



Hamilton

A G E N D A
ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (ACPD)
Tuesday, January 12, 2016
Rooms 192 and 193
City Hall, 71 Main Street West
4:00 p.m.

- 1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - 3.1 Minutes of November 10, 2015 (To Be Distributed)
 - 3.2 Minutes of December 8, 2015 (To Be Distributed)
- 4. CONSENT ITEMS**
- 5. PRESENTATIONS**
- 6. DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - 6.1 Point-in-Time Count 2016 – Presentation/ Update & Committee Feedback
 - 6.2 Hamilton Beach Front Trail Accessible Washrooms
 - 6.3 Accessible Taxis – Question & Answer Forum (to) Ken Leendertse, Director of Licensing
 - 6.4 ACPD Draft Multi-Year Plan – Committee Feedback
 - 6.3 Update - Built Environment Working Group

6.4 Update - Terms of Reference and ACPD Budget Assessment Working Group

6.5 Update – Work Plan Working Group

6.6 Update – Integrated Standards Working Group

7. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

8. MOTIONS

9. OTHER BUSINESS

10. ADJOURNMENT

City Clerk's Division

COUNCIL FOLLOW-UP NOTICE

TO: Nancy Fiorentino, Legislative Coordinator for ACPD **DATE:** December 10, 2015

CC: Maxine Carter, Manager
Access and Equity

FROM: Lauri Leduc
Legislative Coordinator

RE: **City Council Meeting –December 9, 2015 – Item 9 of PW Report 15-016**

A. REPORT:

Item 9 of PW Report 15-016 was passed by City Council at its meeting held on December 9, 2015.

The Item reads as follows:

9. Creating Accessible Washrooms on the Hamilton Beach Front Trail (PW15087) (Ward 5) (Outstanding Business Item) (Item 8.1)

That Report PW15087 respecting Creating Accessible Washrooms on the Hamilton Beach Front Trail be received and referred to the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disability for review and comment.

A copy of PW15087 is included for your reference and use.

B. GENERAL NOTES:

Please take the necessary steps to execute the direction of Council.

Thank you.

Lauri Leduc
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk



CITY OF HAMILTON
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Corporate Assets and Strategic Planning Division

TO:	Chair and Members Public Works Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	December 7, 2015
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Creating Accessible Washrooms on the Hamilton Beach Front Trail (PW15087) - (Ward 5) (Outstanding Business List Item)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 5
PREPARED BY:	Melissa McGinnis Accommodations & Compliance Coordinator 905-546-2424 Extension 2827 Robyn Ellis Acting Manager Capital & Compliance 905-546-2424 Extension 2616 Rom D'Angelo Director, Facilities Management & Capital Programs 905-546-2424 Extension 4617
SUBMITTED BY:	Gerry Davis, CPA, CMA General Manager Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That additional opportunity for improved accessibility measures at 1151 Beach Boulevard in progress be approved as follows: addition of a bicycle rack to secure scooters and other devices, increase counter clearance and reduce the height at which soap and towel dispensers are mounted at a cost of \$5,000 to \$10,000, to be funded from a Facilities operating account (54401-792667);
- (b) That accessibility considerations be included as part of the 2016 Strategic Renewal and New Construction strategy Renovation and Replacement Study, to plan for accessibility priorities in the 10 year capital program, including financial and budgeting considerations;
- (c) That the item respecting Creating Accessible Washrooms on the Hamilton Beach Front Trail be removed from the Public Works Committee Outstanding Business List.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Facilities Management and Capital Programs (FMCP) staff have successfully installed push button power door operators at the entrance doors for both male and female public washrooms at 1151 Beach Blvd. This unplanned expenditure has not been budgeted, resulting in an unfavourable variance. This solution addresses the petition by a concerned patron. It also exceeds 1997 OBC, applicable at the time of the facility construction in 2003, and now brings entrance doors in line with 2012 OBC, O.Reg. 332/12, as amended in 2013 to 368/13. This means that the washroom door operators meet current standards for public washrooms newly constructed today. The public washroom facility at 1151 Beach Blvd. was deemed to be in compliance with 1997 Ontario Building Code (OBC) at the time the facility was constructed in partnership with the Hamilton Waterfront Trust.

FMCP staff also met with the patron to better understand and address her concerns in a respectful two-way communication process. Additional measures to improve accessibility at this site are in progress. Staff further examined each element of accessibility of this facility and compared it against different standards in order to identify opportunities for improvement to accessibility at this site, as summarized in the table in Appendix A attached to Report PW15087.

The report also expands into related areas of accessibility prioritization, long term planning and funding strategies across all facilities in the FMCP portfolio. Adding to the fiscal pressures, there is a large, growing annual gap between available capital funding and infrastructure renewal requirements in Facilities at the City of Hamilton. In 2016, there will be a deferred capital renewal backlog, at facilities managed by FMCP of approximately \$105M. In the presence of these internal fiscal limitations and long lists of facility needs, prioritization of capital work becomes extremely important. FMCP continues to prioritize requests for improved accessibility based on community requests and available funding as both short term requests and longer term plans. A longer term plan would include financial and budget considerations over several years, including evaluation of options at each facility such as renovation versus replacement. Bringing older facilities up to modern accessibility standard in most cases is not feasible without a large renovation or new build. The implication for the City's long term capital planning is to include accessibility in the new capital plan, whenever building a new facility or renovating an existing facility. As requests come in to modify existing facilities, there are competing challenges requiring funding. Where a facility is accessible, according to the Building Code in the year it was constructed, it is deemed compliant and prioritized below other requests such as health & safety or compliance. Should the beachfront trail washroom improvements be considered for implementation across the City's approximately 81 public washroom facilities in public parks, the cost would be approximately \$684,450 to \$1,089,450. The capital cost to build new washroom facilities would exceed that value by a factor of approximately 50 times or more.

The City of Hamilton is committed to ensuring that Council, all levels of corporate management and staff, plan implement and evaluate strategies and opportunities that sustain and maintain the rights of persons with disabilities and their families to barrier-

free facilities, programs, services and opportunities. It is recommended that accessibility considerations be included in the 2016 Strategic Renewal and New Construction strategy Renovation and Replacement Study including financial and budgeting considerations.

Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 7

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial:

The cost of facility accessibility improvements at 1151 Beach Blvd. has been \$3,450 to date for the purchase and installation of push button power door operators at the entrance door for both men's and women's public washrooms. The additional cost of incremental accessibility measures at this facility are anticipated to be approximately \$5,000 to \$10,000, including installation of the bicycle rack, increased counter clearance, soap and towel dispensers. This unplanned expenditure has not been budgeted, resulting in an unfavourable variance. Should these same improvements be considered for implementation across the City's remaining public washroom facilities in public parks which currently meet older accessibility standards, the cost would be approximately \$684,450 to \$1,089,450. Each site would require investigation to evaluate costs on a case by case basis. The capital cost to build new public washroom facilities in parks would exceed that value by a factor of approximately 50 times or more. Aside from public washrooms in public parks, the City owns a number of additional public facilities with washrooms, such as Arenas, the vast majority of which match older accessibility standards and costs of upgrading to 2012 standards can range up to \$1,000,000 or more per public washroom. The total number of public washroom facilities managed by FMCP is 188.

Staffing: None

Legal: None

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Council Direction

This report is subsequent to item 9.5 of Public Works Committee Report 15-011, approved by Council on September 9; That staff be directed to report to the Public Works Committee on the measures necessary to make the washrooms on the Hamilton Beach Front Trail accessible, as well as examining the installation of push buttons on washroom doors.

Progress to Date

FMCP staff have successfully installed push button power door operators at the entrance door for both male and female public washrooms at 1151 Beach Blvd. This exceeds 1997 OBC, applicable at the time of the facility construction in 2003, and now brings entrance doors in line with 2012 OBC, O.Reg. 332/12, as amended in 2013 to 368/13. This means that the washroom doors meet current standards for public washrooms newly constructed today. FMCP staff also met with the patron to better

understand and address her concerns. Additional measures to improve accessibility at this site are in progress, such as bicycle racks in response to patron feedback about the benefit of locking a scooter while utilizing the facility.

Staff further examined each element of accessibility of this facility and compared it against different standards in order to identify further opportunities for improvement to accessibility. These findings have been included under the analysis section of this report and the analysis chart can be found as Appendix A attached to Report PW15087. Additional measures will be taken in the near future to improve accessibility at 1151 Beach Blvd., such as lowering the mounting height of the soap and towel dispensers at this site and increasing the distance between counter and stall.

Public washrooms in public parks and other public facilities at the City of Hamilton

Turner Park and Beemer Park are the only public parks with existing public washroom facilities located in the City of Hamilton, which were constructed since the adoption of the 2006 Barrier Free Design Guidelines (BFDG). There are currently no public washroom facilities in public parks in the City of Hamilton which meet the latest accessibility standard defined in 2012 OBC, O.Reg. 332/12, as amended in 2013 to 368/13. This means that the remaining public washroom facilities in public parks in the City of Hamilton match older accessibility standards. Ontario accessibility standards for municipalities do not indicate a deadline or requirement for retrofitting facilities constructed under older accessibility standards to make the facilities compliant with new standards.

Aside from public washrooms in public parks, the City of Hamilton owns a number of additional public facilities with washrooms, the vast majority of which match older accessibility standards. Please see chart below for a summary of City-owned public washrooms:

City Facility Washroom Type	Quantity
Parks	81
Arenas	21
Libraries	19
Indoor Pools & Rec Centres	19
Community Halls	17
Public Clubs	15
Outdoor Pools	11
Senior Centres	5
TOTAL City-Owned	188

Additionally, there are 13 washrooms at Confederation Park/Wild Waterworks managed by Hamilton Conservation Authority. These washrooms are located on the Beach Front Trail but are not under FMCP jurisdiction.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

Legislated Requirements

The public washroom facility at 1151 Beach Blvd. was deemed to be in compliance with 1997 Ontario Building Code (OBC) at the time of facility construction in 2003. Ontario accessibility standards for municipalities do not indicate a requirement or deadline for retrofitting remaining, aging facilities to make them accessible to today's standards. Retrofitting some elements of an existing facility, particularly facilities constructed prior to 1997, up to modern accessibility standards in most cases is not feasible without a large renovation or new build. For example, the widening of hallways and adding a 3rd washroom, the universal washroom, into an old facility would not be feasible without major cost or constructing a new facility. Ontario accessibility standards for municipalities do not indicate a requirement or deadline for retrofitting pre-existing, aging facilities to make them accessible to today's standards. As requests come in to modify existing Facilities, there are competing challenges requiring funding. Where a Facility is accessible, according to the Building Code in the year it was constructed, it is deemed compliant and prioritized below other requests such as health & safety or compliance.

New and retrofitted public facilities are expected to meet modern, improved accessibility standards as can be found in the 2012 OBC, O.Reg. 332/12, as amended in 2013 to 368/13. The implication for the City's long term capital planning is to include accessibility in the plan, whenever building a new facility or renovating an existing facility.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

The following Departments/Divisions/Sections have reviewed this report and have verified that the data is correct:

- Public Works, Facilities Management and Capital Programs
- Public Works, Engineering Services, Asset Management
- Public Works, Environmental Services, Parks & Cemeteries
- Corporate Services, Access & Equity
- Corporate Services, Finance & Administration
- Community Services, Recreation
- Planning & Economic Development, Real Estate

The following external agencies were consulted:

- Hamilton Waterfront Trust
- Ontario Regulation 368/13 - Amendment to Building Code Accessibility Requirements
- Customer Service Standard (O. Reg. 429/07)
- Accessibility Rules for Municipalities, Ontario
- Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005
- Ontario Human Rights Code

ANALYSIS AND RATIONAL FOR RECOMMENDATION

Beach Front Trail Washroom Facility

Staff examined each element of accessibility of 1151 Beach Blvd. facility and compared it against different standards in order to identify further opportunities for improvement to accessibility. The four different standards examined are as follows:

- 1997 OBC
- 2006 OBC
- 2006 BFDG
- 2012 OBC, O.Reg. 332/12, as amended in 2013 to 368/13

An analysis chart, indicating how the 1151 Beach Blvd. Washroom compares against different Accessibility Standards can be found in Appendix A attached to Report PW15087. Findings are as follows:

- The public washroom facility at 1151 Beach Blvd. was deemed to be in accessibility compliance with 1997 Ontario Building Code (OBC) at the time the facility was constructed in partnership with the Hamilton Waterfront Trust.
- Since the original construction, installation of fixtures has resulted in two inconsistencies with 1997 OBC which can be corrected to improve accessibility at 1151 Beach Blvd.: stall clearance (between stall & counter) and the height of the soap and towel dispensers. These measures are recommended in this report.
- A universal washroom with accessible turning radius, in addition to a male and female washroom was not a requirement under 1997 OBC, but is now a new requirement under 2012 OBC. Therefore the 1151 Beach Blvd. washroom complies with 1997 OBC, but not 2012 OBC. This measure is not recommended.

Installation of push button power door operators at the entrance doors to washrooms exceeds 1997 OBC, applicable at the time of construction of 1151 Beach Blvd. in 2003. Having added powered push button power door operators at the entrances to both male and female washrooms now brings entrance doors in line with 2012 OBC, O.Reg. 332/12, as amended in 2013 to 368/13, public washroom standards for public washrooms newly constructed today.

Prioritization of Accessibility Requests across FMCP

Based on a 2015 cost-estimate of a modern public washroom facility at a public park, construction of a new, fully accessible, public washroom facility at 1151 Beach Blvd. which meets 2012 OBC would cost an estimated \$400,000. The 2012 OBC standard includes the provision of a large universal, accessible washroom. This alternative is not financially feasible or sustainable as a plan when viewed as a solution across the City's public washroom facilities in public parks which are not built to the most recent accessibility standard due to the date of construction.

Adding to the fiscal pressures, there is a large, growing annual gap between available capital funding and infrastructure renewal requirements in Facilities at the City of Hamilton. In 2016, there will be a deferred capital renewal backlog, at facilities

managed by FMCP of approximately \$105M. This gap continues to grow at the rate of approximately \$10M per year. This does not include Facilities managed by Hamilton Police, Hamilton Housing, Hamilton Water, etc. Funds for improving accessibility across the 500 sites managed by FMCP, including approximately 188 sites containing public washrooms, are insufficient to address even short term pressures. In the presence of these fiscal limitations and long lists of facility needs, FMCP staff continue to prioritize requests for improved accessibility based on community requests and available funding.

Long Term Facilities Capital Planning

In order to assist all levels of corporate management in evaluating strategies and opportunities that sustain and maintain barrier-free standards at City of Hamilton Facilities there needs to be a long term vision. This long term plan would include financial and budget considerations over several years, including evaluation of options at each facility such as renovation versus replacement. Bringing older facilities up to modern accessibility standards is not feasible without a large renovation or new build. One proposed pathway to longer term capital planning in accessibility could be to roll it into the 2016 Strategic Renewal and New Construction strategy Renovation and Replacement Study. The focus of this study, soon underway, is to plan for accessibility priorities in the 10 year capital program, including financial and budgeting considerations.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

As per Council direction, this report focusses on examining the installation of push buttons on washroom entrance doors at 1151 Beach Blvd. and the measures necessary to make the existing washrooms on the Hamilton Beach Front Trail accessible as well as strategies across the FMCP portfolio.

As an alternative, the public washrooms at 1151 Beach Blvd. could have been left in their originally constructed format which was deemed to be in compliance with 1997 Ontario Building Code (OBC) at the time of the 2003 facility construction. This alternative misses an opportunity to improve the facility for patrons based on a two-way communication that respects a patron's disability. This alternative also does not address concerns raised in the petition brought forward to Council.

As a secondary alternative, staff could explore the one-time construction of a new, fully accessible, public washroom facility at 1151 Beach Blvd. which meets 2012 OBC, O.Reg. 332/12, as amended in 2013 to 368/13. This alternative is estimated at \$400,000 to replace one facility with a larger one which includes a universal, accessible washroom. In this case, the existing facility was constructed within the past 15 years and therefore is not close to the end of life of the facility. Very few parameters changed between 1997 OBC and 2012 OBC that would improve accessibility of a public washroom from the current state for such a large investment. Push button power door operators are one difference that has already been added at low cost. The addition of a universal washroom is the other primary difference in modern accessibility code, but this change would be at a higher cost of a new build. An alternative to construct a new

facility each time there are marked improvements in accessibility standards is not financially sustainable as a long term strategy when viewed as a solution across the City's FMCP portfolio of approximately 81 public washroom facilities in public parks and over 188 public washrooms in facilities managed by FMCP.

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2012 – 2015 STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Priority #1

A Prosperous & Healthy Community

WE enhance our image, economy and well-being by demonstrating that Hamilton is a great place to live, work, play and learn.

Strategic Objective

- 1.2 Continue to prioritize capital infrastructure projects to support managed growth and optimize community benefit.
- 1.3 Promote economic opportunities with a focus on Hamilton's downtown core, all downtown areas and waterfronts.

Strategic Priority #2

Valued & Sustainable Services

WE deliver high quality services that meet citizen needs and expectations, in a cost effective and responsible manner.

Strategic Objective

- 2.3 Enhance customer service satisfaction.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix A – Analysis of Hamilton Beachfront Trail Washroom against different Accessibility Standards

Appendix B – Map ~ 1151 Beach Blvd Rail Trail Washroom Location

Analysis of Rail Trail Washroom against different Accessibility Standards

Accessibility Standard	1997 OBC (3.8)	PRK162 Rail Trail / Building	2006 BFDG implemented	2006 OBC (3.8) (under 600m2)	2012 OBC (3.8)
Universal Washroom Required in all buildings	NO	NA	Where a common or public use washroom contains four or more toilets and/or urinal fixtures an individual washroom shall also be provided	NO	YES
Barrier-Free (BF) Water Closet Stalls required	1 Men, 1 Women	Building has: Women's – 3 toilets (1 BF stall) Men's – 1 toilet (BF stall), 2 urinals	1-5 toilets within washroom requires 1 accessible toilet stall	1 Men, 1 Women	0, when universal washroom is provided
Power door operators at the entrance door to all barrier-free and universal washroom	NO (building less than 300 m2)	Power operators at both women & men washrooms Complete, recommended for approval	Should be provided at main entrances to buildings	NO (building less than 300 m2)	YES
Entrance doorway widths	810mm (2'8")	864mm (2'10")	950mm (37-1/2") clear width (exit device to door stop)	850mm	860mm clear width (exit device to door stop)
Entrance door clear space	300mm (11-3/4") beyond latch on swing side	11-1/2"	300mm (11-3/4") beyond latch on swing side	300mm (11-3/4") beyond latch on swing side (no change)	300mm (11-3/4") beyond latch on swing side (no change)
Barrier-Free (BF) Path of Travel, minimum width	1060mm	50"	1060mm (41-3/4")	1100mm	1100mm
Stall clearance	1400mm (55") between the outside of the stall face and other obstruction	50" (stall to counter) Correction/improvement recommended	Clear space 1930mm (76")	1400mm (55") between the outside of the stall face and other obstruction (no change)	1400mm (55") between the outside of the stall face and other obstruction (no change)

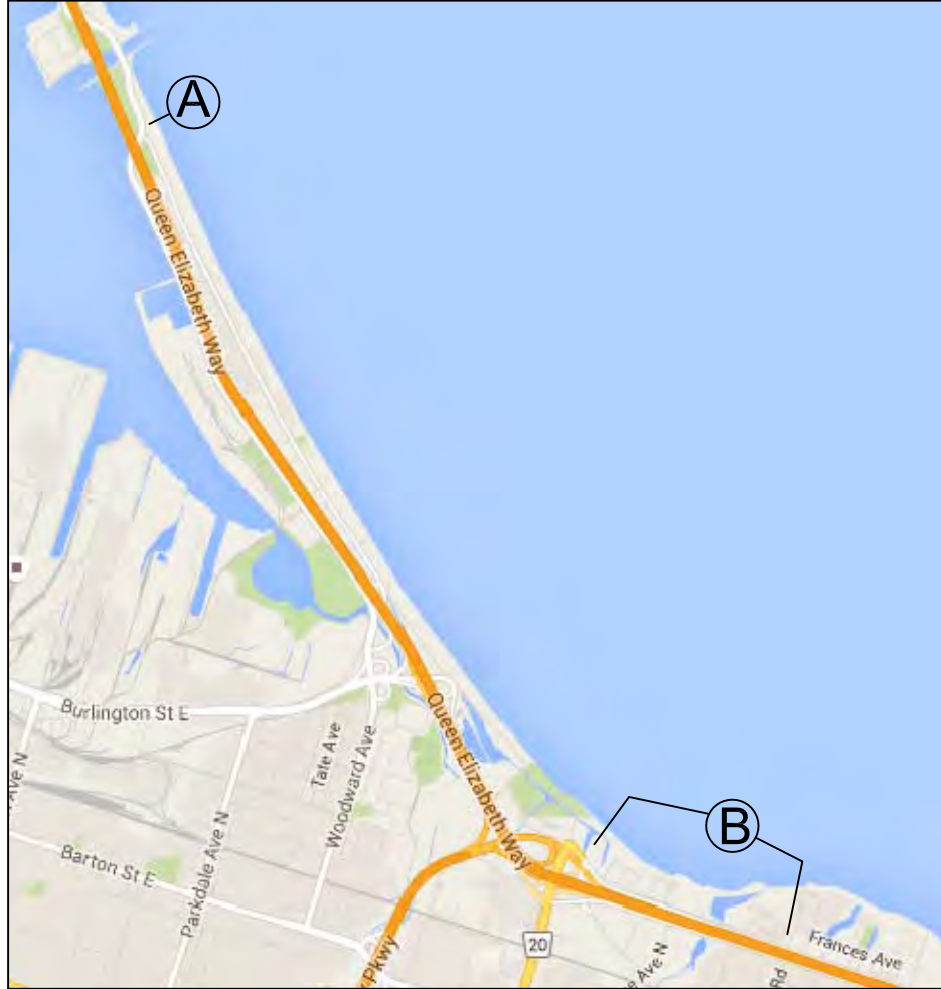
Analysis of Rail Trail Washroom against different Accessibility Standards

Accessibility Standard	1997 OBC (3.8)	PRK162 Rail Trail / Building	2006 BFDG implemented	2006 OBC (3.8) (under 600m2)	2012 OBC (3.8)
Minimum Turning Space	1500mm (4'11)	NA	1930mm (6'4")	1500mm (4'11)	1500mm (4'11) within the stall
BF Water Closet Stall Min dimension	1500mmx1500mm (4'11"x4'11")	60"x60"	1525mmx1525mm (60x60) – 1830mmx1830mm (72x72)	1500mmx1500mm (4'11"x4'11")	1500mmx1500mm (4'11"x4'11")
BF Water Closet Stall Min requirements	Inside latch operable by one hand, door clear opening 810mm, door swing outward, spring-type or gravity hinge, door pull on outside near latch side, coat hook, seat lid for back support	Meets 2006 OBC requirements listed	Door clear opening 950mm (37-1/2" preferred)	Inside latch operable by one hand, door clear opening 810mm, door swing outward, spring-type or gravity hinge, door pull on outside near latch side, coat hook, seat lid for back support (no change)	Inside latch operable by one hand, door clear opening 810mm, door swing outward, spring-type or gravity hinge, door pull on outside near latch side, coat hook, seat lid for back support (no change)
Toilet transfer space	Toilet located so that its centreline is not less than 460mm (18-1/8") and not more than 480mm (18-7/8") form an adjacent side wall on one side	Meets 2006 BFDG requirements listed	900mm (35-1/2") x 1525mm (60")	Toilet located so that its centreline is not less than 460mm (18-1/8") and not more than 480mm (18-7/8") form an adjacent side wall on one side (no change)	Toilet located so that its centreline is not less than 460mm (18-1/8") and not more than 480mm (18-7/8") form an adjacent side wall on one side (no change)

Analysis of Rail Trail Washroom against different Accessibility Standards

Accessibility Standard	1997 OBC (3.8)	PRK162 Rail Trail / Building	2006 BFDG implemented	2006 OBC (3.8) (under 600m2)	2012 OBC (3.8)
Counter & Sinks	No more than 840mm (2'9") above floor finish, 760mm (2'6") clear at front edge, 685mm (2'3") clear at a point 205mm (8-1/8") back from front edge. Insulated pipes, lever type faucet handles without spring loading, if mirrors provided angled	33" above floor finish (AFF)	820-840mm (32-1/4-33"), knee space at least 760mm (30"), 685mm (27") at a point 205mm back from edge, 230mm (9") high over the distance from a point 280mm (11") to a point 430mm (17") back from the front edge. Hot water and drained pipes insulated if they about the clearances noted above. Mirror preferred full length, tilted are acceptable only in cases of retrofit to an existing building.	No more than 840mm (2'9") above floor finish, 760mm (2'6") clear at front edge, 685mm (2'3") clear at a point 205mm (8-1/8") back from front edge. Insulated pipes, lever type faucet handles without spring loading, if mirrors provided angled (no change)	No more than 840mm (2'9") above floor finish, 760mm (2'6") clear at front edge, 685mm (2'3") clear at a point 205mm (8-1/8") back from front edge. Insulated pipes, lever type faucet handles without spring loading, if mirrors provided angled (no change)
Accessory mounting height	Soap & Towel dispensers between 900- 1200mm (2'11"-3'11")AFF	53" AFF Correction/improvement recommended	Soap and Towel dispensers , dispensing height is not more than 1200mm (47-1/4")	Soap & Towel dispensers between 900- 1200mm (2'11"-3'11")AFF (no change)	Soap & Towel dispensers between 900- 1200mm (2'11"-3'11")AFF (no change)
Grab bars	760 mm at a 30-50 degree angle sloping upward away from toilet or L-shape with 760mm long horizontal and vertical components AND 600mm length mounted behind toilet. Slip resistance surface	Meets 2006 OBC requirements listed	One L-shape on the wall adjacent to the toilet 760mm (30") One on rear wall 610mm (24"). Be slip resistant.	760 mm at a 30-50 degree angle sloping upward away from toilet or L-shape with 760mm long horizontal and vertical components AND 600mm length mounted behind toilet. Slip resistance surface (no change)	Requires L-shape grab bar in all cases and removes option to provide a diagonal grab bar

1151 Beach Blvd. Rail Trail Washroom Location



A

1151 Beach Blvd. Rail Trail Washroom

B (Managed by Hamilton Conservation Authority)

Confederation Park - Beaches Concession & Picnic Area Washrooms

Confederation Park - Camp Central Pavilion

Confederation Park - Campground Office

Confederation Park - Edgewater Washroom Building

Confederation Park - Park Office

Confederation Park - Rental Resident

Confederation Park - Rental Resident At Campground

Confederation Park - Willow Cove Washrooms

Confederation Park - Workshop

Wild Water Works - Administration Building

Wild Water Works - Food Concession

Wild Water Works - Ice Cream Concession

Wild Water Works - Public Change Rooms

Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2015

Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities

Activities & Initiatives

(DRAFT)

Throughout the year, the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities (ACPD) and its sub-committees namely (Built Environment Sub-Committee (BESC) and Transportation Sub-Committee (TSC) undertook various consultations with staff and consultants with respect to the City's accessibility activities and initiatives, in addition to providing recommendation to staff and Council.

In 2015, ACPD recognized celebrated a significant milestone- the 20th Anniversary of Urban Braille, a 'Made in Hamilton' Initiative. Committee organized a successful event on June 6, 2015 to mark the 20th Anniversary of Urban Braille in Hamilton, as part of Disability Awareness Week. Committee established an Urban Braille Celebration Committee comprising of members of ACPD and the group worked closely with staff to coordinate the event. The celebration provided an opportunity for the public, to obtain valuable information about available resources, programs, services and opportunities, for persons with disabilities, and see the latest trends and adaptive equipment, new technologies, assistive devices and products.

Further regarding Urban Braille, ACPD consulted with representative from the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) to discuss Urban Braille; directed staff to examine the feasibility of installing Urban Braille on Centennial Parkway from Delawana Avenue to Queenston road; requested to be included in review of Urban Braille Policy and site selection and criteria for

Urban Braille implementation. ACPD put forth a recommendation that Urban Braille be installed when all new and significantly renovated sidewalks are being replaced. In addition, recommended that the City adhere to its “Sidewalk Policy” that there be pedestrian sidewalks built on both sides of the street and that Mountain Brow Road Reconstruction be built with sidewalks on both sides of the street for public safety and accessibility.

Subsequently, staff was directed to install Urban Braille on Centennial Parkway from 100m north of Queenston Road to Neil Avenue and that a budget in the amount of \$160,000 be provided for said project as negotiated between the City of Hamilton and New Alliance Ltd.- Other urban braille enhancements recommended include Centennial Parkway from King Street to Neil Avenue at a cost of \$356,000; South side of Queenston Road between 200m west of Centennial Parkway and Centennial Parkway at a cost of \$40,000; and Queenston Road between Centennial Parkway and Irene Avenue at a cost of \$30,000.

Another pertinent issue addressed by ACPD was regarding no primary access for HSR passengers to the entrances of the following Hamilton hospitals/healthcare facilities: St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton- Charlton Campus, St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton- King Campus, Hamilton General Hospital, Juravinski Hospital and St. Peter’s Hospital; entrance to each of these healthcare facilities requires persons using public transit to either negotiate steep and long pathways to gain main entrance access. Committee put forth and carried a motion requesting staff to initiate consultations with representatives of the Hamilton Health Sciences Corporation, St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton and ACPD to determine what steps can be taken to address the issue of barriered access for persons with disabilities to the above-mentioned healthcare locations and report to ACPD with the results of the consultation. Further pertaining to healthcare

services, ACPD recommended that the City and Hamilton Health Sciences investigate and consider partnership opportunities respecting Chedoke Campus, in support of the Provincial Long Term Housing Strategy and needed assisted-living accommodations in the current buildings to provide housing for people on wait lists for accessible and affordable units.

With respect to transportation services, ACPD reviewed Application forms for Accessible Transportation Services. ACPD recommended that ATS eligibility policy requirements for healthcare professionals follow MTO standards (i.e. accessible parking permits). Owen Quinn, Coordinator of Accessible Transportation Services, addressed committee respecting the current mechanisms and statistics regarding HSR complaints. Committee indicated that more clarity and specifics is required with respect to the categories. HSR Director also presented an overview of conventional and accessible services to committee. Committee provided feedback including Customer service and accessibility training for HSR drivers respecting to passengers who use mobility devices; External bus announcements and audible bus stops and installation of cameras. ATS performance report was also discussed. Committee also received presentation from Community Access to Transportation staff from Salvation Army Lawson Ministries Hamilton regarding an update on the current status of the City funded Bus Training Program. Taxi service was also a key issue and committee discussed the impact that Uber Taxi Service may have on taxi services for persons with disabilities.

Housing Services Division staff presented to committee respecting the Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy, vision and goals of the strategy, sustainable supply of affordable housing, a fair system of assistance, coordinated and accessible support, consultation plan and timelines for the strategy renewal. In

response, committee requested a clear definition of 'accessible', creating a registry or inventory of existing and available accessible units within the City; Increased communications between Public Health agencies to ensure consistency of information; Determination of percentage of accessible social housing; Having minimum guidelines or standards at the provincial and city levels; Increasing the number of large units for couples and families; Review of over-housing policies; Review of the prioritization or case management of waiting lists for social housing; Ensuring functionality for residents with respect to design and equipment needs; Increasing the amount of conversion-ready units throughout the City of Hamilton; Reviewing occupancy standards for social housing respecting the size and type of unit and increasing the target for accessible housing from 10% to 15%. Members also discussed accessibility of social housing units and suggested a mapping tool to map items such as accessible transit, shopping locations, medical facilities and geographical terrain.

Recreation staff presented to committee the City's Recreation Inclusion Strategy noting the following Accessible facilities, inclusive program and sport adapted programs, specialized sports; Inclusion policies and procedures such as behaviour management lift/transfer procedure and support worker training; Partnership development- yoga, parasport partnerships, reduced rental rates; Lift equipment, increased swim options for children and youth with disabilities and Public awareness campaign.

Committee also discussed the Stop Gap Ramp Initiative report put together by staff in consultation with several users and suppliers of those ramps to review the stop gap initiative. Ottawa Street BIA would act as a pilot for the project- report referred to BESC. Committee also reviewed outstanding committee business list including review of the process for parking permits

for home caregivers; Re-design and Re-construction of outdoor handrails at Hamilton City Hall; Improving accessibility in municipal elections; Student employment for 2018 municipal election; Safe operation of personal mobility devices and challenging Ramp at Main Street Courthouse for those with mobility units and devices.

ACPD received and responded to several correspondences in 2015 including Senior Advisor Accessibility Metrolinx- Antonia Hammer respecting expanding Go Train Service levels to the Niagara Peninsula- New Memorandum of Understanding for Paratransit Eligibility; correspondence from Assistant Deputy Minister- Ann Hoy from the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario respecting an update on the second legislative review of AODA was received. Committee put forward a motion requesting that the Ontario Government consider the appropriate legislative amendments to the Municipal Act, 2001 to permit telephone or video conference participating by appointed members of municipal accessibility advisory committees required by the AODA, 2001 with the understanding that participation for anyone with a disability will be provided in a manner that is fully accessible to that person. Copy was forwarded to the Council for the Town of Richmond Hill.

A member of the Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee (Arthur Rendall) provided committee with an overview of Text with 9-1-1 and his advocacy efforts relating to the initiative. Committee discussed the initiative and requested that Council review Text with 9-1-1 implementation for the City in the upcoming capital budget process, in efforts to assist those who are deaf, hard-at-hearing or speech impaired, as mandated January 2014 by the CRTC. Committee also requested that ACPD be part of the continued consultation process alongside consultation of relevant community organizations.

Committee responded to a Call for AODA Success Stories from the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario, marking the AODA 10th Anniversary and established a working group formed to address this matter. Committee members and Access & Equity Director (Cindy Mercanti) and Manager (Maxine Carter) attended the recognition event on May 13, 2015, where ACPD member T. Wallis made a presentation highlighting Hamilton's success in implementing many AODA regulations ahead of schedule including Low floor buses, wheelchair ramps at front and rear doors and two wheelchair compartments; Improved accessibility of bus destination signs; Voluntary fares for passengers who use mobility devices; Expanding number of accessible bus stops; Increased ACPD input concerning new bus purchases; Expanding installations of Urban Braille throughout the City; Implementation of on-demand wheelchair accessible taxis and Availability of Taxi Script, a payment option for qualified passengers with disabilities. Committee put forward a nomination on behalf of Chair, Aznive Mallet for the AODA 10th Anniversary Champion Award and the bid was successful.

In compliance with the new term of Council, Committee made the following Chair and Vice-Chair appointment. A. Mallet reappointed as Chair of ACPD for 2014-2018 term of Council. P. Kilburn appointed as Vice Chair of ACPD for 2014-2018 term of Council. New Chairs and Vice Chairs appointed to BESC and TSC, along with new members appointed to BESC and TSC for 2014-2018 term of Council. ACPD terms of reference were reviewed and orientation conducted for the new term. ACPD terms of reference, work plan and budget assessment working group for 2016 were established. Integrated standards working group and Built-environment working group established and members appointed. Committee discussed accessibility for those with hearing

impairments and efforts to extend invitation to attend ACPD meetings.

Built-Environment Sub-Committee Activities and Initiatives

The Built-Environment Sub-Committee (BESC) addressed several key issues during the past year including Accessible Pedestrian Signals, Accessible Housing, Urban Braille and sidewalks. With respect to Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS), committee reviewed the new list of APS locations for 2015 and provided input to staff. To date there are 30 accessible pedestrian signals installed and working. Committee also assisted staff with drafting public education material and training tools on how to use APS, using simple language and in accessible format.

Committee also continued its ongoing discussion regarding accessible social housing accessibility, affordability, location and long waiting list. Other matters discussed relating to transportation were deficiencies at the MacNab Bus stop terminals, bus stop audit and bus stop design and features. Committee submitted a deficiency report to staff with respect to the MacNab bus stop terminal and to date many of the deficiencies have been addressed. Staff also consulted with BESC about bus stop audit, bus stop design and features. Respecting bus stop designs, committee recommended that the A & B bus shelters use a solid yellow line (bright yellow colour) with a darker blue line underneath the yellow line to provide contrast necessary (from yellow to blue and blue to yellow) so that both lines can be seen. New proposed tactile strips were also reviewed and members encouraged to visit locations where the new plates are installed.

In 2015, BESC members conducted tours of various City facilities including the City Hall, Chedoke multi-purpose facility, deLottinville Park, Westmount recreation centre, 690 Stone Church Road West Seniors Building and Tim Horton's Stadium. Tour reports including identified deficiencies and recommendations were completed for each tour and supported to appropriate City division and staff for further action. Some of the deficiencies identified were automatic door openers, elevator buttons, decals on glass doors, railings, washroom stall handles, grab bars, urban braille, wheelchair accessible entrance and colour contrast. Some of the deficiencies have been rectified, while others are pending action from staff. Committee also reviewed the list of current capital projects for 2015 and selected some to review for accessibility. BESC is also still serving as a key stakeholder for the City's Barrier-Free Design Guidelines review process, which is currently underway. Committee will continue to provide oversight and feedback for the duration of the project.

In addition to celebrating the 20th Anniversary of Urban Braille in Hamilton on June 6 with great success, BESC also discussed the issue of Urban Braille extensively within the past year. BESC made several recommendations to Council through ACPD including that urban braille system be installed when all new and significantly renovated sidewalks are being replaced. Also, that urban braille is included in new design for bus stops. More specifically, BESC proposed installation of urban braille on Centennial parkway between Delawana drive and Queenston Road. The issue of sidewalks were also addressed and BESC recommended to Council through ACPD that the City adheres to its policy that there shall be pedestrian sidewalks built on both sides of the street, for public safety and accessibility. Committee further reviewed the City's Urban Braille policy and requested to

be consulted when sites are being selected for Urban Braille installation.

BESC welcomed new members in 2015 and selected a chair and vice chair for the 2014-2018 term of Council. Committee also reviewed and discussed the BESC terms of reference.

Transportation Sub-Committee Activities and Initiatives

Transportation Sub-Committee (TSC) focused largely on matters relating to Accessible Transportation Services, DART, HSR, Metrolinx and bus features and design. ATS presented the 2014 year-end report highlighting increase in number of DARTS trips, increase in number of taxi trips scheduled, rates of on-time performance and trip denial rate. Members also reviewed the HSR 10 year local transit strategy. ATS advised that HSR staff have developed a model anti-slip securement device for mobility aids. Device will be installed on HSR buses for a trial basis and members requested to test the anti-slip securement device for mobility aids.

ATS also confirmed to committee that chiropractors, chiropodists and podiatrists be added to the list of healthcare professionals who can complete and/or sign ATS application forms. HSR staff updated committee on the branding and marketing initiative for Transportation and noted ENTRO Communications has been hired to complete this work. It was also reported that the new HSR bus signage (white coloured 24 dot matrix LED technology) complies with AODA. Committee also reviewed the DARTS User Guide and policies. Committee also reviewed the DARTS User Guide and policies.

TSC members were invited to participate in the Transit Accessibility Public meeting between Metrolinx and HSR/ATS to discuss issues pertaining to Go Transit, Presto, HSR and ATS-DARTS. Members also attended Hamilton Transportation Summit 2015 which was primarily focused on alternative transportation such as cycling. Other issues discussed by TSC included taxi service for persons with disabilities, university and college student transit passes, and the MV-1 vehicle. Appropriate staff will be invited to present to committee in the coming year with respect to the above-mentioned matters.

TSC welcomed new members in 2015 and selected a chair and vice chair for the 2014-2018 term of Council. Committee also reviewed and discussed the TSC terms of reference.