



Minutes

ACCESS ABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

3:00 pm, Thursday, December 1, 2016

Council Chamber

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Patrick Johnstone

Karla Olson

Janet Taylor

Michael Wilson

Hayley Sinclair

Julia Schoennagel (Arrived at 3:05 p.m.)

Colleen Vogler

Tracey Block (Arrived at 3:14 p.m.)

Paul Butler

Chair

Community Member

Community Member

Community Member

Community Member

Community Member

Community Member

Community Member

New West Chamber of Commerce

MEMBER/STAFF REGRETS:

Chris Nicholson

Anne Bélanger

Antonia Reynolds

New West School Board

Community Member

Coordinator, Active Transportation

Engineering Services

STAFF:

Lisa Leblanc

Fan Jin

Carilyn Cook

Jason Haight

Wayne Werbovetski (Arrived at 3:51 p.m.)

Vali Marling (Arrived at 3:51 p.m.)

Richard Fong (Left at 4:02 p.m.)

Manager, Transportation

Engineering Services

Transportation Technologist

Engineering Services

Committee Secretary

Engineering Services

Manager, Business Operations

Parks and Recreation

Project Manager

Engineering – Building Management

General Manager, Anvil Centre

Assistant Director, Human Resources

GUESTS:

Jon Navarra (Left at 3:25 p.m.)

Don McCuiston

Project Manager

Infrastructure Program Management

TransLink

Community Member

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

1.1 Additions to and adoption of the Agenda of December 1, 2016

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Agenda of the Access Ability Advisory Committee held on October 6, 2016 be received and adopted with the addition of Item 5.1 – Youth Recruitment under New Business.

CARRIED.

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of October 6, 2016

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Minutes of the Access Ability Advisory Committee held on October 6, 2016 be received and adopted.

CARRIED.

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 22nd Street Station Improvement – Jon Navarra, TransLink

After briefly introducing himself, Jon commenced with his presentation.

Members discussed:

- TransLink will explore the option of moving one of the wheelchair ramps, which is currently on a hill, to a flatter area around the southeast corner at 22nd Street and 7th Avenue;
- With respect to safety and lighting, it was suggested that perhaps half of the lights could be on a motion sensor. Jon will take the suggestion to the design team;
- Wayfinding will be addressed during the improvements to the Station;
- Since the visually impaired are often unable to read signs placed at a higher level, it was suggested that numbers be painted on the ground where each bus is located. Jon will forward this request to Sarah Chung, Access, Transit Coordinator.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Faucet Override Request Update – Don McCuiston/Wayne Werbovetski/Vali Marling (to be addressed at 4:00 p.m. to accommodate staff schedule)

Don identified various issues that he would like addressed with respect to the universal washroom located on the second level of the Anvil Centre. These issues include the installation of a faucet override allowing patrons more time to properly wash their hands (and, eventually, installation of these at other City facilities), signage indicating the washroom location as well as a graphic symbol signifying that the washroom can be used by people with ostomy bags and, lastly, the adjustment of the washroom door closers which would allow the doors to be opened more easily. Don also suggested that all washroom signs not be placed too high as they need to also be viewed by those in wheelchairs.

Members discussed:

- Staff will obtain the price for installation, in one washroom, of a single lever faucet (which is approved for use under the Building Code) that could replace the auto faucet currently in place;
- Staff will research replacing signage; this may also be combined with the replacement of the signage for universal washrooms. Heights on existing signage will be reviewed to ensure compliance;
- Door closers will be adjusted.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Youth Recruitment – Karla Olson

Karla informed members that she has contacted both Douglas College and New Westminster Secondary School in an effort to fill the two vacant student representative positions on the Committee. She suggested that next year, we reach out to more schools in order to fill the positions.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.4 Action List – Committee

Members Discussed:

- As the Victoria Hill crosswalk is offset from the corner, staff will revisit the site in the spring to determine if the crosswalk should be moved to a new location. Action List to be updated;
- Staff to follow up on the Fourth Street flasher lights; they are not receiving enough solar power to light up. Placement of the pole will also be reviewed. Action List to be updated.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

7.4 Presentation from Ms. C. Nelson re Waterfront SkyTrain Station

Councillor Johnstone provided a brief background on Ms. Nelson's correspondence and the endorsement she requested from the Committee with respect to washrooms the Waterfront SkyTrain Station.

Members discussed:

- Committee members agreed that Waterfront Station is used extensively by a variety of transit riders and supported Ms. Nelson's request of TransLink with respect to on-site washrooms as noted in the following Motion:

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Access Ability Advisory Committee ("AAAC") endorse Ms. Catherine Nelson's request of TransLink that the planned upgrades of the washrooms in the Sea-Bus area to make them universally accessible, and the installation of universally accessible public washrooms in a paid-fare zone at Waterfront Station, be made a priority in upcoming TransLink planning.

CARRIED.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

- It was agreed to continue the following discussion(s) at the next meeting with the possibility of forwarding a recommendation to Council with respect to the following:
 - Should the Committee formally request that TransLink have universally accessible washrooms in all fare paid zones;
 - The possibility of the City providing a list/map of all publicly accessible washrooms in New Westminster, where they can be implemented, etc.
- The City's Human Resources Department is working, along with legal counsel, on the City's accessibility policy. A draft copy of the policy should be ready for the Committee's review and feedback early next year. Instead of having two accessibility policies, the City is working on implementing one policy that encompasses all accessibility, including gender neutral washrooms.
- The City has put together a committee to work on the implementation of gender neutral washrooms to coincide with the change to the BC Human Rights Code;
- Staff to provide an update on the signage display that was discussed at the April 9, 2015 meeting.

8.0 NEXT MEETING DATE

TBD

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

Original Signed

Councillor Patrick Johnstone
CHAIR

Original Signed

Carilyn Cook
COMMITTEE SECRETARY