



**ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
May 25, 2026**

PRESENT:

Rachele Manett, Chair
Nikolas Harris, Vice Chair
Councillor Trish Purdy
Councillor Laura White
Councillor Jean St-Amand
Geoff Hurst
Regan Oliver
Jorge Saldaña
Anne Sinclair
Jamil Sinno
Cathi Stevenson

STAFF:

Melissa Myers, Accessibility Advisor
Morgane Evans, Coordinator Accessibility Community Outreach and
Research
Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant

These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by the Accessibility Advisory Committee at a future meeting.

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.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:05 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 – April 20, 2026

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor White

THAT the minutes of April 20, 2026 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 Nikolas Harris, seconded by Jamil Sinno

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 – NONE

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 2026 Town Hall Planning

The Committee discussed the set up of the 2026 Town Hall at Paul O'Regan Hall. The Committee indicated they were in favour of having the back and side doors open for the duration of the event and allowing further space between the food and Q&A table to prevent crowding after the panel adjourns. The Committee noted plans to seek input from ASL interpreters regarding the room's configuration.

The Committee discussed the possibility of having an option for participants to submit questions when registering for the event via Eventbrite.

9.1.2 Approval of 2026-27 Work Plan

The following was before the Committee:

- Draft Accessibility Advisory Committee 2026-27 Work Plan

These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by the Accessibility Advisory Committee at a future meeting.

The Committee discussed the priorities outlined in the Draft Accessibility Advisory Committee 2026-27 Work Plan and considered the possibility of adding a fourth priority to the work plan on the topic of Community Safety and Crisis Response. The Committee agreed to request a staff presentation from Community Safety instead of adding a fourth priority.

The Committee agreed to update the Draft Accessibility Advisory Committee 2026-27 Work Plan to add "Accessibility of existing buildings to meet 2030 accessibility goals" to the Desired Outcome section under Priority 2.

Melissa Myers, Accessibility Advisor and Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee approve the Draft 2026-27 Accessibility Advisory Committee Work Plan and recommend that the Executive Standing Committee review and approve the Accessibility Advisory Committee 2026-27 Work Plan.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2 MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

9.2.1 Regional Council Update

Councillor Purdy spoke to Halifax Regional Council's activities over the past month, including:

- Motions approved at the May 12, 2026 meeting:
 - Incorporating Young People in Active Transportation;
 - Deputy Mayor Cuttell - Review of Encroachment Fee Discounts for Hoarding Visual Improvements;
 - Mayor Fillmore - Options to Establish a Red Tape Feedback Engagement Tool; and
 - Mayor Fillmore - Fee Review for Sidewalk Patio Permits.
- Motion approved at May 26, 2026 meeting regarding Councillor Austin - Fare Waiver Alderney Ferry.

Councillor White spoke to the motion approved at the April 28, 2026 meeting regarding Councillor White - Prioritizing the Maintenance of Active Transportation Routes During Building Construction.

Councillors Purdy, White and St-Amand responded to questions of clarification from the Committee. The Committee requested the Legislative Assistant distribute a copy of the declassified private and confidential staff report entitled: Supplementary Education Funding Agreement Ratification to members of the Committee.

10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – June 15, 2026

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

Elizabeth Macdonald
Legislative Assistant