

City of Edmonton
Accessibility Advisory Committee
(AAC) Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2021
 Google Meet
 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Present: S. Amer K. Boyd J. Davies-Davies
 C. Jones S. Klassen C. Knack
 P. Kocon T. LaRiviere J. Pisesky
 P. Reeves V. Van

Guest: S. Turner

Regrets: C. Bakshi C. Brenneis J. Caza

Staff: H. Craig C. Lamoureux A. Szafranski

Notes	Action
<p>1. Call to order</p> <p>At 4:35 pm</p>	
<p>2. Approval of agenda</p> <p>Agenda of April 12, 2021</p> <p>Moved by S. Klassen</p>	Carried
<p>3. Approval of minutes</p> <p>Minutes of March 8, 2021</p> <p>Moved by S. Klassen</p>	Carried
<p>4. City Council update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Assisted Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Community and public services committee next month has a report coming back on assisted transportation and a plan of action with other municipalities. 2) Bus Redesign Network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Preliminary update on how the new bus routes are working. ii. Some Edmontonians are happy (those who have not had bus service before) and unhappy (reductions or removal of service). 3) High level bridge life cycle strategy 	

- i. Should the renewal of the high level bridge be designed from an accessibility perspective?
 - ii. Scheduled for June.
- 4) Zoning Bylaw
- i. The City Plan is being put into action through the zoning bylaw renewal.
 - ii. The City is looking to clean up some of these regulations within the bylaw.
 - iii. The final bylaw will come to Council in 2022.

5. Old Business

- 1) Taxi meeting update (Friday, March 12 1:30pm)
- i. Vehicle for Hire set up a meeting so that AAC members can speak to the taxi industry, to speak to dispatchers to see if the AAC can gather data on accessible taxi concerns.
 - a. Data collection on issues with no-shows
 - b. Number of accessible taxi rides they are providing
 - ii. At the meeting AAC members highlighted issues around accessible taxis.
 - iii. The taxi industry in the meeting was agreeable to share data with the City of Edmonton.
 - iv. The taxi industry brought up issues with maintaining accessible vehicles and lack of taxi rides due to COVID-19. Some of the accessible vehicles are parked right now. Even though there are a number of accessible licenses, they are not all on the road.
- 2) National Accessibility Awareness Week (NAAW)
- i. Administration will be presenting to City Hall Schools during NAAW week on disability and accessibility.
 - ii. Community Engagement to post action calendars for the months of May and June on social media.
 - iii. Voices of Albertans with Disabilities reached out to us and they're doing a film festival event during NAAW.
- 3) City of Edmonton Elections (October)
- i. Administration has asked M. Chow (Director of Social Identity and Social Inclusion) to email the Director of Elections and Census on how Committees of Council can engage in the upcoming elections.
 - ii. New Elections director is creating a new accessibility plan and they will ask the AAC to review when they have it ready.
- 4) [FIFA 2026 update](#)
- i. AAC met COE Admin to talk about the City of Edmonton's bid for the 2026 FIFA games. Accessibility concerns were discussed for the games.
 - ii. They provided a letter for the AAC to submit in support of the FIFA games.

Administration to circulate the letter for AAC input.

- iii. AAC suggested that the FIFA games hire a disability consultant.

6. New Business

1) Employment Press Conference

- i. Received a notice of a press conference that was to be hosted by the student advocates for public health through Councillor Knack's office. This is a group of student advocates associated with the faculty of public health at the University of Alberta.
- ii. One of the missions that they have chosen for this year has been to raise awareness around the barriers to employment for folks with developmental disabilities.
- iii. They have started a website and a couple of social media platforms specific to the campaign and they're hosting a press conference which is taking place April 13, 2021 at 10:30 am.
- iv. The purpose of the press conference is to call all levels of government, it's specifically targeted at the provincial government to collect some stats and data around employment and barriers to employment for folks with developmental disabilities and to create more positions for folks with developmental disabilities.

7. Administrative/Executive Update

1) Chair nominations update

- i. T. LaRiviere has become chair of the AAC by acclamation, starting on May 1, 2021.

Motion: To appoint P. Reeves as the 2021 - 2022 Accessibility Advisory Committee's Policy Review Chair.

Moved by: T. LaRiviere

- ii. P. Reeves will be Policy Review Chair.
- iii. Community Engagement will be voting for their Chair following the main AAC meeting.

2) Corporate Accessibility Plan (Review Draft)

- i. Currently drafting the corporate accessibility plan, which will be ready soon for the AAC to review.
- ii. The draft will include all the actions that went out for public engagement on how the City is going to implement the policy. The departments are just confirming their actions by April 15th. A few departments are making little tweaks to the actions based on public feedback. Then the draft will be brought back to the executive leadership team committees.

8. Other Committee Work

Carried

<p>1) Policy Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Storefront improvement grant discussion. They are interested in meeting with the AAC to discuss learning more about the AAC's mandate and accessibility. Possible collaboration on an educational campaign for business owners and the chance to express the importance of accessible business. ii. Starting to review the AAC's Checklist. iii. Reviewed an accessible parking plan for the COE. <p>2) Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A City of Edmonton Communication Advisor attended the meeting and shared how their department can help out the AAC. ii. Creating an action calendar for National Accessibility Awareness Week. iii. Researching into a communication strategy for the AAC. iv. Looking into an environmental scan of AAC's partners/ stakeholders in the community. What are their current issues? How can we connect and discuss issues? v. Looking at how the two subcommittees can complement each other's work. <p>3) Intake</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The first Intake meeting invited the LRT Valley line. ii. The valley line is a street level train going from downtown to MillWoods and members reviewed the accessibility on the train. iii. Communication to Edmontonians was an important part of the conversation. <p>9. AAC Calendar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Upcoming event/tasks to do <p>10. Round Table/Social Media</p>	
<p>11. Adjournment</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 5:57 pm.</p> <p>Next Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting will be held on May 10, 2021.</p>	