";

Refer to the June 11, 2025 General Issues Committee Minutes for the disposition of these matters.

WHEREAS, the Transportation Working Group received a presentation from the Disability Justice Network of Ontario and the Accessibility Hamilton Alliance respecting the report at the April 22, 2025 Working Group meeting;

WHEREAS, the Disability Justice Network of Ontario and the Accessibility Hamilton Alliance recommend the development of a new HSR reduced fare program to assist disabled riders, that would complement the existing Fare Assist program; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Working Group supports the recommendations by the Disability Justice Network of Ontario and Accessibility Hamilton Alliance respecting a complementary fare program.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities requests that Council direct staff to investigate and report back to the Public Works Committee by Q4 2025 on the feasibility of the development of a new HSR fare program to assist disabled riders, that would complement the existing Fare Assist program, as recommended by the Disability Justice Network of Ontario and the Accessibility Hamilton Alliance; and

Refer to the June 11, 2025 General Issues Committee Minutes for the disposition of these matters.

- (b) That the report back include consideration of the following recommendations from the Disability Justice Network of Ontario and the Accessibility Hamilton Alliance, respecting their proposed complementary reduced fare program:
 - (i) Access for persons with disabilities who live at or below the current Low Income Measure;
 - (ii) Determining the needs of persons with disabilities through broad consultation with persons with disabilities, including those living in residential institutions and secondary and post-secondary students, as well as organizations serving persons with disabilities, such as the Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities; and
 - (iii) Offering a pilot program with specific start and end dates, similar to the way in which the Fare Assist Program was introduced.

CARRIED

10. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

There were no Notice of Motions.

Refer to the June 11, 2025 General Issues Committee Minutes for the disposition of these matters.

11. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS

There were no Items for General Information / Other Business.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Accessibility Committee for Disabilities was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie McIntosh
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk

James Kemp
Chair, Accessibility
Committee for Persons with
Disabilities