



City of Kingston
Report to the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee
Report Number MAAC-15-007

To: Chair and Members of the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee

From: Lanie Hurdle, Commissioner, Community Services

Resource Staff: Cheryl Hitchen, Manager, Social Policy & Strategic Community Development

Date of Meeting: April 2, 2015

Subject: MAAC Working Groups

Executive Summary:

In 2010, Council approved three Working Groups (Built Environment, Communication & Employment and Transportation) to explore specific issues. These working groups were important to address the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) regulations as they became available over the past five years.

In order to move forward and utilize the expertise of MAAC members as effectively as possible, it is being proposed that the Transportation and Communication & Education working groups be disbanded and a new working group be formed called "Awareness and Education" with a mandate as described in the report. In addition, the mandate of the Built Environment Working Group has been updated.

Recommendation:

That the Transportation Working Group and the Communication & Employment Working Group of the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee be disbanded; and

That the Built Environment Working Group mandate be updated as described in MAAC Report Number 15-007; and

That a new "Awareness and Education" Working Group be established with a mandate as described in MAAC Report Number 15-007.

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Authorizing Signatures:

Lanie Hurdle, Commissioner, Community Services

Gerard Hunt, Chief Administrative Officer

Consultation with the following Members of the Corporate Management Team:

Cynthia Beach, Corporate & Strategic Initiatives	Not required
Denis Leger, Transportation, Facilities & Emergency Services	Not required
Jim Keech, President and CEO, Utilities Kingston	Not required
Desiree Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer & City Treasurer	Not required

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Options/Discussion:

In 2010, the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee undertook some planning and priority setting activities facilitated by Rob Wood, CEO/President of 8020Info Inc. As a result of this work, a proposal went to Council on February 18, 2010 to establish three working groups: Built Environment, Communications and Employment, and Transportation. Subsequently, on March 23, 2010, Council approved the mandates for these three working groups (Exhibit A).

Since 2010, these working groups have done excellent work supporting the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee achieve its mandate as required by the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 (ODA).

However, with the passing of a number of provincial regulations and continued oversight by the Province in compliance with legislations, it is being proposed that changes be made to the working groups.

The Transportation Working Group was focused on the Transportation standards and the implementation of projects involving transportation, including Kingston Transit, Kingston Access Services and accessible taxis. MAAC will continue to meet annually with Kingston Transit as they are required to hold an annual public meeting relating to accessibility. Other specific initiatives relating to transportation will have MAAC project teams assigned as outlined in the Accessibility Consultation Process Policy (July 2014). Therefore, it is being recommended that this working group be disbanded.

The Built Environment Working Group has a mandate for site plan reviews, as required in Section 41 of the *Planning Act*, taking part in project teams as they relate to the built environment and advising on the Facility Accessibility Design Standards (FADS). It is recommended that this working group continue but their mandate be updated and expanded to include the new Design of Public Spaces regulation.

The Communications and Employment Working Group was focused on the Accessible Customer Service Standard and the Integrated Accessibility Standard Regulation as it related to employment. It is recommended that this working group be disbanded and replaced with a working group with a broader mandate that includes public awareness and education.

The new proposed mandates for the Built Environment Working Group and the Awareness and Education Working Groups are attached as Exhibit B.

Existing Policy/By-Law:

Not applicable

Notice Provisions:

Not applicable

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Accessibility Considerations:

All of the activities of MAAC are guided by the ODA (2001), AODA (2005) and municipal accessibility policies and procedures.

Financial Considerations:

Not applicable

Contacts:

Cheryl Hitchen, Manager, Social Policy & Strategic Community Development 613-546-4291 extension 4806

Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:

Not applicable

Exhibits Attached:

Exhibit A Mandates of Existing MAAC Working Groups

Exhibit B Mandates of Proposed MAAC Working Groups

Exhibit A

Current MAAC Working Group Mandates (Approved by Council March 23, 2010)

Working Group Name: Built Environment

Reporting To: Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee (MAAC)

Composition (as appointed by MAAC): Six (6) members to a maximum of seven (7) members

Term of Appointment: One year term

Mandate/Terms of Reference:

- To advise MAAC on the requirements and implementation of the Built Environment Standard as it becomes law;
- To review in a timely manner the site plans and drawings described in Section 41 of the *Planning Act*;
- To provide to MAAC a member or members of the Built Environment Working Group to be part of any Project Team initiated by staff involving a building, structure or premises, or part of a building, structure or premises that the City purchases, constructs or significantly renovates or enters into a new lease;
- To advise MAAC on the City of Kingston Facility Accessible Design Standard (FADS) document as required;
- To provide notes of each meeting for inclusion on the MAAC agenda; and
- To advise MAAC on its priorities regarding Built Environment.

Working Group Name: Communications and Employment

Reporting To: Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee (MAAC)

Composition (as appointed by MAAC): Four (4) members to a maximum of seven (7) members

Term of Appointment: One year term

Mandate/Terms of Reference:

- To advise MAAC on the requirements of the Accessible Customer Service Standard and on the implementation of the Information and Communication Standard and the Employment Standard as they become available;
- To provide to MAAC a member or members of the Communications and Employment Working Group to be part of any Project Team initiated by staff involving communications;
- To provide notes of each meeting for inclusion on the MAAC agenda; and
- To advise MAAC on its priorities regarding Communications and Employment.

Working Group Name: Transportation

Reporting To: Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee (MAAC)

Composition (as appointed by MAAC): Four (4) members to a maximum of seven (7) members

Term of Appointment: One year term

Mandate/Terms of Reference:

- To advise MAAC on the requirements and implementation of the Transportation Standard as it becomes available;
- To provide to MAAC a member or members of the Transportation Working Group to be part of any Project Team initiated by staff involving transportation, including City Transit, Kingston Access Bus and Accessible Taxis, etc.;
- To provide notes of each meeting for inclusion on the MMC agenda; and
- To advise MAAC on its priorities regarding Transportation.

Exhibit B

Proposed Mandates for MAAC Working Groups – April 2015

Working Group Name: Built Environment Working Group

Reporting To: Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee (MAAC)

Composition (as appointed by MAAC): Seven (7) members

Term of Appointment: One year term

Mandate/Terms of Reference:

- To advise MAAC on the requirements of Ontario Regulation 191/11 Part IV.1 Design of Public Spaces Standard;
- To review in a timely manner the site plans and drawing described in Section 41 of the *Planning Act*;
- To make reasonable effort to provide at least one member of the working group to be part of any MAAC project team initiated by staff involving a building, structure or premises, or part of a building, structure or premises that the City purchases, constructs or significantly renovates or enters into a new lease;
- To advise MAAC on the City of Kingston Facility Design Standard (FADS);
- To provide a written update to MAAC on a quarterly basis on the work of the working group; and
- Staff support shall be provided as appropriate.

Working Group Name: Awareness and Education Working Group

Reporting To: Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee (MAAC)

Composition (as appointed by MAAC): Five (5) members

Term of Appointment: One year term

Mandate/Terms of Reference:

- To enhance public awareness about accessibility through the development and delivery of public events and campaigns including the annual Access Awards on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities;
- To provide educational opportunities for staff beyond the legislated training requirements to enhance their understanding and improve customer service skills; and
- Staff support shall be provided as appropriate.