

CITY OF
LANGLEY



MINUTES OF THE ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
20399 Douglas Crescent

Thursday, May 7, 2026
AT 4:30 PM

- Present: Councillor Delaney Mack, Chair
Councillor Leith White, Co-Chair
Kirsten McKitterick, Representative of a Person with Disabilities
Ron Bergen, Senior Representative
Ty Ankerholm, Inclusion Langley Representative
Steven Chappell, Representative of a Person with Disabilities
Robert Bordt, Representative of a Person with Disabilities
Kevin O'Coin, Support of a Person with Disabilities
Andrea Castro, Support of a Person with Disabilities
Wendy Rachwalski, Member at Large
- Staff: Kim Hilton, Director of Recreation, Culture & Community Services,
Michele Payne, Recreation Supervisor
- Guests: Michelle Gagnon-Creeley, Happy Cities; Marco Pasqua, Meaningful Access Consulting
- Regrets: Carolina Morales, Member at Large; Beckett Zeller, Manager, Human Resources

The Chair began by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is on the traditional unceded territory of the Katzie, Kwantlen, Matsqui and Semiahmoo First Nations.

1. AGENDA

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the May 7, 2026 agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

2. **MINUTES**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the March 5, 2026, Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes be deferred to the next meeting.

CARRIED

3. **PRESENTATION**

A PowerPoint presentation was jointly made by Michelle Gagnon-Creeley, Happy Cities, and Marco Pasqua, Meaningful Access Consulting on the draft Accessibility Plan.

Ms. Castro entered at 4:37pm

The Committee received the draft plan and made the following comments and/or recommendations:

Cleanliness of the washrooms was brought up as being an actual accessibility barrier, and if it should be included in this report. The committee discussed and concluded that cleanliness can be a barrier as the appearance of the washrooms may make users feel unsafe. It was also noted that 50% of respondents mentioned that cleanliness is a barrier.

Contractors need to be accountable to ensure there are accessible pathways around their sites as some do it well and others do not.

It was suggested that the City's design manual, which specifies the size and ratio of accessible parking spaces, be reviewed on an continuous basis to ensure that we are keeping up with best practices and standards.

It was suggested that we include recreation programs for those who are deaf and not just blind or visually impaired.

It was suggested that the city ensure that outside event organizers consider those with diverse needs such as a recent easter event at Douglas Park that had an egg hunt that was not accessible to those in wheelchairs, or those who may take longer to participate.

It was suggested that the city research HR software that asks applicants if they require any accommodation during the application process. The software would also support accessibility such as those with visual impairments, motor control limitations and cognitive differences.

A committee member suggested using the terminology diverse abilities instead of disabilities which lead to the following motion.

THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee direct staff to amend the language in the accessibility plan to diverse abilities from disabilities.

Seconded by Mr. Chappell

Discussion ensued regarding the language. It was noted that the use of euphemisms can have unintentional harm. Mr. Pasqua stated that he prefers using person-first language, or identity-first language that acknowledges the individuals lived experience. Ms. Castro suggested that diverse abilities is more inclusive.

It was clarified that committee members cannot direct staff.

The timeline for the council to receive the Draft Accessibility Plan does not permit the change of language.

It was suggested that this topic be discussed further at a future meeting.

No vote occurred on the motion

5) **DISCUSSION/INFORMATION**

- a. GOHERE Washroom Access Program.
Staff confirmed that Timms Community Centre has been registered and published on the app, as a GOHERE washroom.
- b. 2026 AccessAbility Week May 31 to June 6.
Staff provided a list of activities available during the week.
- c. Request for Service Portal – deferred to the next meeting.

6) **2026 WORKPLAN** (update as needed)

- a. Develop an Accessibility Strategy
- b. Education
- c. Advocacy
- d. Indigenous consultation
- e. Communication strategy

7) **ROUNDTABLE**

Committee members shared updates including Ms. Castro Andrea who has been recognized with the BC Achievement Community Award for her initiative, Forever Kind, which focuses on creating inclusive communication tools in public spaces.

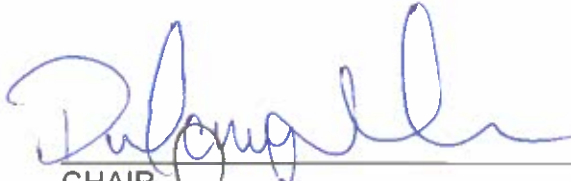
ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the meeting adjourns at 6:30pm

CARRIED

Certified Correct:
mlp



CHAIR



RECREATION SUPERVISOR