



**Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes  
March 8, 2022 via Zoom  
(16:00 – 18:00)**

**Attendees:**

**Chair** – S. Jennings

**Co-Chair** – S. Hough

**Members** – C. Paisley, L. Bartram, C. Marks, P. Singh, N. Moss, A. Love

**Council Liaisons** – S. Potts

**Staff** – A. Mas, A. Galiev, J. Dutton (Social Planner), J. Karakas (Urban Designer), A. Kapusta (Urban Designer)

**Guests** – R. Bayley

**Regrets** – B. Isitt

**1. Meeting Called to Order at 4:08**

**2. Land Acknowledgement**

Done by N. Moss

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Agenda Additions:

- Douglas Street Public Washroom
- Off-Leash Dog Area Pilots

*Moved by C. Marks*

*Seconded by N. Moss*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**4. Approval of Minutes from February 2022 Meeting**

*Moved by L. Bartram*

*Seconded by C. Marks*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**5. Remarks from the Chair**



S. Jennings expressed excitement about extension of AAC term until completion of Governance Review and confirmed that she will remain Chair for the duration of the term. She expressed a desire to work together and think about what community issues the AAC can dive into over the next few months.

## **6. Business Arising**

### **5a. Government Street Refresh Staff Presentation**

J. Karakas & A. Kapusta provided a presentation on the Government Street Refresh. Government Street requires significant improvements in existing infrastructure, and City staff would like to use this opportunity to build Government Street back better. There is a focus on ensuring sufficient vehicle access and circulation to ensure that Government Street is accessible to people of all abilities and all modes of transportation. The concept design aims to maintain access to Government Street for vehicles while providing accessible parking on-street and nearby.

Committee members shared the following feedback on the Government Street Refresh:

- Temporary COVID patios were not accessible, AAC members would like to make sure businesses, public bathrooms are truly accessible for people of all abilities. Staff shared that the approvals process and increased quality of patios will improve accessibility for Government Street Refresh.
- Street furniture needs to be improved from what was used at Clover Point (e.g. picnic tables). Request to bring street furniture design for Government Street back to Committee for review.
- The path of travel needs to be demarcated on both sides (e.g. using tactile way finding).
- Accessible Pedestrian Signals should be installed and lined up with line of travel along Government Street.
- Any trees and plantings used should be not allergenic (as determined by using Opals rating scale).



- Seating should be located at drop-off points on intersecting streets adjacent to Government Street.

### **5b. Extension of AAC Term**

Committee members discussed the extension of the AAC term until the completion of the Governance Review. It is currently unclear how long this will be. Committee members expressed interest in creating more accessible and equitable terms for participation in the AAC through the following motion:

**MOTION** – That the AAC recommends to Council that Committee members receive an honorarium for their participation set at the rate equivalent to the Living Wage in British Columbia.

*Moved by C. Paisley*

*Seconded by N. Moss*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Councillor Potts to bring this motion to Council as time-sensitive matter.

### **5c. Governance Review Update**

N. Moss participated in a focus group for Phase 1 of the Governance Review which focused on areas in need of improvement. During the focus group, N. Moss highlighted barriers for people with disabilities in participating in Council meetings, ranging from physical accessibility to duration of meetings. He emphasized that accessibility should be at the forefront of decision-making & Council meetings.

Phase 2 of the Governance Review will focus on how to address the issues raised in Phase 1. The consultants leading the Governance Review will notify the Committee when Phase 2 begins.

### **5d. Communications Protocol**



L. Bartram and N. Moss formed a Subcommittee to update the Communications Protocol. The main updates included the addition of a Territorial Acknowledgement and to allow lateral communication between Committee members. The Committee approved the Communications Protocol.

*Moved by C. Marks*

*Seconded by S. Hough*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **5e. Action Log Priorities**

Discussion on whether Accessibility Action Log should include past actions and determined that past actions should be included without going into significant detail. Committee members also suggested including ongoing actions from the Accessibility Framework Short Term Action Plan update October 2021. The focus of the next Committee meeting will be on Accessibility Action Log and prioritization system, while leaving thirty minutes for the next meeting to discuss any new business time-sensitive issues.

**ACTION ITEM:** Committee members to send A. Mas any items to be included in the Action Log. A. Mas to add Off-Leash Dog Area Pilot as well as ongoing items from the October 2020 Accessibility Framework Short-Term Action Plan and October 2021 update.

## **7. New Business**

### **6a. Input on Development Applications with Accessible Units**

Development Services is receiving a number of applications for multi-residential buildings where Council has directed applicants to include accessible units in their design. Currently, there is no formal policy on accessible housing or standardized methodology. Staff would like input from the AAC on how to approach this issue. S. Hough and N. Moss expressed interest in working with J. Dutton to scope level of engagement in development applications for Committee members. They will come back to Committee in May with more information.



**6b. Douglas Street Public Washroom**

Discussion on [level of engagement](#) for Douglas Street Public Washroom. Committee members requested clarity around engagement goals and outcomes because it will determine their level of involvement.

**6c. Off-Leash Dog Area Pilot**

This item will be added to the Accessibility Action Log and discussed at the next meeting.

**7. Next Meeting Agenda & Date – April 12**

**8. Adjourned – 6:04pm**