



**ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
DRAFT MINUTES  
August 19, 2024**

**PRESENT:** Céline Vautour, Chair  
Rachele Manett, Vice Chair  
Deputy Mayor Cathy Deagle Gammon  
Councillor Paul Russell  
Councillor Trish Purdy  
Liz Doull  
Glenn Babcock  
Thivjan Tharmaratnam

**REGRETS:** Oliver Keith  
April Adams

**STAFF:** Melissa Myers, Accessibility Advisor  
Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant

*These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by the Accessibility Advisory Committee at a future meeting.*

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca).*

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**Accessibility Advisory Committee  
Draft Minutes  
August 6, 2024**

*The meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m., the Committee adjourned at 6:17 p.m.*

## **1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

## **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 15, 2024**

MOVED by Councillor Purdy, seconded by Rachele Manett

**THAT the minutes of July 15, 2024 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Liz Doull

**THAT the agenda be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE**

## **5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

## **6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – July 15, 2024**

### **6.1 Temporary Pedestrian Travel Paths Through Work Sites**

The following was before the Committee:

- Transportation Standing Committee report dated February 22, 2024 with attached staff report dated January 11, 2024
- Staff presentation dated June 3, 2024

Crysta Cumming, Manager, Engineering Design gave a presentation, seeking feedback on the Temporary Pedestrian Travel Paths Through Work Sites report and responded to question of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee noted the following:

- Concerns with temporary pedestrian walkways that required frequent street crossings;
- Lack of accessible pathways on certain construction sites;
- The effects of construction sites on nearby accessible parking spaces;
- Specific challenges encountered by residents who are visually impaired and/or wheelchair users on construction sites;
- Barricade placements;
- The need for certain standards to be enforced on sites;
- Safety issues with uneven surfaces and platforms;
- Accessibility challenges in relation to signage placement; and
- Challenges faced by those with colour blindness.

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## **7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

### **7.1 Correspondence - None**

### **7.2 Petitions – None**

### **7.3 Presentation – None**

## **8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

## **9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

### **9.1 STAFF**

#### **9.1.1 Alderney Drive Functional Plan**

The following was before the Committee:

- Presentation dated August 19, 2024

Maria Jacobs, Active Transportation Planner, Courtney Pyne, Team Lead – Senior Traffic & Transportation Engineer, WSP Canada and Brianna Rietzel, Transportation Engineer-in-Training, WSP Canada gave a presentation, seeking feedback on the proposed designs and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee noted the following:

- Preferred structures used to separate walkways from arterials roadways;
- The need to balance traffic congestion with active transportation needs;
- Concerns with lane reductions;
- The importance of prioritizing dedicated bus lanes;
- The needs of diverse modes of transportation;
- Benefits of separating walkways and bikeways; and
- Concerns regarding multi-use pathways, particularly in high traffic areas.

#### **9.1.2 Wright’s Cove Transit Terminal**

The following was before the Committee:

- Presentation dated August 19, 2024

Matthew Glynn, Project Manager, Facility Renewal, Alana O’Halloran, Associate, Arcadis and Charlie Haong, Transit Architecture Lead, Arcadis gave a presentation, seeking feedback on the proposed terminal design and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee noted the following:

- The possibility of providing additional seating in the designated bays;
- Ensuring text was legible on screens displaying bus schedules;
- The potential for cigarettes butts to be left in the planters;
- The need for designated pick up and drop off areas;
- The sounds and echoes created by glass buildings and subsequent impacts on neurodivergent individuals; and
- The possibility of installing acoustic panelling to offset sound.

## **10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

## **12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – October 7, 2024 (if required)**

Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

## **13. ADJOURNMENT**

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The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Elizabeth Macdonald  
Legislative Assistant