

Meeting Minutes



City of Guelph

Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)

June 18, 2019

City Hall, Meeting Room 112

From 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Meeting Chair: Malcolm McLeod

Attendance: Members: Sarah Mathison, Brooke Sillaby, Ted Stevens, , Deborah Stienstra, Mike Greer, Malcolm McLeod, Elyse Trudell, Lynn Jeaurond, Donna Mc Murdo; Harold Grace, Jason Dodge, Staff: Leanne Warren (AAC Liaison),

Regrets: Maddie Workman, Elizabeth Lowenger, Mike Greer

Agenda Items

The Chair welcomed all.

Announcement: Leanne informed the committee that Julian Murphy has moved from the community and therefore, as in the committee terms of reference for City Advisory committees, has resigned from the committee. He wrote the following message to the committee:

Thank you very much for the opportunity to chair the AAC for over a year. It has been a great experience for me, and I am proud of the substantial positive impact that we as a committee have had on the City of Guelph. Every meeting was a great learning experience with the fresh perspective of all of our members. Please continue doing great work... I would also like to thank you, Leanne, for all of your hard work that goes into this committee. Thank you for everything!

3:00 to 3:05 Item 1, 2 and 3

Item 1, Approval of the Agenda

Approved by Lynn

Seconded: Elyse

Carried

Item 2, Declaration of Conflict of Interest - None Heard

Item 3, Approval of Minutes of April 16, 2019

Approved by Lorelei

Seconded: Sarah

Carried

3:05 to 3:30 Item 4

Guelph Transit Updates – **For Information** –David Sodaro, Mobility Supervisor

Jason reported that the items that he has talked about in meetings over the past year are now coming to fruition.

Transit is now looking for volunteers to test a new system

Promaster vehicles are now on the road and will cover during the evening/night and weekend rides.

Over 200 people responded to the community bus survey and 300+ to the Hanlon Creek survey and so now the data is being processed for improvements.

Community Bus feedback will be given to the AAC in the August AAC meeting to gain feedback from this committee as they need support to get the funds for these changes.

Andrea is in Laura's position. She reported that a survey has taken place regarding the locations that the community bus should take, hours of service and frequency.

Results; expansion into the South end and Speedvale, West End Community Centre, Woodlawn and KidsAbility, Hanlon Creek business park however there was a survey for that area for the conventional bus.

Hours: start at 7 – 8 a.m. until 6 – 7 p.m.

Frequency: 30 minute service

Hanlon Creek routes were proposed: Teal, one that by-passed, one that skimmed the area. Most were supportive for conventional buses for Teal every 30 minutes.

AAC commented positively about the next software that Jason report is dynamic that will give people access to Mobility within a 30 minute window.

Jason also reported that the internal program committee: a route is identified to study the route, concerns, etc., area collected to see if there are recommendations that Transit can follow up on.

AAC asked about the software that Jason would like volunteers for to test the App to ensure that it is accessible as expected. It will schedule vehicles efficiently and adjust routes in the case of construction or an accident. It looks at Google feeds to understand the real-time traffic and uses this information to re-route the vehicles.

AAC asked about the changes to the Community Bus. Jason reported that there are stops that are underutilized that may be removed but Transit will not take away stops. AAC is worried that close-by stops being removed will be a problem for people with a disability.

Jason replied that the service standards for bus stops have not been updated in a long time. This is something that needs to be looked at.

The app will give instant information including instant opportunity to give feedback about that ride.

AAC are interested in reviewing the software. AAC members need to let Leanne know if they are interested in volunteering to test.

3:30 to 3:45 Item 5

Controlling Speed on Zaduk – **For Recommendations** - Julie Tot, Traffic Investigations

Jamie Zettle (Parking Services) and Lauren Short spoke to the concerns of residents on Zaduk. The initial proposal was to have three speed humps. Staff were able to implement chicanes in two of the locations and only use one speed hump. The AAC agreed in 2018 that if a person could get to their driveway without going over a speed hump and it was to control traffic during construction, then the committee would support it.

The community still want three speed cushions however staff are understanding the concerns that the AAC have brought forward.

AAC members spoke about how the speed cushions create pain.

AAC asked if studies are done to observe the traffic volume on nearby streets. Staff reported that they do these studies in most cases however in this case the speed cushion was approved as part of Site Plan Review several years ago.

AAC asked about how speed cushions are made visible to drivers. Staff replied that there are signs and when permanently installed the white arrows will be painted on.

Downey Road

Next phase of traffic calming on Downey Road. Speed humps have been avoided however speeds have increased.

Therefore a report will go to Council on July 2. Several traffic calming measures have been tried however Council directed staff to install speed humps.

AAC recommend thinking even further outside of the box. A member talked about how in Montreal there are posts on the road that divert traffic to force them to slow.

AAC are concerned that president will be set if these speed humps are on an arterial road.

AAC commented that there be enforcement. Photo radar was mentioned however staff reported that this measure is not legal in Ontario. Traffic control only shows right of way for volume and yet not to calm traffic.

Traffic controls can't be used yet traffic calming is needed.

No inclusive traffic calming proposed meet the AAC's concerns.

Signage – frequently monitored. Staff don't feel that these are helpful as drivers figure these types of messages out.

Motion:

The AAC recommend that speed cushions or any vertical traffic calming measure not be used on Downey Road. Speed cushions and similar traffic calming measure create a barrier for some people with a disability and those who are or have recovered from serious injuries. The committee feel that other traffic calming measures have not been implemented such as monitoring and ticketing speeders, and dynamic signs. Further, proper signage that marks the threshold of the City limit as people enter the City, for example the signs on Silvercreek Parkway north of Woodlawn. These signs are clear regarding the City limits and obviously note the speed limit expectations. Police enforcement has also slowed traffic in that location. These measures and others such as structures/signage in the line of sight adjacent to the street send a message that a driver is entering a community.

Motion by: Harold

Seconded: Lorelei

All in favour

Carried

The AAC plan to delegate to Council. Leanne to ask Mike if he would delegate to Council.

3:45 to 4:00 Item 6

Downtown Accessible Parking – **For Engagement** - Lauren Short, Traffic Technologist II -
Transportation Engineering

Request for additional accessible parking on-street in the downtown.

The proposed plan of action for these requests:

First step: the downtown core for the study

Location of accessible on-street

Parking and Accessibility met with Transportation to determine a standard. Staff still use the FADM parking count within a street.

Next steps, staff will determine if the count is correct and then they will look at locations. Then they will create a design for the stalls and the locations. AAC will have a chance for feedback.

After that a funding source will be determined.

Then a standard or policy will be developed. This will likely come back to the AAC for comment.

AAC asked if this would result in some accessible parking spaces being removed and added that the FADM is a minimum (repeated a couple of time as this is an important consideration). Staff don't feel that they would remove any stalls.

Lauren will be back in December for draft feedback then in February for the final drafts.

4:00 to 4:30 Item 7

City Recreation Programs – **For Information** – Melissa DeNardis, Recreation Coordinator - Inclusion

Melissa spoke about the many accessible opportunities in recreation through the City. See attached PowerPoint presentation.

Committee members were impressed with the number of programs the City offers.

An AAC member will forward program suggestions to Leanne that aim to include people who are not to exert themselves, similar to Pottery programs that the City offer now.

4:30 to 4:55 Item 8

AAC Site Plan Sub-Committee Report – **For Information** – Mike Greer

1. Discussion regarding accessible parking for multi-tenant buildings – Leanne reported that the Site Plan group were directing developers to have all of the accessible parking available for building visitors thinking that residents or workers could request an accessible parking space however in reality residents and workers seem to struggle with getting accessible parking spaces. AAC members have been asked to consider directing the Site Plan group on how to divide the accessible parking spaces. Would half be assigned to residents and the other half to visitors? If this is the case, in a condo situation where the parking space is deeded with the unit, would that space then be only available to the person who purchase the condo with the accessible parking space deeded to is? What if more accessible parking spaces are needed (thought to be likely as the population ages and work/drive in older years than in the past)? Some sort of method needs to be set out to provide direction.

Leanne will reach out to other communities to see if they have found a reasonable solution.

2. Eastview Park Play Equipment – **For Engagement** – Leanne Warren/Mike Site Plan June 11, 2019

- Mike, Lynn, Donna were in attendance
- Tiffany Brule (Parks Planning) presented Eastview Community Park. The draws that were reviewed had been sent to all AAC members prior to this Site Plan meeting. Comments from all members were invited. None were received.

- Staff approached this design from the perspective of accessibility according to the different types of spaces, for example quiet for less interaction to accessible spaces for more interactions. Varying activity levels were also considered for example a rock wall to a higher platform and a ramp onto the structure.
- The surface is rubberized with many accessible features. Highlights: an accessible glider and music station accessed by ramp, pull along monkey bars, etc. The list of features were included in the package sent to all AAC members.
- Staff had originally proposed the disc multi-person swing (common brand name: Oddle Swing) however the community engagement resulted in several requests for the standard belt-style swings and a mom and tot swing and the standard accessible swing. As a result the disc multi-person swing will not be installed at this park.
- The result of the last bullet sparked a conversation with the sub-committee. Concerns were raised that if the community engagement resulted in non-accessible request over a more inclusive, accessible request, what staff should do. There have been times when a person in a community acquires a disability or moves into the community. Staff are asked at these points why accessibility wasn't more important when the park was built. This item should be discussed by the entire AAC at some point to answer if there are words of support for staff.

Motion:

The AAC recommend that staff make an obvious connection from the playground to the accessible washrooms in the change room and washroom building and to aim at connecting play between the ground play and the tower. Otherwise the AAC are happy with the design.

Motion by: Deborah

Seconded Jason

All in favor

Carried

3. Site Plan process review – Leanne will begin a review of the AAC's Site Plan Sub-committee processes and standards in Q4 of 2019.
4. Site Plan general report – Deferred to next meeting

4:55 to 5:00 Item 9

Election of AAC Committee Chair and Vice-Chair for 2019

No other nominations were received by Leanne by May 31 at noon.

Mike Greer was nominated for the Chair position

Malcolm McLeod for the Vice-Chair position

Motion that Mike Greer take the position of Chair and Malcolm McLeod take the position of Vice-Chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee for the next year.

Motion by: Harold

Seconded Ted

All in favour

Carried

Next Meeting:

August 20, 2019 from 3 – 5 p.m. City Hall 112

Topics:

- Site Plan Sub-Committee report – site plan meeting same day and so it will begin at 5:30 p.m.
- Accessible Housing – **For Discussion** – Leanne Warren
- AAC Orientation Manual Update
- Traffic Calming

Terminology Explained

1. **For Information** – Something has taken place or there is an event that the Committee members should be aware of. For example, Access Recognition Awards by the Guelph Barrier Free Committee
2. **For Recommendation** – Committee will make a motion that provides a recommendation to staff or Council
3. **For Discussion** – Committee will discuss a topic and provide the Liaison with direction. For example, topics reported in detail to the Committee of Council
4. **For Engagement** – These note the formal engagement of committee members on topics, usually directly related to the Engagement requirements in the AODA