



Hamilton

Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities

Report 12-005

4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 9, 2012

Room 192/193 City Hall

71 Main Street West

Present: A. Mallett (Chair), T. Nolan (Vice-Chair)
R. Semkow, R. Thompson, T. Wallis, T. Manuk, K. Nolan,
T. Murphy, B. Lane, P. Cameron, R. Hirji-Khalfan

**Absent with
Regrets:** Councillor B. Morelli
D. Maraj, P. Killburn, R. Cameron,
M. Smithson

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES PRESENTS REPORT 12-005 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

**1. Transportation Sub-Committee Reports of – August 28, 2012 &
September 25, 2012 (Items 4.2 & 4.3)**

- (a) That the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities supports the staff recommendations of Report PED10063(e) as a proposed approach to implementing the AODA Transportation Standard with respect to accessible taxis;
- (b)
 - (i) That the target for the number of accessible taxis be a number that provides equitable service between accessible and non-accessible taxis; so that anyone who needs an accessible taxi will get one in the same amount of time as a person requesting a non-accessible or standard taxi, for a similar day, time of day, time of year, and location; and
 - (ii) That a communication strategy be developed to inform the public of reforms to the accessible taxicab system including fares, and the availability of licensed accessible taxis;

General Issues Committee – November 7, 2012

- (c) That the consultants involved in the implementation of accessible taxis be directed to conduct a service delivery review as part of their evaluation and consider options to replace the current shared ride specialized transportation model in whole, or in part, to coincide with the expansion of accessibility taxi services.

2. Equity Policy By-law review update (Added Item 7.1)

That Access and Equity staff be directed to provide ACPD with a Report Annually, or more frequently if desired by staff, that provides a summary of Accessibility issues from the community that they have reported to the Access and Equity Office.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Committee Clerk advised there were no changes to the agenda.

The agenda was approved as presented.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

K. Nolan indicated that she would abstain from discussions relating to the Transportation Sub-Committee Reports of August 28, 2012 and September 25, 2012 as she sits on the Board of the DARTS Foundation.

(c) MINUTES (Item 3)

(i) August 21, 2012 (Item 3.1)

The Minutes of August 21, 2012 were approved.

(ii) Clerk's Report - September 11, 2012 (Item 3.2)

The Clerk's Report of September 11, 2012 was received.

(d) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 4)

(i) Transportation Sub-Committee July 24, 2012 (Item 4.1)

T. Nolan provided an update on the July meeting.

(T. Nolan/K. Nolan)

That Transportation Sub-committee Report of July 24, 2012, be received. **CARRIED**

(ii) Transportation Sub-Committee – August 28, 2012 (Item 4.2)

For disposition on this matter refer to Item 1.

K. Nolan abstained from discussing and voting on this item.

(iii) Transportation Sub-Committee – September 25, 2012 (Item 4.3)

T. Nolan provided an update to the Committee members respecting the recent work of the Transportation Sub-committee. There was some discussion on whether a Service Delivery review on DARTS would lead to better services.

T. Nolan discussed that the average DARTS trip distance is 12 km, which would cost around \$26 in a taxi. He outlined how DARTS on average makes 1.9 to 2.1 trips per hour at a cost of around \$80 dollars an hour. He described that this is also only the operating cost not the capital cost, or the cost for increased trips.

T. Nolan discussed the City of Hamilton's increased subsidies to DARTS. He discussed how the switch to an accessible taxi system rather than a DARTS would foreseeable create a savings to the City and could help the City of Hamilton prepare for projected future increases in services.

Chair Mallett clarified that what Vice-Chair Nolan described would include paying the DARTS fee to use an accessible taxicab.

T. Nolan discussed the savings that this would create as well as the positive economic impact it would have on the taxi industry. He discussed that this positive impact would help the industry convert over to accessible taxicabs. He discussed that DARTS sub-contracts somewhere around 20% of their ambulatory trips to Hamilton cab, this accounts for only around 5% of the overall DARTS budgets. With the conversion of more taxi cabs to accessible it is foreseeable that the entire system could be provided at a reduced cost.

General Issues Committee – November 7, 2012

T. Nolan discussed the past inclusion of people on the ATS list who not regular riders to boost their overall ridership, some of which were found to be deceased. He indicated that it is time for an overall review of the ATS system and that review should be done by the outside consultant as part of the overall consideration of overall AODA implementation for accessible taxicabs.

- (a) On a Motion ACPD requested that a delegation be made to the Planning Committee Meeting on October 16, 2012 and/or correspondence to discuss the use of wheel chair licensed accessible taxis as a full or partial replacement to the current shared ride service delivery model.
- (b) On a Motion the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities be authorized to prepare and submit correspondence on this issue for the consideration of the Planning Committee.

The following ACPD members volunteered to attend the Planning Committee meeting on October 16, 2012 for the purpose of making a delegation; T. Murphy, R. Thompson, A. Mallett, T. Nolan, T. Wallis

K. Nolan abstained from discussing and voting on this item.

(iv) Integrated Standards Sub-Committee – September 24, 2012

The Integrated Standards Sub-Committee Report of September 24, 2012, was received.

(e) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 6)

(i) Built Environment Standard Comments (no copy)(Item 6.1)

That the Built Environment Standard Comments Update be received.

(ii) Update - Invitation to staff respecting Ontario Renovates Program (no copy) (Item 6.2)

The Committee Clerk indicated that staff have been contacted respecting this issue and they will be scheduled to attend an upcoming meeting of ACPD.

General Issues Committee – November 7, 2012

(f) NEW BUSINESS/ OTHER INFORMATION (Item 7)

(i) Equity Policy By-law review update (Added Item 7.1)

Chair Mallett discussed the AODA implementation meeting which she recently attended.

Maxine Carter discussed the work done being done to set in place policy to engage the community and create equity inclusion within the City's By-laws when they are being reviewed or updated.

There was some discussion on the Committee doing some outreach to the community to be able to better educate about the work done by the Committee.

Chair Mallett indicated that the Item of a Committee brochure and community education would be added to the next meeting agenda.

For disposition on this item refer to Item 2

(ii) Work Force Census Presentation

Maxine Carter provided an update to Committee members respecting the statistics presented by the Human Resources was compared to the Province rather than the number represented in Hamilton.

Committee members asked for further details on the numbers presented by Human Resources.

(h) ADJOURNMENT (Item 8)

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Aznive Mallett, Chair
Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities

Andy Grozelle
Legislative Co-ordinator
Office of the City Clerk