

Notice is hereby given of the following meeting:
**FACILITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE & PUBLIC
REALM ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FIPRAC)**

**Thursday, February 20, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall**

AGENDA

1.0 ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- 2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of the November 14, 2019 Access Ability Advisory Committee Meeting**
- 2.2 Adoption of the Minutes of the January 29, 2020 Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting**

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

- 3.1 Orientation and Oaths of Office (30 min) – Carilyn Cook, Committee Clerk**
- 3.2 Introductions/ Share Interest in this Committee (15 min)**
- 3.3 Facilities, Infrastructure and Public Realm Overview and Work Plans for 2019/2020 (30 min):**
 - Facilities (10 min) – Don Driedger, Manager, Major Projects**
 - Infrastructure (10 min) – Eugene Wat, Manager, Infrastructure Planning**
 - Public Realm (10 min) – Erika Mashig, Manager, Arboriculture, Horticulture and Parks & Open Space Planning**
- 3.4 Update on NWACC (15 min) – Steve Kellock, Senior Manager, Recreation and Alexandra Kenyon, Associate Architect, HCMA**

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Items

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

- 5.1 Election of Alternate Chair – Committee**

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

No Items

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

No Items

8.0 NEXT MEETING

Thursday, April 16, 2020 in Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT



Corporation of the City of
NEW WESTMINSTER

ACCESS ABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AAAC)
Thursday, November 14, 2019 at 3:30 p.m.
Council Chambers - City Hall

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Patrick Johnstone	- Chair
Bruce Cunnings	- SD40 Representative
Asifa Lalji	- Community Member
Karla Olson	- Community Member
Julie Schoennagel	- Community Member
Colleen Vogler	- Community Member

REGRETS:

Kendra Appleby	- Community Member
Anne Bélanger	- Community Member
Leslie Robinson	- Community Member

STAFF:

Gabe Beliveau	- Supervisor Streets and Sidewalks
Christine Edward	- Transportation Planning Analyst
Steve Kellock	- Senior Manager of Recreation Services and Facilities
Lisa Leblanc	- Transportation Manager
John Stark	- Senior Social Planner
Carol Lee	- Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

1.1 Adoption of the Agenda of November 14, 2019

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Agenda of the Access Ability Advisory Committee meeting held on November 14, 2019 be adopted with the addition of Item 5.3 – Changes to Committees.

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 June 13, 2019

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Minutes of the Access Ability Advisory Committee held on June 13, 2019, be adopted.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 NWACC Project: Applied accessibility strategies and the Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification program

Alexandra Kenyon and Fiona Jones, HCMA Architects and Design, joined the meeting.

Mses. Kenyon and Jones led the review of a presentation titled “New Westminster Aquatic & Community Centre” and highlighted:

- New Westminster Aquatic and Community Centre (NWACC) site plan
- Design of the building with the five main functions:
 - Day care
 - Fitness centre
 - Community centre
 - Recreation pool
 - 50 metre pool
- Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification (RHFAC) program:
 - Promotes higher levels of accessibility and inclusivity to provide meaningful access
 - Accessibility is considered through a LEED model
 - Rating criteria categories
 - Comparison of RHFAC features to current building codes
- Design considerations incorporating RHFAC features within the NWACC:
 - Parking spaces include four van accessible spaces with wider aisles
 - Passenger drop-off with aisles
 - Power activated accessible revolving door
 - Reception desk has knee clearance and is an accessible height
 - Logical layout of the facility
 - Tonal contrast of 40% or greater which is particularly important in the pool area

- Accessible height recycling and waste bins integrated into the wall to avoid obstruction in circulation spaces
- Dispersed seating at regular intervals
- Accessible washroom facilities, including one outside the pay area
- Universal change rooms
- Pool access includes ramps, lifts and moveable floor
- Accessible equipment in the fitness centre
- Areas of refuge will have sufficient space for two wheelchairs to sit side-by-side and an evacuation chair or similar equipment
- Next steps:
 - Identification of innovative features to be considered for inclusion
 - Invitation to Committee members to provide additional suggestions to Councillor Johnstone or Mr. Kellock.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- Suggestion that passenger drop-off area be covered to provide shelter on rainy days
- Concern that the number of designated accessible parking spaces have been reduced to provide the four van accessible spaces:
 - There is a high demand for accessible parking spaces due to the large demographic of New Westminster residents with mobility issues
- The benefit of a revolving door is for interior climate control
- A power operated swing door is being considered in addition to the power activated revolving door
- Suggestion that reception desk have the option of being raised and lowered to eliminate the creation of discrete service area for those in wheelchairs
- A braille map of the facility is being developed however the location has not yet been determined
- The need for the seating at different heights with arm rests on both sides
- There is a requirement for a signal to notify that people are in the area of refuge
- Staff will be trained in the use of all emergency equipment to remove wheelchairs from the facility
- Light and sound are considerations within the RHFAC design features
- The amount of glass may be an issue for people with a visual or cognitive impairment
- RHFAC is involved throughout the design phase
- Suggestion to include a small quiet room for individuals with autism
- Suggestion to include charging stations for electric wheelchairs in the facility
- Request that the planned updating of the Zoning Bylaw include an increase to the number of appropriately designed accessible parking spaces required.

Mses. Kenyon and Jones and Mr. Kellock departed the meeting.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 No items

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Snow and Ice Response

Gabe Beliveau, Supervisor Streets and Sidewalks, provided a verbal report on the development of the snow and ice clearing response plan:

- Bylaw requirement for business and resident to clear snow and ice from sidewalks in front of their homes by 10:00 a.m.
- Preference to utilize a complaint-based warning system rather than enforcement
- The need to raise the City staff awareness of the impact of road snow clearing on crosswalk let-downs and bus stops.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- The need to prioritize areas for snow clearing:
 - Suggestion to advise businesses to prioritize snow clearing from accessible parking spaces (On-street and off-street)
- The need to consider the requirements of those with mobility limitations in addition to those of business owners
- Suggestion that the City provide a dedicated telephone number for persons with disabilities to request City assistance in clearing the sidewalk in front of their homes:
 - The need to ensure that resources are allocated to respond to the requests if this suggestion is implemented.
 - Consideration of people who may feel vulnerable identifying that they are not able to exit their homes.

5.2 Dementia-Friendly Community Action Plan

John Stark, Senior Social Planner, provided an overview of the New Westminister Dementia-Friendly Community Action Plan and highlighted:

- Projected increase in the number of New Westminister residents living with dementia
- Dementia-friendly action plan includes 46 City actions to be implemented over a three-year period in the following areas:
 - Awareness and education
 - Civic engagement and programming

- Civic facilities, parks and open spaces
- Mobility and accessibility
- Orientation and wayfinding
- Private development
- Safety and emergency services
- Staff education and training
- Proposed actions for 2019/2020.

In response to a question from the Committee, Mr. Stark advised that the memory exhibit could be held at Century House, as well as the New Westminster Museum and Archives.

5.3 Changes to Committees

Councillor Johnstone advised that this is the last meeting of the AAAC as Council had decided to realign advisory committees to reduce the number from 38 to approximately 20. The advisory committees will be redistributed according to the functional areas of the City and will integrate the needs of special populations. In addition, Council has given staff more authority to review the applications and recommend the individuals to be appointed to the advisory committees.

Lisa LeBlanc, Transportation Manager, noted that two people with lived experiences with disabilities will be included on every committee.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- The current AAAC structure allows the disability lens to be applied to other areas of the City
- Concern that the new advisory committee composition and membership application process will create barriers to participation for people with disabilities
- The need to include youth representation on all advisory committees
- The benefit of the new advisory committee structure will raise the awareness of the barriers faced by those with disabilities
- The application to serve on advisory committees is available on the City's website:
 - The deadline to submit applications is December 1, 2019
- Request that the City reconsider the dissolution of the AAAC as it addresses the isolation experienced by disabled people and encourages their participation:
 - Suggestion that the mandate of the AAAC be broadened.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1 No items

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 No items

8.0 RELATED DOCUMENTS & LINKS

**8.1 Attachment 1 – “New Westminster Aquatic & Community Centre”
Presentation**

**8.2 Attachment 2 – New Westminster Dementia-Friendly Community Action
Plan**

9.0 ADJOURNEMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

PATRICK JOHNSTONE
CHAIR

CAROL LEE
RECORDING SECRETARY



PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, January 29, 2020, 6:00 p.m.
Century House – ABC Room**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Chinu Das
Councillor Jaimie McEvoy
Shawna Barkley
John Davies
Gary Holisko
Tonianne Mynen
Sydney Sullivan

- Co-Chair, City Council Member
- Co-Chair, City Council Member
- Community Member
- Alternate Chair/Community Member
- Community Member
- Community Member
- Community Member

MEMBER REGRETS:

Deanna Tan
Andrew Hull

- Community Member
- Community Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Dean Gibson
Steve Kellock
Jeff Case
Yihong Liao
Carilyn Cook

- Director, Parks and Recreation
- Sr. Manager of Recreation Services & Facilities
- Arboriculture Technician
- Landscape Design Technician
- Committee Clerk

The meeting commenced at 6:08 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

1.1 Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Agenda for the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting scheduled January 29, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

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 September 19, 2019

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting held September 19, 2019 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Queensborough Off-Leash Dog Area Update

Yihong Liao, Landscape Design Technician, provided a presentation update of the Queensborough off-leash dog area, outlining three possible locations for a new dog park: the north field at Port Royal Park, the south field at Port Royal Park, and along the South Dyke Trail. Ms. Liao also advised that in the next six months, the City will be engaging with a consultant to create a city-wide, strategic and sustainable off-leash dog area plan.

In response to questions, staff advised:

- With respect to creating an off-leash dog park on the west side of Queensborough, it was noted that many residents already use the City of Richmond's Hamilton Neighbourhood Off-Leash Dog Park as it is very close to New Westminster;
- At the beginning of the process, via dog licensing data, staff noticed a high density dog population in the east end of Queensborough;
- Dense trees would buffer the proposed dog park and the residential buildings at 230 and 240 Salter Street;
- The City has largely followed the dog park model adopted over 10 years ago when smaller parcels of land could be used with little impact on neighbours, which has led to many fenced enclosures throughout the City. Since that time,

- the City's population has grown and has many more residents with pets, however, the City has not kept up with how pets are managed in the public realm. To address this, the strategy will examine how the City can legally allow people to have their pets off-leash and solicit public opinions about off-leash pets, and review other municipalities' off-leash best practices.; and,
- There may be areas in the community where fenced off-leash areas are not necessary, or time-of-use rules could be implemented.

Discussion ensued, and a Committee member stated that it is understandable that the residents of 240 Salter Street do not support the dog park proposal given the anticipated noise that may arise from the site.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Parks and Recreation Committee recommends that staff pause the Port Royal off-leash dog area planning until such time that the City-wide Dog Strategy is complete.

CARRIED.

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

3.2 Community Tree Planting and Tree Stewards Initiatives

Jeff Case, Arboriculture Technician, provided a presentation which elaborated on the City's Urban Forest Tree Planting Strategy, the City's upcoming tree sale for residents, and the Adopt-A-Street Tree Program.

Urban Forest Tree Planting Strategy

In response to questions, staff advised:

- Trees planted on the McBride Boulevard side of Queen's Park were planted as part of TD's Tree Planting Day as well as a memorial, independent of the City's Urban Forest Management Strategy;
- Currently, the city tree canopy coverage is at about 18 percent and the City's goal is to reach 27 percent by 2030;
- Decline of the tree canopy is mostly due to redevelopment of private property with some decline being a result of trees aging and/or dying of natural causes;
- Regarding the rise in paved back yards, the Engineering Department addresses residential yard permeability through the City's Integrated Storm Water Management Plan; support efforts can include programs that educate and encourage private property owners to do the most appropriate thing for the environment with respect to permeability;
- Paved yards may become less fashionable once residents see the value in a more permeable landscape and the City must work in partnership with residents to achieve objectives such as this;

- The trees planted will be diverse, robust, and adaptable to climate change and a demanding environment such as bad soil, lack of water, etc.;
- Fruit trees planted on boulevards would attract animals and fallen fruit may create slipping hazards; however, planting of fruit trees may be considered as the City nurtures steward-based community gardens which would ensure that fruit is harvested appropriately;
- The scope of the City's tree planting area will be mostly along boulevards and long streetscapes, eventually moving into parks where successional planting will occur;
- The City engages with residents and strives to maintain views as much as possible when pruning trees; and,
- Many developers take advantage of things such as lower roof tops in order to include greenery in their projects as this beautification increases saleability of their projects;

Discussion ensued, and a Committee member commented that there are legacy fruit trees at Simcoe Park and at some locations along the Fraser River.

City-Wide Tree Sale

In response to questions, staff advised that although it is hard to compare the two cities, New Westminster is somewhat mirroring Vancouver's tree sale program and have reached out to them for advice.

Adopt-A-Street Tree Program

In response to questions, staff advised:

- While residents are not obligated to water boulevard trees, it does help the City when they do so;
- Those interested in adopting a street tree would be assigned a tree closest to their home and residents will be informed if a tree near them is being adopted;
- Trees in public spaces could be adopted by residents living in apartments;
- Initially, adoption will be for newly planted trees with a maturity of 5 to 7 years to ensure root establishment;
- Adopters will be contacted annually to confirm continuation in the program;
- Maintenance instructions will be explicit and the trees will be on a pruning cycle of 3, 6, 9, and 12 years and then onto an 8 year pruning cycle;
- Regarding questionable arborist training and certification, City staff have encountered arbor work that does not adhere to the City's tree bylaw and has issued warning letters and fines. As well, some companies have submitted false reports which staff have also acted upon;
- The City aims to educate homeowners on best practices with respect to trees; and,

- The City may consider incentives for container gardening for residents who live in condominiums, and possibly include trees in the plant sale that can be grown in containers.

Discussion ensued, and a Committee member shared that although they reside in a condominium, they would like the opportunity to adopt a tree.

3.3 New Westminster Aquatic and Community Centre (NWACC) Update

Steve Kellock, Sr. Manager of Recreation Services and Facilities, provided a presentation update of the New Westminster Aquatic and Community Centre.

In response to questions, staff advised:

- While there will be alternate entry routes to the main lobby, the primary entrances will feature revolving doors which follows best practices for energy efficiency;
- Hallway widths at the aquatic centre will exceed minimum required standards; the design meets the gold level for the Rick Hansen Accessibility Certification which exceeds building code standards;
- Alternate entry points to the pool areas may be used during special events in order to avoid a bottleneck moving from the lobby to the change rooms and when engagement with the front desk is not necessary;
- The leisure pool would be used for privacy swims and the shallow end of the lap pool could be used for a variety of things such as swim lessons and water therapy;
- The many play structures are interchangeable, ensuring adaptability over time;
- While the glass walls will not be tinted, they will have UV protection, blinds that can come down, and be north facing. Avoiding having birds hit the glass walls is a consideration that has been brought to the City's attention;
- The project will increase the site's overall tree canopy coverage;
- Currently, an update on the Federal and Provincial Infrastructure grant application has not been received; however, staff will be travelling to Ottawa next week and seek an update at that time;
- The City has also applied for a child care grant through the Province, will also submit an application to JumpStart for an accessibility grant, and continue to explore other avenues for third party funding;
- Civil relocates, including sewer and electrical, will commence in the spring and will not affect the closing date of the recycling centre which has been moved to the end of March;
- The anticipated completion date of the facility, including the demolition of the old facility, is early 2023; and,
- Regarding interim parking impacts, the site currently has 321 stalls, however, once construction starts, half the number of stalls will be available. The City is

striving to ensure that construction workers park off site, lessen the need for staff to park on site, and work with the Justice Institute to use their parking facilities evenings and weekends.

As this was the last meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee, Councillor McEvoy shared that it had been a great pleasure working with the Committee, which added a lot to the City's various projects.

Councillor Das expressed her gratitude to Committee members and shared that she had learned a lot from the Committee.

Dean Gibson, Director of Parks and Recreation, advised the Committee that although this was the last meeting of the Committee, staff will continue to engage the community through the various new advisory committees to a broader constituency. Mr. Gibson thanked Committee members for their work and encouraged everyone to continue to let the City know what is working well and what may need improvement within the City.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were no items.

5.0 REPORTS

There were no items.

6.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

There were no items.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

This was the final meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

CARRIED.

Certified correct,

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy
Chair

Carilyn Cook
Committee Clerk