



**PUBLIC AGENDA  
SASKATOON ACCESSIBILITY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Friday, September 11, 2015, 12:00 p.m.  
Committee Room E, Ground Floor, City Hall  
Committee Members:

Mr. R. East, Chair  
Mr. J.D. McNabb, Vice-Chair  
Councillor C. Clark  
Councillor M. Loewen  
Ms. J. Dawson  
Ms. G. Kozlow  
Ms. O. Nicholson  
Ms. M. Baxter

Director of Community Development L. Lacroix  
Director of Facilities & Fleet Management T. Halstead

Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Recommendation

That the agenda be confirmed as presented.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Recommendation

That the minutes of Regular Meeting of the Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee held on June 12, 2015 be adopted.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. COMMUNICATIONS

5.1 Saskatoon Chapter of Alliance for Equality of Blind Canadians (AEBC) - Accessibility Issues (File CK. 100-17)

4 - 6

*Verbal presentation - Mike Simmons, Vice President, Sasaktoon Chapter AEBC*

The Standing Policy Committee on Finance at its meeting held August 17, 2015, considered the attached letter from Ms. Judy Prociuk, Saskatoon

Chapter of AEBC (Alliance for Equality of Blind Canadians), regarding accessibility issues.

As background information, attached is a resolution package from minutes of meeting of the above mentioned, the Committee resolved that the matter be referred to the Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee for further discussion and report back to a future meeting of the appropriate Standing Policy Committee.

**Recommendation**

That the direction of Committee issue.

**6. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION**

**6.1 Report of Access Transit Manager (File No. CK. 225-70)**

*Verbal Update - B. Howe*

**Recommendation**

That the information be received.

**7. TAXI SERVICE FOR THE DISABLE (File CK. 307-1)**

*Verbal Update - R. East*

**Recommendation**

That the direction of Committee issue.

**8. MATTERS FOR FOLLOW UP**

7 - 10

Matters for follow up as of June 12, 2015. Attached is a copy of the Committee's follow-up list for review.

**Recommendation**

1. That the Committee issue direction with respect to any follow-up item; and
2. That the information be received.

**9. STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES**

11 - 11

Attached is a current Statement of Expenditures.

The Committee determined at its June meeting to further discuss initiatives related to its budget.

**Recommendation**

That the direction of the Committee issue.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**PUBLIC RESOLUTION  
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**Main Category:** 6.     **COMMUNICATIONS (requiring the direction of the Committee)**

**Sub-Category:** 6.3   **Requests to Speak (new matters)**

**Item:**            6.3.1   **Saskatoon Chapter of Alliance for Equality of Blind Canadians (AEBC) - Accessibility Issues (File No. CK. 100-17)**

**Date:**             **August 17, 2015**

*Any material considered at the meeting regarding this time is appended to this resolution package.*

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Mr. Mike Simmons, Vice President, Saskatoon Chapter, AEBC, addressed the Committee regarding accessibility issues. He requested that audible pedestrian signals be automatic with no requirement to press a button, which is difficult for those who are sight challenged. Mr. Simmons expressed his appreciation to Saskatoon Transit regarding the program which announces bus stops automatically. He inquired when new parking meters would be placed on permanent pads as the temporary spots can cause mobility issues. Mr. Simmons also spoke regarding taxis and asked that laws in place in Ottawa be looked at as an example with regard to rules and regulations for taxi drivers to assist in providing better service for people with visual impairments.

General Manager, Community Services Grauer addressed questions regarding progress in relocation of parking meters to their permanent position. An update report will be provided to the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation.

**Moved By:** Councillor Clark

That the matter be referred to the Accessibility Advisory Committee for further discussion and report back to a future meeting of the appropriate Standing Policy Committee.

In Favour:   Councillor Paulsen, Councillor Iwanchuk, Councillor Clark and Councillor Olauson

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

June 22, 2015

Mayor, Don Atchison  
City Hall  
222-3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. N  
Saskatoon, Sk. S7K OJ5

Ms. Judy Prociuk  
134 Silverwood Road  
Saskatoon, Sk. S7K 5R7

His Worship the Mayor & City council:

I am writing on behalf of the Saskatoon Chapter of AEBC to request a meeting with the Mayor, Don Atchison, and any interested city council members to discuss issues that impact on the lives of blind, deaf/blind & partially sighted citizens of Saskatoon. Alliance for Equality of Blind Canadians (AEBC), is a National organization of Canadians who are Blind, Deaf/Blind and partially sighted, who are working together to increase awareness of common issues and to advocate for greater opportunities for full and equal access to all Public services and benefits available in Canadian Society.

At our annual general meeting, held on June 6, 2015, it was agreed that we ask for a meeting to discuss certain accessibility issues, failing this we would be prepared to make a presentation before city council.

On the City of Saskatoon web page, there are listed City initiatives addressing Accessibility issues.

**“Regular Transit – installing automated voice technology to call out bus stops for patrons who are visually impaired”**

We were told several years ago that bus drivers would call out stops on transit buses until the technology has been installed, this is still not happening on a consistent basis.

### **Taxi service in Saskatoon**

Since the City of Saskatoon licenses taxi drivers, it is incumbent upon the city to enforce the rules and regulations that are laid out before taxi drivers are licensed. Our members consistently have had problems with taxi drivers who have no knowledge of the city, very limited language skills, customers being taken to incorrect addresses & drivers refusing to transport service animals.

We are pleased that the city of Saskatoon is taking initiatives to improve access for all its citizens including the disabled; however, the new parking meters being located in the downtown core are proving to be major barriers for independent travel for blind, deaf/blind and partially sighted pedestrians.

**Audible pedestrian signals:**

We appreciate the audible pedestrian signal (APS) which are being installed in Saskatoon, but in many cases the audible component cannot be heard and there is still the necessity to push buttons to engage a signal in the downtown core.

In closing, I trust that you will give due consideration to our request, as tax paying citizens of Saskatoon, we have the same rights to equal access to the benefits and opportunities of society.

Respectfully submitted;

Judith Prociuk, Secretary/treasurer

Saskatoon Chapter AEBC



	<p><b>Snow Removal</b></p>	<p>the Accessibility Advisory Committee for its information.          Sep 14/12 – Rec’d update from P. Bracken, IS</p> <p>Oct 10/14 – E. Quail (Rdway Manager, Public Works) &amp; A. Gardiner (Dir. of Transportation) gave updates on snow removal winter 2014 targets &amp; snow removal bylaw enforcement.</p>	<p>enforcement of clearing of snow on private lots.          Sep/12 – Memo sent to GM, IS requesting short summary fact sheet on the snow removal program and bylaw enforcement related to snow removal.          Nov/12 – IS will be asked to provide update on bylaw enforcement at a future meeting.          Jan/13 – general updates given to Committee.          Jan/13 – Detailed report expected before budget deliberations.          (May/13 – Sidewalk Clearing Bylaw discussed at June 2013 meeting.)          Oct/13 – Reports forthcoming – city-wide &amp; sidewalk clearing – to be distributed to Committee once public.          Jan/14 - ongoing          Mar/14 – requested update from Administration          May/14 – J. Patel provided update          Sept 12/14 – Committee Assistant to verify with the Administration if an update is to be provided for the Fall 2014. Committee Assistant will report back to the Committee on this matter.          Nov 14/14 - No update.          Jan 9/15 – Dir. of Transportation Gardiner and Dir. of Community Standards Hildebrandt gave an update on snow removal bylaw enforcement report.          Feb 13/15 – Dir. of Community Standards Hildebrandt gave an update on sidewalk snow clearing enforcement report being presented to City Council at their Feb. 23/15 mtg.          Mar 13/15 – Dir. of Community Services Lacroix informed the Committee that awareness campaigns continue to be worked on in order to help make the city more accessible for everyone. The City also understands that they have to be role models by ensuring snow is being removed from City-owned property.          May 8/15 – Email from M. Simmonds was discussed. No further updates were provided.          Jun 12/15 – Dir. of Community Standards Hildebrandt gave a brief update on the snow clearing bylaw similar to what was presented to the</p>
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			Committee in Feb. 2015.
Jan/12	<b>Disabled Parking</b>	Jan/12 – Phil Haughn spoke to committee about changes in downtown parking.	<p>Follow up as information available.</p> <p>Mar/13 – P. Haughn asked to provide update.</p> <p>May/13 – No update yet; projected for fall.</p> <p>Oct/13 – RFP for upgrade of parking equipment</p> <p>Nov 4/13 – RFP to Council</p> <p>Jan/14 – RFP for parking meters closing soon</p> <p>Mar/14 – request for update from Administration</p> <p>Apr/14 – RFP not yet closed</p> <p>June/14 – Request to Admin to update in fall 2014</p> <p>Sept 13/14 - Secretary to confirm that Administration (Phil Haughn) will provide an update in fall 2014. Secretary will report back to the Committee on this matter.</p> <p>Sept 12/14 – Committee Assistant to request Administration provide information on allocation of disabled parking spots for medical offices. Phil Haughn will report to the Committee on this matter at the Oct 2014 meeting.</p> <p>Nov 14/14 – Request to Admin to update on new parking policy in 2015.</p> <p>Jan 9/15 – Parking issues/concerns are to be addressed to Community Standards Division. Parking policies are being reviewed through the 2015 Parking Study.</p> <p>Feb 13/15 – No update.</p> <p>Mar 13/15 – There are a few glitches with the new system that are being rectified. Max. time currently allowed to park is 90 mins., meters work by inputting the vehicle license, payment at the meters can be cash, credit card or PayPal, parking ambassadors are patrolling the streets to assist the public with the operation of the new meters.</p> <p>May 8/15 – G. Kozlow circulated a Star Phoenix article on the shortage of downtown disabled parking. It was suggested to invite parking services administration for an update.</p> <p>Jun 12/15 – Dir. of Community Standards Hildebrandt provided an update on the intent of future to accessibility spots and their size, loading zones, and a review of the permit parking policy. Administration welcomes</p>
	<b>Disabled Parking</b>	<p>Oct 10/14 – P. Haughn gave update on permit parking (Apr 2015 smart cards to be issued). Medical parking spots issued based on user demand. Additional spots looking to be allocated.</p>	

			feedback from the public on any parking services project.
	<b>Accessible Calling Out Bus Stops</b>		<p>Follow up as appropriate.</p> <p>Mar/13 – Pilot of 30 buses complete, entire fleet to be equipped. J. Robinson to report further re implementation plan.</p> <p>May/13 – Operators were not consistently calling out stops, further education was provided; situation improving.</p> <p>Sep/13 – Letter of Agreement Signed between City of Saskatoon Transit and Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission</p> <p>Oct/13 – not all operators calling out stops</p> <p>Jan/14 – all buses to be equipped with Intelligent Transportation System by May 2014</p> <p>May/14 – most buses outfitted with new equipment</p> <p>June/14 – equipment installed, smart phone app ready by fall</p> <p>Sept 12/14 – No update.</p> <p>Oct 10/14 – No update.</p> <p>Nov 14/14 – No update.</p> <p>Jan 9/15 – No update.</p> <p>Feb 13/15 – No update.</p> <p>Mar 13/15 – All buses are now part of the new tracking system implemented due to the new City website. Some staff continues to not call out bus stops.</p> <p>May 8/15 – Access Transit Manager Howe was updated on staff inconsistencies with calling out bus stops.</p> <p>Jun 12/15 – No update.</p>
	<b>Accessible Calling Out Bus Stops</b>		

Updated June 2015

01-5576-103 ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE - Budget - \$3,000

JCN	Type	Date	Doc#	Trx Ctr#	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance	Budget Remaining
					Beginning Balance			0	\$3,000
JCN217125	AP	2015/04/14	AP1897189	AP1897189	APB90359 R547613 SASK DEAF & HARD OF HEARING SERVICES - Computerized Notetaking Services for Member	75	0	75	
JCN217308	CC	2015/04/28	CC011755	JCN217308	APB90079 R541965 SK DEAF/HARD HEARING SERVICES - Computerized Notetaking Services for Member	90	0	90	
					April Total	165	0	165	\$2,835
Ending Balance, July/2015								165	\$2,835