

**City of Edmonton**  
**Accessibility Advisory Committee**  
**(AAC) Meeting Minutes**  
**April 11, 2022**  
 Google Meet  
 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

**Present:** K. Boyd C. Brenneis J. Caza  
 C. Jones S. Klassen P. Kocon  
 T. LaRiviere J. Pisesky P. Reeves  
 T. Rice I. Stefaniuk-Gaudet C. Wright  
 M. Vautour Z. Weeks

**Guests:** Y. Subramonian S. Young

**Regrets:** N. Sunderji C. Tang

**Staff:** H. Craig C. Lamoureux A. Szafranski

| Notes   | Action         |
|---|----------------|
| <b>1. Call to order</b><br><br>At 4:34 pm   |                |
| <b>2. Approval of agenda</b><br><br><b>Agenda of April 11, 2022</b><br><br>Moved by S. Klassen    | <b>Carried</b> |
| <b>3. Approval of minutes</b><br><br><b>Minutes of March 14, 2022</b><br><br>Moved by C. Brenneis | <b>Carried</b> |

#### **4. Land Acknowledgement/[CoE Indigenous Framework Introduction](#)**

- i. Administration played the City of Edmonton Indigenous Framework video.

#### **5. City Council update**

- i. Council has become more aware of Policy C602 and what they have accomplished. Council members have the policy in the back of their head when considering the decisions that they are making.
- ii. Interviews have been completed for the CoE Agencies, Boards and Commissions. Council will formally approve the newly appointed members and then the City Clerk's office will let Administration know the new AAC members.

#### **6. Policy C602**

##### **1) How is Policy C602 addressing accessibility?**

- i. Since 2019, in terms of our corporate promise, Policy C602 is working together aligned with the City Council, enabling a better life for all Edmontonians. The vision with accessibility work is to create a culture of acceptance and inclusion to enable participation and to use an accessibility lens in all the work.
- ii. In 2020, accessibility training was launched for CoE staff. To date, over 600 employees have taken the training.
- iii. The first three-year plan was endorsed by the City Executive leadership team in June of 2021. The implementation of the associated 64 actions has commenced. To date (at the end of 2021), there have been 12 out of the 60 actions completed.
- iv. In April 2022, the CoE will be launching the Accessibility Communications Services pilot, which will allow persons who are Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing to participate in recreation programs.
- v. All city-owned infrastructure assets will be designed to meet the Access Design Guide. This impacts all future assets and for assets which already exist there is a phased approach to increasing accessibility.
- vi. An accessibility audit checklist has been developed and audits are being conducted in existing facilities to understand the current level of accessibility. Since the policy was approved, facility renewal projects have included accessibility audits as part of their scope. Renewal projects have incorporated accessibility improvements.
- vii. Some examples of what Policy C602 has accomplished to date:
  - a. Built an inclusive playground with Jumpstart at the Clareview Recreation facility.

- b. Serenity spot: It is one of the features of the Boyle Street Plaza playground and it offers space for a child with autism or other sensory processing differences to step away when overwhelmed by noise or the movement taking place in the park.
- c. Handrails being installed in City Council Council chambers.
- d. The Urban Planning and Economy Department, where the urban strategies section resides, is doing universal design reviews on development applications for private developers.
- e. At the Confederation Leisure Center, a new pool pod was recently added. At the Meadows Recreation Center, a new change room lift was added.
- f. As part of the accessibility project at the Victoria Golf Courseclubhouse, an elevator was added, a ramp to the patio, and an accessible washroom which includes grab bars, a widened door, and a motion sensor.
- g. Progress on the Measuring Up program which really is a toolkit for private owners to assess the accessibility of their facility or building.
- viii. Ideas on how the AAC can help Policy C602:
  - a. Advocating for improvements to the building code, adding for a provincial act, supporting budget discussions which we mentioned last time.
  - b. Bringing forward best practices from other jurisdictions.
  - c. Identifying issues in scope for the projects we're working on and really being an advocate for private organizations to consider accessibility.

## **7. Old Business**

### **1) Library Update**

- i. T. LaRiviere had a meeting with the Director of Facility Services) to follow up on the AAC's recommendations of the Stanley Milner Library. The Library has implemented many of the AAC's recommendations.
- ii. The AAC was invited to consult on the next Library rehabilitation (Riverbend Library).

### **2) Art Gallery Accessibility Update**

- i. A. Szafranski has started communication with the Art Gallery but has not heard back from them yet.

## **8. New Business**

## 9. Administrative/Executive Update

### 10. Other Committee Work

- 1) Intake request Click and Push
  - i. A group from the University of Alberta is working on a crowdsourcing app (discussed with previous AAC members, who tested out 4 or 5 different apps. The members showed no perfect solution as all the apps perform different actions). The Click and Push group would like to chat with AAC for advice, promotion etc. Whichever AAC members are interested can attend the Intake meeting.
  - ii. Click and Push met with the City Administration many times. H. Craig will share minutes, learnings from those meetings.
- 2) Policy Review update
  - i. Following up on:
    - a. What is transpiring from the VFH motion report that K. Tang made at a Council meeting.
    - b. Looking to book a meeting with the 'Shovel Ready Group' on accessible housing. Questions may include: on their role and the tension around having suites and those having problems finding accessible housing.
  - ii. Policy members are creating memes for accessible housing. This prototype could be used for other themes i.e. accessible parking, transit, etc.
  - iii. Continuing to follow up on the feedback on the ValleyLine LRT. There will be a private session for persons with disabilities, but find a specific time for persons with disabilities to test the train system. In May, ValleyLine LRT will come to the AAC to do a presentation on safety and public education.
- 3) Community Engagement update
  - i. For NAAW (which is at the end of May/June), Community Engagement will liaise with Voices of Albertans with Disabilities (VAD). VAD is still determining what the event will look like, but suggestions thus far: a two day event with guest speakers, workshops, participation in a beer garden, etc. Z. Weeks will be the contact person and keep CE informed.
  - ii. CE will do an action calendar. Administration will ask for input.
  - iii. Continuing to communicate with partners on what is going to City Council (information on the provincial accessibility plan). Upcoming information on the snow and ice report.
  - iv. Still working on social media strategy. CE is flushing out activities within the work plan. An ask will occur in the near future for members to provide resources, interesting information, and/or any pieces that members may want to contribute.

## 11. AAC Calendar

- i. Draft Sidewalk Repair Strategy @ Community and Public Service Committee April 25th, 2022
  - i. Tonia spoke to this early in the year. Encouraging news so far, the Administration is looking at social vulnerability indexes (how we grade sidewalks around amenities, schools, hospitals etc). Administration will circulate the report when it is out.
- ii. Single Use Items @ Utilities Committee Meeting March 25, 2022 - went to City Council on April 4, 2022
  - i. Come to the AAC spoke before. Report was passed at City Council to reduce single use items (complex item with Federal legislation around plastic use).
- iii. Snow and Ice Report - Options to improve service @ Community and Public Services Committee, April 25, 2022
  - i. A. Szafranski spoke to A. Siemens on the Snow and Ice Report. The report will be high level, but Administration suggests reviewing the report and then the AAC can pick out what themes to speak to Council about: curb cuts, bus stops, windrows, etc. The Snow and Ice Administration is waiting for Council to provide direction within the high level report and then they will go back to Council in June with a more refined report.
- iv. Housing Section - Needs Assessment - June 2022
  - i. No information as of yet. Administration is letting members know to pay attention to in the future
- v. [100th Street Pedestrian Bridge](#) April 4-24th
  - i. This item is at the concept stage, however, the public can participate in an engagement session.

## 12. Round Table/Social Media

## 13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:13 pm.

**Next Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting will be May 9, 2022.**