



## Accessibility Advisory Committee

### Minutes

**Meeting #:** 11  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 16, 2024  
**Time:** 6 pm  
**Location:** Electronic Participation

**Present:** Chair Vania Karam, Vice-Chair Holl Ellingwood, Wayne Antle, Ian Bourrie, Ana Maria Cruz-Valderrama, Matthew Eliot, Jodi Fisher, David Humphries, Hannah Walhad

**Absent:** Adele Furrie, Murray MacDonald, William Van Veen

**Present non-voting member:** Councillor Marty Carr

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1. Notices and meeting information for meeting participants and the public  
Members of Committee and Council, City staff, media and the general public may join the meeting with this link:  
[Zoom meeting no. 86202246212](#)  
Notices and meeting information are attached to the agenda and minutes, including: availability of simultaneous interpretation and accessibility accommodations; personal information disclaimer for correspondents and public speakers; notices regarding minutes; and remote participation details.  
Accessible formats and communication supports are available, upon request.  
The deadline to register to speak, or submit written comments is 4 pm on the day of the meeting.
2. Declarations of Interest  
No Declarations of Interest were filed.

3. Confirmation of Minutes

3.1 AAC Minutes 10 – March 19, 2024

**Carried**

4. Responses to Inquiries

5. Emergency and Protective Services Department

5.1 Idling Control By-law Review

The following staff provided a slide presentation and answered questions from the Committee:

Valerie Biethelot, Manager, Public Policy Development, Emergency & Protective Services Department and Matthew Suatac, Specialist, By-law Review, Emergency & Protective Services Department.

Members commented on the medical exemption letters and some difficulties related to them, including but not limited to, getting access to general practitioners, legitimacy of letters and cost.

After discussion, the Committee RECEIVED this item for information.

A copy of the slide presentation is filed with the Office of the City Clerk.

**Report Recommendation(s)**

**That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive the presentation and provide feedback as appropriate.**

**Received**

6. Transit Services Department

6.1 O-Train Operations Transition to Push-Button Doors

The following staff from the Transit Services Department spoke to a slide presentation and answered questions from the Committee:

Troy Charter, Director, Transit Services Delivery & Rail Operations and Bart Cormier Director, Transit Strategic Communications & External Relations

The following members of the public spoke before the Committee and provided comments on the item:

1. Kim Kilpatrick
2. Shelley Ann Morris (Canadian Council of the Blind)
3. Kyle Humphrey
4. Dr. Kate Riccomini (Advocacy & Accessible Community Engagement CNIB Foundation, Ontario East)

Questions and comments were pertained to, but not limited to, challenges placed on those with visual impairments and/or physical challenges, lack of inclusivity and concerns for safety for the disabled and senior communities.

Following discussions, the Committee considered the Motion No. AAC 2024-11-01 (below). and the Committee received the presentation. A copy of the slide presentation is filed with the Office of the City Clerk.

#### **Report Recommendation(s)**

**That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive the presentation and provide feedback as appropriate.**

**Received**

#### **Motion No. AAC 2024-11-01**

Moved by Wayne Antle

**WHEREAS the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) has received a presentation from staff that proposes changing service on the Confederation Line of the O-Train such that the doors will no longer open automatically; and**

**WHEREAS the AAC has heard from public Delegations, including persons who are blind or have sight loss, along with its own members, and that the proposed change would introduce a barrier for people with disabilities;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AAC recommends that City Council reject the proposed change and that O-Train doors on the Confederation Line continue to open automatically.**

**Carried**

7. Office of the City Clerk

7.1 2024 City of Ottawa Municipal Accessibility Plan Update Report

Sarah Beriault, Corporate Accessibility Specialist and Amanda Swift Corporate Accessibility Specialist of the Accessibility Office presented a slide presentation and were available to answer questions.

A copy of the slide presentation is filed with the Office of the City Clerk.

After discussion, the Committee RECEIVED this item for information.

**Report Recommendation(s)**

**That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive the presentation and provide feedback as appropriate.**

**Received**

7.2 Accessibility Advisory Committee - Workplan 2024-2026

**Report Recommendation(s)**

**That the Accessibility Advisory Committee approve the Term of Council work plan.**

**Carried**

8. Committee Business

9. Notices of Motions (For Consideration at Subsequent Meeting)

There were no Notices of Motion.

10. Inquiries

There were no Inquiries.

11. Other Business

There was no other business.

12. Adjournment

Next Meeting

May 21, 2024.

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.

Original signed by R. Ramos,  
Committee Coordinator

Original signed by Vania Karam,  
Chair