



**ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
August 19, 2024**

PRESENT: Céline Vautour, Chair
Rachele Manett, Vice Chair
Deputy Mayor Cathy Deagle Gammon
Councillor Paul Russell
Councillor Trish Purdy
Liz Doull
Glenn Babcock
Thivjan Tharmaratnam

REGRETS: Oliver Keith
April Adams

STAFF: Melissa Myers, Accessibility Advisor
Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at halifax.ca.

The meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m., the Committee adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 15, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Purdy, seconded by Rachele Manett

THAT the minutes of July 15, 2024 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Liz Doull

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – July 15, 2024

6.1 Temporary Pedestrian Travel Paths Through Work Sites

The following was before the Committee:

- Transportation Standing Committee report dated February 22, 2024 with attached staff report dated January 11, 2024
- Staff presentation dated June 3, 2024

Crysta Cumming, Manager, Engineering Design gave a presentation, seeking feedback on the Temporary Pedestrian Travel Paths Through Work Sites report and responded to question of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee noted the following:

- Concerns with temporary pedestrian walkways that required frequent street crossings;
- Lack of accessible pathways on certain construction sites;
- The effects of construction sites on nearby accessible parking spaces;
- Specific challenges encountered by residents who are visually impaired and/or wheelchair users on construction sites;
- Barricade placements;
- The need for certain standards to be enforced on sites;
- Safety issues with uneven surfaces and platforms;
- Accessibility challenges in relation to signage placement; and
- Challenges faced by those with colour blindness.

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence - None

7.2 Petitions – None

7.3 Presentation – None

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Alderney Drive Functional Plan

The following was before the Committee:

- Presentation dated August 19, 2024

Maria Jacobs, Active Transportation Planner, Courtney Pyne, Team Lead – Senior Traffic & Transportation Engineer, WSP Canada and Brianna Rietzel, Transportation Engineer-in-Training, WSP Canada gave a presentation, seeking feedback on the proposed designs and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee noted the following:

- Preferred structures used to separate walkways from arterials roadways;
- The need to balance traffic congestion with active transportation needs;
- Concerns with lane reductions;
- The importance of prioritizing dedicated bus lanes;
- The needs of diverse modes of transportation;
- Benefits of separating walkways and bikeways; and
- Concerns regarding multi-use pathways, particularly in high traffic areas.

9.1.2 Wright’s Cove Transit Terminal

The following was before the Committee:

- Presentation dated August 19, 2024

Matthew Glynn, Project Manager, Facility Renewal, Alana O’Halloran, Associate, Arcadis and Charlie Haong, Transit Architecture Lead, Arcadis gave a presentation, seeking feedback on the proposed terminal design and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee noted the following:

- The possibility of providing additional seating in the designated bays;
- Ensuring text was legible on screens displaying bus schedules;
- The potential for cigarettes butts to be left in the planters;
- The need for designated pick up and drop off areas;
- The sounds and echoes created by glass buildings and subsequent impacts on neurodivergent individuals; and
- The possibility of installing acoustic panelling to offset sound.

10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – October 7, 2024 (if required)

Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

13. ADJOURNMENT

**Accessibility Advisory Committee
Minutes
August 6, 2024**

The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Elizabeth Macdonald
Legislative Assistant