

Accessibility Advisory Committee

2019 and 2020 Annual Reports and 2021 Work Plan

Recommendation

That the April 14, 2021, Office of the City Manager report CR_8079, be received for information.

Executive Summary

This report summarizes highlights and key accomplishments of the City of Edmonton Accessibility Advisory Committee from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2020, and provides a work plan for 2021. Expenses for both 2019 and 2020 are attached.

Report

The Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) seeks to understand the unique accessibility needs of the Edmonton community and how these needs relate to City Council's strategic and policy direction. The AAC undertakes a significant role in helping City Council address the manner in which its strategies and policies impact people with disabilities and provides advice on best practices for engaging Edmontonians with disabilities.

2019 Highlights and Key Accomplishments

The Accessibility Advisory Committee:

- Members volunteered over 1800 hours to committee work
- Members represented on 15 community committees and boards
- Presented on accessible taxi service to Community and Public Services Committee on September 18, 2019
- Presented at the Snow and Ice Control report to Community and Public Services Committee
- Continued to advise on the development and implementation of City Policy C602, Accessibility for People with Disabilities
- Delivered community presentations and attended events
- Worked with the Edmonton Transit Service Advisory Board
- Collaborated with Edmonton Transit on the Bus Redesign Network, DATS and First Kilometre/Last Kilometre
- Partnered with the Centre for Healthy Communities on an Accessibility Pilot Study, which aimed to better understand accessibility in the urban built environment and to pilot test an evaluation strategy

2020 Highlights and Key Accomplishments

On May 13, 2020, the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) was informed that the City of Edmonton temporarily suspended Administration support to committees of Council due to COVID-19. The AAC made a decision to continue to meet without Administrative support. Administration was able to resume providing support in November 2020.

- Members volunteered over 1300 hours to committee work
- Continued to update Accessibility Advisory Committee Operating Guidelines and Procedures
- Worked with City staff on the new Edmonton Awards (pre-COVID-19)
- Featured in the media on several occasions. Topics included: Mask Exemption Card and Edmonton City Plan
- Continued to engage/consult with various City of Edmonton departments on accessibility-related projects (i.e. COVID-19 response, Policy C602, Edmonton City Plan, Waste Services, Snow and Ice, Bus Network Redesign, First KM/Last KM, Touch the Water Promenade and the Emily Murphy Park renewal project)
- Continued to support Administration on accessibility-related matters as they arose (i.e. Taxi Vouchers, cuts to AISH, Edmonton’s 2026 FIFA Men’s World Cup bid, Accessible Taxi Training, Escooters and an accessible events guide)
- Established relationship with the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee

Corporate Outcome(s): Healthy City Strategic Goal			
Outcome(s)	Measure(s)	Result(s) 2020	Target(s)
Committee advises City Council and City Administration on policies, potential policies or changes to existing policies that affect access and inclusion for people with disabilities	Percentage of Administrative requests completed	100 %	≥ than 2019 results
Build the Accessibility Advisory Committee’s Social Media community	# of Twitter followers # of Facebook followers # of website views	635 772 2076	≥ than 2019 results
Diverse stakeholders representation and active participation of volunteers in the community	Average monthly volunteer hours per each Accessibility Advisory Committee volunteer	12 / Month	8 - 12 / Month

Attachments

1. Accessibility Advisory Committee Annual Report 2019/2020
2. Accessibility Advisory Committee 2021 Work Plan
3. Accessibility Advisory Committee 2019 and 2020 Expenses