

City of Edmonton
Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)
Minutes
Monday Nov 20th, 2023
Heritage Room at City Hall
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

In Attendance: D. Akanpentiba-Achura, D. Antaya-Moore, B. Belsek, M. Dancsok, C. Decore, K. Ewig, P. Kocon, T. LaRiviere, S. Mason, D. Rudolph, I. Stephaniuk-Gaudet, P. Rzechowka, M. Vautour, Z. Weeks

Council Sponsors: Clr. Tang, Clr. Wright

Guests: M. Everett

Regrets: C. Brenneis

Staff: A.Szafranski, H. Craig, Autumn

Call to order at 5:01 pm

1. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: B. Belsek

To approve the agenda as presented.

Carried Unanimously

2. Approval of the Oct 16, 2023 Minutes

Tabled

3. Land Acknowledgement

Presented by P. Rzechowka

4. New Business

Office of the City Clerk - M. Everett

- Information on the governance review changes and 2024 annual report and recruitment milestones. [Governance Review Presentation](#)
- Subcommittee's to be brought forward to City Council for approval. Council will need to approve creation of subcommittees as a part of the annual work plan. The office of the City Clerk will provide a template and tools to AAC for providing rationale. They should be reflective of Council's priorities and there is no compensation for time on subcommittees.
- Council can grant an exception for members just outside of Edmonton city limits. Demographics of members are not currently publicly available. AAC members suggest that this could be helpful. There are plans to improve representation of under represented groups so it will help to track data. There will be an optional disclosure question added to recruitment.
- No consideration for staggering terms at this time, it will need further discussion.

- It would be up to Council if brought forward.
- The AAC may need an exception for a second vice chair and may need to call them co-chairs. Need to be explicit as co-chairs have a higher remuneration.
 - Executive would be considered a subcommittee.
 - Email civic.agencies@edmonton.ca for any additional questions.

Rapid Housing Initiative

- A. Benoit (GEC architecture) and D. Sernecky (Infrastructure Delivery)
- Work with GEC, Delmar construction for the first 5 sites and currently working on Holyrood (Canora and Garneau unsuccessful). Holyrood is under construction and will provide 63 supportive housing units. Applying lessons learned from the first 5 sites. City is acting as the developer. It will be transferred to Homeward Trust to operate. They won't be City owned or maintained buildings.
- 5 sites: Inglewood, King Edward Park, Westmount, McArthur, Terrace Heights. Permanent supportive housing 30-60 units. 3 sites added Canora (63 units, supportive living environment), Garneau (smaller site with 34 units, 5 of which to be barrier free) and Holyrood.
- Requirement to add an additional 5% of units to be barrier free so a total of 15% of units being barrier free. It was determined that 20% would be assigned as barrier free.
- All of the washrooms in the Holyrood project would comply with barrier free requirements (no thresholds, all roll in with grab bars and seats, oversized doors, space under counters). Designed as studio apartments as they are single occupancy. Using some features from the City's Access Design Guide even though not required. Using the current national building code.
- Level Playing Field is on the team as a consultant and have reviewed drawings to date.
- End user: People who are currently experiencing homelessness.
- There was 18 months from approval of funding to moving into these projects. Building design constraints (on size and footprint) as they stayed within zoning requirements to get the projects done on time to meet funding requirements.
- AAC requested a tour of one of the facilities.

5. Council Updates

- a. Budget Deliberations and Event Accessibility.
 - i. Clr. Tang. Budget deliberation for supplementary budget begins tomorrow.
 - ii. Metro cinema - working to address accessibility issues. Providing interim solutions. AAC members suggest changing the location if the venue is not accessible, even if it means having it on another date
 - iii. [Enabling Accessibility Fund](#) Accepting applications for mid-size projects until Dec 13, 2023.

- iv. Expanded snow program. T.LaRiviere spoke in support of the budget item.

6. Chair Update

- a. Skills Society letter
 - i. Youth employment research project. D.Antaya-Moore drafted a letter of support.
- b. Comingling DATS/On Demand Letter
 - i. A letter has been drafted to Council co authored by AAC/DAG that does not support the information report about comingling of DATS and On Demand Transit.

7. Old Business

- a. Clareview entrance rehabilitation update. Deferred.

8. ETSAB - update

- a. Transit ridership report - December 5

9. Administration/Executive Update - Deferred

- a. AAC feedback survey
- b. December social numbers
- c. AAC recruitment Dec 4, 2023 - Jan 14, 2024
- d. VFH Persona

10. Other Committee Work

- a. Policy Review
 - i. Deferred

- b. **Community Engagement**
 - i. Deferred

11. Round Table

- a.
- b.

12. AAC Calendar

- a. [Assisted Snow Removal Program - Fall Budget Adjustment](#)
- b. Co-mingling Paratransit and On Demand Transit - Nov 28, 2023

13. Adjournment at 6:58 pm.

14. Next Meetings

- a. Community Engagement - Tuesday, December 5 @ 4:30pm (online)
- b. Policy Subcommittee - Monday, December 4th @ 4:30pm (online)
- c. AAC Main Meeting - Monday, December 11th @ 5:00pm - Sir Winston Churchill Library Kitchen

