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Item No. 12.4.1
Halifax Regional Council
Transportation Standing Committee
January 26, 2017

TO: Chair and Members of the Transportation Standing Committee

Original Signed

SUBMITTED BY:

Patricia Gates, Chair, Accessibility Advisory Committee

DATE: January 17, 2017

SUBJECT: Report Request – Support for Halifax.Access4All Accessibility Policy
& Action Plan

ORIGIN

January 16, 2017 meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee, Item No. 7.3.2.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Accessibility Advisory Committee Terms of Reference, section 2.5 which states “To advise Regional Council (through the Transportation Standing Committee), municipal departments and the public about strategies designed to achieve the objectives of this Committee”.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Accessibility Advisory Committee that the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report investigating potential support, funding and partnership opportunities between HRM and Walk ‘n’ Roll Halifax’s, “Halifax.Access4All Accessibility Policy & Action Plan” proposal as outlined in the January 16, 2017 Accessibility Advisory Committee presentation.

BACKGROUND

A presentation pertaining to a proposal by Walk 'n' Roll Halifax for a community led Accessibility Policy & Action Plan for the municipality was brought forward to the Accessibility Advisory Committee for consideration at its meeting held on January 16, 2017 (Attachment 1).

DISCUSSION

The Accessibility Advisory Committee discussed the matter at its January meeting and recommended that staff engage with the committee and the community stakeholders outlined in the January 16, 2017 Accessibility Advisory Committee presentation to work toward establishing a community led Accessibility Policy & Action Plan for the Halifax Regional Municipality. As such, the Accessibility Advisory Committee forwarded the recommendation to the Transportation Standing Committee as outlined in this report for its consideration.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report. The requested staff report, if approved by the Transportation Standing Committee, will outline financial implications.

RISK CONSIDERATION

There are no significant risks associated with the recommendations in this Report. The risks considered rate low.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Accessibility Advisory Committee meetings are open to public attendance. The agenda, reports and minutes of the Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee are posted on Halifax.ca.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

ALTERNATIVES

The Accessibility Advisory Committee did not discuss alternatives.

ATTACHMENTS

1. January 16, 2017 Accessibility Advisory Committee Presentation

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.php> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

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Halifax.Access4All

Towards an...

Accessibility Policy & Action Plan
for Halifax

HRM Council Priority Outcome

**'Halifax is a leader in building
an accessible community...'**

'Declare 2017 Year of Inclusion'

'Adopt an Inclusion Framework'

'Solutions exist in the Community!'

Mike Savage, Sept. 2016



Let's Punch Above Our Weight Doing It!

When Halifax Punched Above Its Weight!

1. Halifax Waste Management Strategy – mid1990's

From Waste 'basket case' to global leader

2. Halifax Public Library

Turning things upside down

3. Solar City Program

A shining light towards sustainability

How do we get there?

It has started with Council's Healthy Communities Initiative

To Make Halifax a Leader in Building an Inclusive and Accessible Community where Everyone can Participate Fully in Life, including People with Disabilities and Seniors

Some good things happening

But sporadic, slow and not coordinated

In some cases Business Units not delivering on their Business Plan promises...accountability system broken



Join us in creating
an inclusive world without barriers.

Let's Do It in Partnership with Rick Hansen Foundation!

Let's be **Bold!**

Establish a Model for Canada

In Partnership with Rick Hansen's **Access4All** Initiative

My Vision:

1. National **Community.Access4All** Program
2. Halifax as a Best Practice Model
3. Build Capacity within our Abilities Community to Help Nationally, employing young disabled professionals

Two Ways to Develop Policy

1. Institution Centric Process

Led by HRM

Consultation

Announce&Defend by HRM Administration

Council makes decision

2. Community Centric Process

Community led from Day1, in collaboration with HRM

Community Volunteerism combined with HRM Resources

Community Announces & Defends Policy

Council makes decision

Comparison

INSTITUTION CENTRIC

Administrative control

Can Become Adversarial

Outcomes generally predictable

Risk averse approach

Innovation low

Community acceptance unpredictable

Policy longevity unpredictable

COMMUNITY CENTRIC

Community controlled, fluid

Communal

Unpredictable outcomes

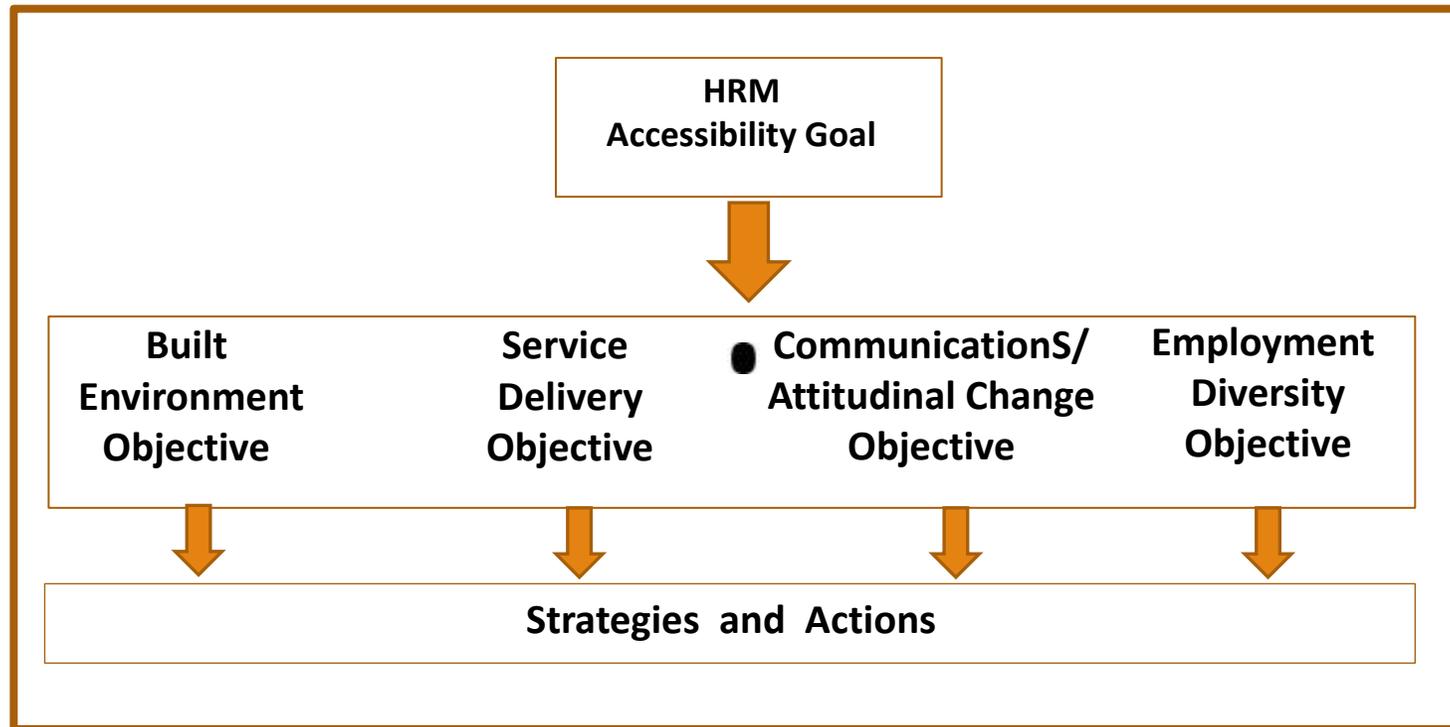
Bold, riskier approach

Innovation more likely

Community acceptance high

Policy longevity high

What a policy framework may look like...





HALIFAX

The James McGregor Stewart Society



BarrierFreeNS



What's Needed

1. HRM Cooperation
2. Resources: budget (\$90,000 & meeting facilities resources)
3. Rick Hansen Foundation Partnership Agreement