
MEETING **CITY OF GUELPH
ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AAC)**

DATE TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2014

LOCATION CITY HALL, ROOM B

TIME 3:00 TO 5:00 P.M.

CHAIR BRAD HOWCROFT

PRESENT BROOKE SILLABY, LAURIE LANTHIER, JULIA PHILIPS, MARA, MARIO , TANYA DAVIES, CATHY McCORMACK, PAUL REEVE, MISSY TOLTON, SAIN MATWEY, BRAD HOWCROFT, EMMA MEZGEC (CO-OP STUDENT), LEANNE WARREN

REGRETS Janice Faubert, Mary Grad, Jennifer Popkey Bergen, Doug Grove

**No Peanut Products permitted at this meeting.
Please refrain from wearing scented products.
Accessibility related accommodations available upon timely request to
Leanne Warren 519-822-1260 ext. 2670.**

AGENDA ITEMS



1	Welcome to all	
2	Approval of the Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to approve the agenda with following changes: Approved by Brooke seconded by Julia all in favor: Carried Changes number 7 deferred Topics 2 and 4 are being switched #10 will be Staff Training Other: Add For Information from Brad 	

	<p>Approval of Minutes of August 19, 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Motion to approve the minutes by Cathy seconded by Julia all in favor: Carried 	
<p>3</p>	<p>1. Sidewalk Marking Project – For Discussion – Mara Engel from Operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mara thanked everyone for opportunity to come and stated that the City has been addressing new legislation that requires sidewalks with more than a 2 cm rise in grade to be either repaired or marked ● Being marked is considered a state of repair ● Purpose is to protect municipality from law suits ● If the City meets these standards they are protected from being sued by public slip and fall claims ● Legislation regarding sidewalk gaps and cracks was nonexistent prior to this legislation which came into effect in 2011 ● If sidewalks are deteriorated and, for example sink to a “V” shape, they aren’t considered in need of repair or marking according to the legislation. ● A committee member mentioned a resident who had fallen and needed medical attention (ambulance ticket from a slip and fall) ● Mara was unclear of how that was to be handled and will look into this ● Another committee member who uses a wheelchair doesn’t believe that anything but replacing the sidewalk will work effectively. Once winter comes, Ice and snow will cover any indication that there is a marking and the problem is just masked. Further, when sidewalks are plowed it seems that they are not clearing to the concrete and it is believed that this is due to the uneven sidewalks. Not clearing to the concrete for long periods of time make the sidewalk inaccessible. ● Another member commented that when the plows don’t get right down to the concrete that the freeze/thaw cycles leave behind frozen footsteps which create even more issue with trip hazards and impassible sidewalks for those who use a scooter or wheelchair ● Solution to mark the 2 cm rise on sidewalks should be visible for people with low vision as well as make people aware and cautious ● <u>Option 1.</u> - Black and yellow ribbing foil <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Very expensive 	

- Common colours of hazard
 - Option 2. - Spray paint - white
 - Was not effective
 - Considered a temporary marking for utilities
 - Not visible gets lost on the ground
 - Option 3. Watch your step signs
 - Too small and can fade from sunlight or foot traffic
 - Option 4. Yellow traffic strip
 - Most effective
 - Lasting
 - Most cost effective
 - Mara reported that other municipalities such as Waterloo and Kitchener use spray paints. It is Mara's understanding that some municipalities don't follow the legislation and therefore assume the risks of slip and fall claims
 - Repairs are done by:
 - Replacing the affected sidewalk panels; or
 - Shave pavement (cost to repair sidewalk is expensive) grind asphalt back so it is a smooth transition on surface
 - Salt, sand in winter destroys sidewalks causing multiple cracks.
 - Mara explained that there is a GIS strategy plan that may see summer students will be equipped an I-pad or another form of technology creating a database or overall map of what is in need of repair.
Will be able to see where problem areas are, creating an inventory of city and ultimately prioritize areas needing repair
Don't think it will be prioritized by ward but rather prioritized by usage of sidewalk
 - Committee member pointed out that the blind population will not be able to see these markers or indications. Ultimately making any solution very dangerous. This is asking a lot for a person with a service animal to depend on their dog for. A dog is unlikely to notice this trip hazard.
 - A committee member had emailed the Mayor and Council Members her concerns regarding this in Ward 3. She was told to avoid areas. This is impossible.
 - The committee will set up a date in spring to see what remains of concrete and repairs after weathering to see if members are able to see the markings
- Mara left meeting
- The committee discussed the potential of a presentation to Council with visuals that show first-

hand the impact as Cathy, Brooke and others have described however not all members were in agreement.

- Another member wondered what is the city doing to advertise to public? Further, creating an app would be beneficial so that the public could report concerns and see the progress
2. Curb Ramps – For Discussion – Leanne Warren
- Curb Ramps – For Discussion – Leanne Warren Operations reported through Leanne that approximately 135 curbed sidewalk crossing, in need of curb ramps have been identified by summer students however there is no current budget to install the curb ramps. Some may come off of the list if they are part of a project through work done by Engineering.
 - The committee would like to present to Council that funds should be set for these remaining sidewalks curb ramps to be installed.
3. Municipal Election:
- a. Accessibility Training – For Information – Leanne Warren
- Did a 20 minute training 4x for 3 days to all who are working at the polling station,
 - Four polling locations will have a door greeter as there is not door operator.
 - A couple of times where a voter brought in a support person – took oath and was successful in testing training (no concerns)
 - A committee member had voted and reported that the process was good
- b. Accessibility Related Feedback from AAC Demonstration – For Discussion - All
- Committee member who uses screen reading software felt that the online software was very accessible – took a bit to register due to long numbers.
 - Having a list start and list end would be effective when using audio, ultimately making an individual aware when the screen reader is finished.
 - when voting online, secure code, called Captcha, was difficult.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of these points were shared with the Clerk's office during the testing sessions. <p>4. Pavers on Carden Street and Maintenance Plan – For Information – Corporate Property</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mario Petricevic of Corporate Property met with the committee. He expressed concerns with the pavers in the Market Square and understood the committee member's concerns. • He wasn't aware however that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The rolled curbs were too steep for most wheelchairs and feel very unsafe; and ○ That service animals have an issue - Dogs act up due to the heat of the black bricks on paws • He talked about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The committee identifying critical areas to repair so that immediate action can be taken ○ Considered for numerous years and wasn't happy with material that was selected. Must deal with immediately and annual needs ○ Pave over with concrete wherever there is a clear walking entrance or path (potentially have an accent strip off to side to make it more decorative) • Committee members support concrete in Market Square <p>5. Site Plan Sub-Committee Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During 2014 the committee reviewed 60 site plan applications. All were reviewed more than once. At this point in time 27 of the applications were closed and 33 remain open for future review as edits are complete. • The sub-committee will reflect on their comments by visiting sites that have been built. • The committee will also be making recommendations to the site plan process review. • There is a standing invitation for other AAC members to join this sub-committee. Contact Leanne for details. 	
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	<p>6. Educational Opportunities Related to AODA – For Discussion – Leanne Warren</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Built Environment - a few of us met, liked idea of video with voice over of how rolled curbs etc <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May have presentation followed with cards b. Decision Makers - who we are individually; how their decisions can affect us positively and negatively - video of Brad and Cathy so far but others are also interested in participating. <p>7. Mobility Update – For Information - John Alves from Transit (Deferred)</p> <p>8. Managing Snow on Sidewalks from Accessibility Lens - Snow Line Promotion – for Information – Leanne Warren</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snow line promotion was sent to AAC members and support organizations in the community • Please feel free to share the document as you see fit. <p>9. December Agenda Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managing snow on sidewalks Accessible Bus stops AAC manual <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rushed through first time • Autism section needs more attention • Leanne will be looking to committee to set out wording as manuals are needed for new members in January Site plan – report <p>10. Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information from Brad Brad received an award from OFCP for his outstanding contributions Brad has also accepted a position on the OFCP Board of Directors 	
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4	December Agenda Items: Managing Snow on Sidewalks from Accessibility Lens Accessible Pedestrian Signals (ASP) Funding Outcome AAC Manual Review – Headings in Education Section Site Plan Sub-Committee Report	
5	Next Meeting: December 16, 2014 from 3 – 5 p.m. City Hall meeting room 112	