

Accessibility Advisory Committee



Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2025
5:00 pm
Edmonton Tower
3rd Floor
Meeting Area
10111 104 Ave NW

Invited Attendees
<p>Attendance: David Achuroa, Dana Antaya-Moore, Carleen Brenneis, Marie Dancsok, Dreena Davis, Karima Ewig, Tonia LaRiviere, Stephanie Leach, Sam Mason, Daniel Purcell, Douglas Rudolph, Katie Thomas, Zachary Weeks, Kimberly Wood</p> <p>Council Reps: Councillor Keren Tang</p> <p>CoE Staff: Carissa Lamoureux, Britt Frandsen</p> <p>Guests: Chris Heywood, Jessica Nutbrown, Carleen Etmanski, Joshua Jackman</p> <p>Regrets: Tyson Joyce</p>

1.0 Introductions and Welcome

2.0 Review	
2.1 Agenda Review/Approval	<p>D.A. Moore called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm</p> <p>MOTION: D.A Moore- Approve the June 11, 2025 AAC Agenda 1st: D. Davis Carried (U)</p>
2.2 Review/Approval of Previous Minutes	<p>MOTION: D.A. Moore- Approve the May 12, 2025 AAC Minutes 1st: K. Ewig Carried (U)</p>
2.3 Indigenous Land Acknowledgement	Z. Weeks gave the Land Acknowledgment
2.4 Ice Breaker	D.A. Moore conducted the ice breaker

3.0 New Business	
3.1 Elections Edmonton and Accessibility	C.Heywood & J. Nutbrown presented to AAC regarding Edmonton Elections and Accessibility.

	<p>Questions from AAC:</p> <p>Describe the lessons learned from the federal election in terms of processes?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Examined best practices in all levels of government- Not enough time passed since the most recent election to examine the data- Proud of commitment to accessibility, tangible operational changes- Need to address less tangible strategies, training, voter experience, etc. <p>Strategies to include the houseless in accessibility for voting?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Constrained by provincial legislation- Limited to attestation of elector's address, cannot attest to the identity of an elector anymore- Plan to increase communications to community groups providing services to houseless electors- Potential solution - offering voting station at a downtown location and providing information through shelters <p>Will there be ASL interpreters provided during debates, meetings, etc?</p> <p>Is there a number we can text or email for transportation instead of making a phone call?</p> <p>Voting stations - can electors bring support workers? Will there be an ASL interpreter available? Will it be advertised that there is an ASL interpreter available?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Limited understanding in this area- Aware this is a barrier- Provide information to candidates to support best practices - can ensure events are accessible and inclusive but are required to
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - remain impartial and ethical - Uncertain if there is a text number for transportation - will find out - ASL interpreter would have to be requested - would do our best to coordinate those services. Aware putting the responsibility on the elector is not ideal, will work on making it more accessible
<p>3.2 Affordable Housing Guidebook</p>	<p>C. Etmarks presented the Affordable Housing Guidebook.</p> <p>Looking for feedback by June 16th - Looking to publish by the end of June.</p> <p>Will there be a one pager or newsletter style to get attention?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not in the plan <p>Page 9 - definition of accessibility. Missing TBI group - their needs are different (ex. unit flatness but option of a bathtub, or cognitive disability, lighting can be an issue).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We take developers into the apartments but also the common spaces - Will add this consideration to page 9 in the definitions <p>Vision loss - support people with strokes and vision loss, agree with the lighting comment as it is usually overlooked.</p> <p>How do the units get filled? How are they advertised? How do viewings take place?</p> <p>Hard to find accessible units for people who need it. People do not always understand what "accessible" means.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Could add myth about advertising and where it is posted etc. in the myth section <p>Is there an idea for a video based system or flashing lights for alarms? Lights for stairwells, emergency phone in elevators, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a section for

	<p>wayfinding breaking down stairwells etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interested in receiving more information that can be added on this topic <p>ACTION: C. Lamoureux to create a google document for comments and send it out - with deadline on monday</p>
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4.0 Standing Items	
4.1 Council Advisor Updates	<p>Cllr. K. Tang discussed any updates related to the city council and the AAC.</p> <p>Questions from AAC:</p> <p>How is time calculated - speaking with Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will be compensated if scheduled to speak in front of Council - No current information on a rate - would work with committee chairs <p>Virtual attendance does count - attending 50% of the meeting is required to receive the honoraria. Asked to define parameters.</p> <p>Exclusion of mileage - does not account for accessible vehicles. Requires further conversation as it was not written into the policy.</p> <p>Subcommittees that are council approved should receive compensation, ad hoc committees are not included.</p> <p>Roberts Rules quorum - If quorum is not achieved, will members be compensated for their time?</p> <p>ACTION - D.A. Moore to share the letter written by executive with the committee.</p>
4.2 Chair Updates	<p>D.A. Moore provided updates to AAC.</p> <p>Speaking to council on June 17th - Complete Streets Policy.</p>

	<p>Email about volunteering for elections - disclosing. Members can volunteer with candidates as long as they disclose to the chair and the admin. Volunteering independently, not as AAC. Do not have to disclose to the whole committee.</p> <p>Access to Mental Health Services and Resources for Persons with Disabilities report released from Greg McMeekin Advocate for Persons with Disabilities. No feedback to provide, just out for information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Would like to provide feedback for mental health support for deaf and deaf/blind
<p>4.3 Policy Subcommittee Update</p>	<p>S.Mason shared updates on the subcommittee meetings.</p> <p>Planning to meet in July, not meeting in August.</p> <p>July 7, 2025 meeting will be virtual</p>
<p>4.5 Community Engagement Subcommittee Update</p>	<p>Z.Weeks explained the purpose of the Community Engagement Subcommittee - responsible for the face to face "fun stuff", social media, opportunity to engage in the community and ensure people we represent are heard.</p> <p>Is there budget for social media/marketing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Used to come from overall operating budget. So there is but it is smaller than it used to be. - Would like to increase the social media platform activity. - Looking at hiring people with disabilities who work in that area to help out. <p>The next Community Engagement Subcommittee meeting is July 8, 2025</p>
<p>4.6 Administration Update - City Administration Information update</p>	<p>C. Lamoureux shared the city administration update.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summer meetings 	<p>The accessibility costs will now be coming out of the AAC budget, budget can be adjusted accordingly through Social Development.</p> <p>Spent \$3,700 so far, \$40,798 left for the year.</p> <p>What is the total cost per meeting? To know how much goes to meetings and how much would be left after.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Would have to do some math and bring a breakdown for each meeting. <p>Honoraria and Expenses report was approved at Council. Takes effect 2026.</p> <p>ACTION - C. Lamoureux to provide breakdown of meeting expenses.</p>
<p>4.7 ETSAB Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The ARC Card - Fare funding gap - Incident on transit with service dogs/guide dogs 	<p>Edmonton Transit Service Advisory Board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Looking at ways to gather feedback and connect with groups for perspectives to improve transit for everyone. <p>ARC Card</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hoping for feedback in terms of experience with the ARC card and how it can be improved - Accessibility challenges using the ARC card - Can connect through administration to get feedback <p>Fare Funding Gap</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ways to make transit sustainable - Looking at delineating between standard transit and DATS <p>Incident on transit using guide/service dogs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corporate guideline for service dogs throughout the city - How to get information out

	<p>there so people feel heard</p> <p>ARC Card feedback -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Billing - monthly option is not available online <p>Adjourned 6:58pm</p>
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6.0 Upcoming Items

1. June 17 - 2025 - Update to City Policy C573A Complete Streets
2. August 11, 2025 - Amendments to Animal Licensing and Control Bylaw
3. August 11, 2025 - Improved Accessibility Active Pathway Snow Removal and Sidewalk Repair
4. August 12, 2025 - Bylaw Amendment to Vehicle for Hire Bylaw 17400 - Fee and Fare Updates

Next Meetings

Date: July 14, 2025	Time: 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Location: Edmonton Tower
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