

Additions & Corrections to the Agenda

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

Deputations/Presentations

Approval of Minutes

1. Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes of June 18, 2015. p. 1

Items for Discussion

2. Correspondence from the Vaughan Citizen dated August 26, 2015 regarding Vaughan ramping up accessible transportation options. p. 6

3. 2016 Schedule of Meetings p. 7

Recommendation:

a) THAT the 2016 Schedule of Meetings be approved.

4. Annual Accessibility Plan Update. (Report to be distributed when available)

Recommendations:

a) THAT the 2015 Annual Accessibility Plan Update be received;

b) AND THAT the 2015 Annual Accessibility Plan Update be forwarded to Council for consideration.

5. Accessibility Advisory Committee Workplan p. 8

New Business

Adjournment

The meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, June 18, 2015 in Mulock Room, 395 Mulock Drive, Newmarket.

Members Present: Councillor Bisanz (10:20 a.m. to 12:01 p.m.)
Gloria Couves (10:09 to 11:47 a.m.)
Steve Foglia
Linda Jones
Jeremy Slessor
Richard Wilson

Absent: Michael Morrison

Staff Present: L. Lyons, Deputy Clerk
M. Goodwin, Capital Projects Coordinator
B. Gould, Capital Projects Coordinator
C. Finnerty, Council/Committee Coordinator
T. Horton, AMCTO Intern
P. McIntosh, Recreation Programmer

The Deputy Clerk called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

The Deputy Clerk suggested that the selection of a Chair and Vice-Chair should take place before further agenda items are considered.

1. Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair.

The Deputy Clerk opened the floor for nominations for Chair.

Moved by: Linda Jones
Seconded by: Jeremy Slessor

THAT Steve Foglia be appointed as Chair.

Carried

The Deputy Clerk opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chair.

Moved by: Steve Foglia

Seconded by: Gloria Couves

THAT Linda Jones be appointed as Vice-Chair.

Carried

Steve Foglia in the Chair.

Additions & Corrections to the Agenda

None.

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

None.

Deputations/Presentations

None.

Approval of Minutes

2. Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes of September 4, 2014.

Moved by: Gloria Couves

Seconded by: Jeremy Slessor

THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes of September 4, 2014 be approved.

Carried

Items for Discussion

3. Appointments to the Site Plan Review Committee.

Moved by: Jeremy Slessor

Seconded by: Linda Jones

THAT Richard Wilson be appointed to the Site Plan Review Committee.

Carried

4. Schedule of Meetings.

The Committee discussed the 2015 Schedule of Meetings as distributed and suggested that amendments be made to adjust the August and December dates.

Moved by: Jeremy Slessor

Seconded by: Richard Wilson

- a) THAT the 2015 meeting dates be as follows:

i) September 17, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

ii) November 19, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

- b) AND THAT meetings be scheduled at the Magna Centre where possible.

Carried

5. Discussion regarding a proposed sidewalk on Millard Avenue.

Mr. Bill Gould, Capital Projects Coordinator provided a verbal report regarding proposed sidewalk installations on Millard Avenue and Srigley Street and summarized timelines and challenges associated with each construction project.

6. Discussion regarding a proposed additional accessible parking space on Main Street between Timothy Street and Botsford Street.

Ms. Meredith Goodwin, Capital Projects Coordinator provided a verbal report regarding accessible parking on Main Street. Discussion ensued regarding accessibility requirements for parking spaces, potential locations and curb cuts at accessible spaces.

Moved by: Gloria Couves
 Seconded by: Jeremy Slessor

THAT the proposed accessible space on Main Street be supported by the Accessibility Advisory Committee;

AND THAT curb cuts be constructed adjacent to the accessible on-street parking space.

Carried

7. Discussion regarding National Access Awareness Week and 2016 events.

P. McIntosh provided a verbal update regarding the 2015 National Access Awareness Week (NAAW) planning and events. The Chair advised that in past, the Committee has formed a subcommittee to work on NAAW and recommended that the subcommittee be formed at the September meeting.

8. Accessibility Advisory Committee Workplan.

The Committee discussed the Accessibility Advisory Committee Workplan from the past term and matters referred to this term of Council. Discussion ensued regarding the Stop Gap project, an annual Accessibility Award, hosting the York Region Area Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting, amendments to the Municipal Act for offsite meetings, accessible taxi cabs, closed captioning and future action items.

New Business

- a) The AMCTO Intern provided a verbal update on the Outdoor Patio Project on Main Street, including applications, accessibility and parking implications.

Adjournment

Moved by: Linda Jones
Seconded by: Jeremy Slessor

THAT the meeting adjourn.

Carried

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Date

Steve Foglia, Chair

Aug 26, 2015 | [Vote](#) 0 [Comments](#) 0

Vaughan ramping up accessible transportation options

Vaughan Citizen

By Adam Martin-Robbins [✉](#)

There's some long-awaited good news for wheelchair users who don't drive and thus rely on accessible modes of transportation to help them get around town.

The city, earlier this month, issued an accessible taxi licence to a cabbie with Concord-based Astro Taxi who has a vehicle with a rear ramp.

It's the first time such a licence has been handed out in more than a decade and a second one is expected to be issued next month, with plans for even more to be rolled out in the future, according to city officials.

Woodbridge resident Randy McNeil, who has been wheelchair-bound for almost 10 years, is pleased by the news.

He says the aging population has driven up demand for York Region's Mobility Plus service — the main provider of accessible transportation to people with disabilities — and it's become difficult to book a ride, especially on short notice.

"You can't always schedule your rides and then get a ride because of the number of seniors populating our mobility buses now," he said. "It's just becoming increasingly more difficult to use the services. If you need a taxi, and you try to get one, you're out of luck."

Mobility Plus users typically have to book a ride at least a day before their trip.

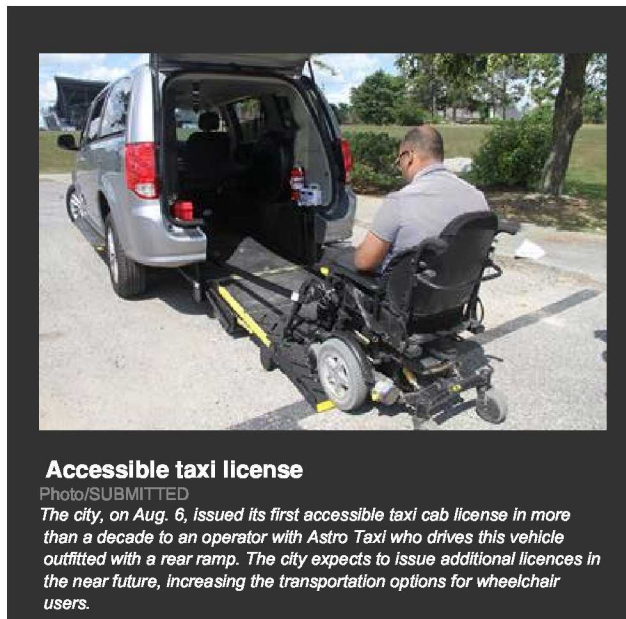
There is a same-day service, known as Scrip Ride, for people with those who have to take a last-minute or unplanned trip, but only a limited number of vehicles are available.

Issuing accessible licences to private taxi operators gives wheelchair users greater flexibility when it comes to getting where they need to go, says Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua.

"We take pride in the excellent quality of life our residents enjoy and truly believe that an enlightened city is an inclusive city, where everyone is equally valued and appreciated," he said. "Providing accessible taxis is part of our goal to create an accessible community by 2025 and demonstrated our commitment to moving this city forward without leaving anyone behind."

Wheelchair accessible cabs differ from regular taxis in that they offer ramp or lift access from the passenger side or rear of the vehicle. Those operating accessible cabs must also undergo specialized training.

While Astro Taxi holds the new accessible licence, all other taxi brokerages operating in Vaughan can forward requests for an accessible cab to Astro.



Accessible taxi license

Photo/SUBMITTED

The city, on Aug. 6, issued its first accessible taxi cab license in more than a decade to an operator with Astro Taxi who drives this vehicle outfitted with a rear ramp. The city expects to issue additional licences in the near future, increasing the transportation options for wheelchair users.

Accessibility Advisory Committee

Meeting Schedule for 2016

Date/Time/Location
Thursday, January 21 – 10:00 a.m. Mulock Room
Thursday, March 17 – 10:00 a.m. Magna Centre
Thursday, May 19 – 10:00 a.m. Magna Centre
Thursday, July 21 – 10:00 a.m. Magna Centre
Thursday, September 15 – 10:00 a.m. Magna Centre
Thursday, November 17 – 10:00 a.m. Magna Centre

Project Description		Priority	Link to Council's Strategic Priorities and/or Corporate Strategic Goals	Target for Completion	Status
1.	Public Awareness Campaign		Community Engagement i. Engaging our changing resident demographics Well-balanced • Increased accessibility for persons with disabilities	Ongoing	
2.	StopGap Ramp Project • Initiate a community ramp project with local businesses to prevent physical barriers		Well-balanced • Increased accessibility for persons with disabilities		June 18, 2015 Tyler Barker to be invited to a future AAC Meeting to provide information on the project.
3.	Annual Accessibility Award(s) • Creation of an award for presentation during National Access Awareness Week		Community Engagement i. Engaging our changing resident demographics Well-balanced • Increased accessibility for persons with disabilities		
4.	York Region Area Accessibility Advisory Committee • Newmarket to host a meeting of all York Region AAC Committees		Well-balanced • Increased accessibility for persons with disabilities	2016	
5.	<i>Municipal Act, 2001</i> Amendments • Proposal to amend the <i>Municipal Act</i> to permit alternate forms of meeting attendance (for example Skype, video conferencing, alternate treatments to permit flexibility)		Community Engagement i. Engaging our changing resident demographics Well-balanced • Increased accessibility for persons with disabilities		September 22, 2014 Councillor Twinney made a motion requesting amendments to the <i>Municipal Act</i> which was ratified by Council on September 29, 2014.

Project Description		Priority	Link to Council's Strategic Priorities and/or Corporate Strategic Goals	Target for Completion	Status
6.	Accessibility Audit of Town Facilities		Well-balanced <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased accessibility for persons with disabilities 		June 18, 2015 List of facilities that require audits has been compiled.
7.	Accessible Taxi Cabs		Well-balanced <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased accessibility for persons with disabilities 		June 18, 2015 The Deputy Clerk to provide ongoing updates on the Town's efforts to secure accessible taxi services.