



## Advisory Committee on Accessibility

### Mandate and Composition

<p><b>Mandate</b></p>	<p>To provide strategic advice and make recommendations to City Council and City Administration in addressing issues, needs, and services for people with physical, sensory, and cognitive disabilities; including, but not limited to: infrastructure, transportation, technology, communication, affordable/accessibly housing, social and economic accessibility issues in order to provide a high level accessible City services for people with disabilities.</p>
<p><b>Composition</b></p>	<p>6 Members with disabilities representing a range of people with physical, sensory and cognitive disabilities</p> <p>2 Members representing the seniors community</p> <p>3 Citizens-at-Large who may or may not have a disability, but who are interested in access issues</p> <p>3 Members of City Administration (e.g., Planning and Development, Calgary Transit, and Calgary Recreation)</p>

### Details

<p><b>Chair</b></p>	<p>Lauri Brunner</p>
<p><b>Number of meetings in the last year.</b></p> <p><b>Summary of initiatives, projects or work completed or ongoing in the last year.</b></p>	<p>Accessibility in Calgary is about creating communities, workplaces and services that enable everyone to participate fully in society without barriers. The <b>Advisory Committee on Accessibility (ACA)</b> is an advisory committee of Council that reports through the Standing Policy Committee on Community &amp; Protective Services providing strategic advice and recommendations to City Council and City Administration which address accessibility needs for people with physical, sensory and cognitive disabilities with a focus on accessible City services. The ACA consults and acts as a resource with City business units, across Service Lines to promote universal design and the delivery of accessible programs and services, with the integration of accessibility considerations for people with disabilities.</p> <p>The Advisory Committee on Accessibility addresses all aspects of accessibility focusing on the areas of physical infrastructure, transportation, communication, housing and emerging issues that occur in The City of Calgary. ACA receives community input and requests from Administration, along with motions of Council. Members draw on their own lived experiences and the expertise from disability serving organizations they may represent. Fourteen members are appointed by Council for the full complement of the ACA Committee. One ACA member also serves on The City’s Social Well-Being Advisory Committee.</p> <p>The <b>ACA’s Access Design Subcommittee</b> reviews and makes recommendations on projects and plans that relate to universal design for people with disabilities for City infrastructure. These are guided by <b>The City Access Design Standards</b> that go above and beyond the minimum standards of the Alberta Building Code. Access reviews include,</p>

but are not limited to, projects and plans that include infrastructure, public realm, parks and playgrounds, affordable accessible housing, pathways, accessible audible signals and cycle tracks. One of the members of ACA serves as a liaison with this subcommittee maintaining the lines of communication. Individuals from the community with disabilities, disability serving organizations and key individuals from Administration participate on this subcommittee.

The Advisory Committee on Accessibility and the Access Design Subcommittee provide strategic advice and make recommendations on accessibility across The Corporation. The City's commitment in providing programs and services that meet the needs of persons with disabilities is guided by The City of Calgary's Accessibility Strategy (See Attached).

Advancing accessibility includes addressing issues and needs as they relate to physical, sensory and cognitive disabilities. By reducing barriers to City services in infrastructure, transportation, employment, affordable accessible housing and communications, people with disabilities will be able to participate fully as citizens of Calgary and enhance their quality of life.

Both the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and the Access Design Subcommittee meet once per month, except in July and August, with approximately ten meetings a year.

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>IMPACT</b>
1. Snow & Ice Control (SNIC)	Greatly improved Priority 1 -1100 bus stops cleared of snow & ice for seniors and people with disabilities, \$9.5M to clear pathways and sidewalks adjacent to City properties, remove windrows from wheelchair ramps. Winter access effective.
2. Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles (WAV)	Two-year pilot of Centralized Dispatch and driver subsidies provides a more efficient 24/7 on demand service for taxi customers that use a wheelchair.
3. Creation of the Cross-Corporate Public Accessibility Advisory Team	Physical infrastructure service lines embed accessibility across The Corporation through collaboration with the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Access Design Sub-committee.
4. 17 SX LRT Platform and At-Grade Crossing	Collaborated closely with project team on accessibility and safety features, including tactile warning surface indicators at the at-grade crossing.
5. Green Line	Incorporation of the highest degree of accessibility in the Technical Project Requirements (TPR).
6. Captioning and American Sign Language (ASL)	Persons who are Deaf and hard of hearing can participate and access municipal meetings and events in-person and on-line.
7. E-scooters and E-Bicycles	Pilot review calls for changes with the speed of the devices and where they can be parked that will improve access in barrier-free path of travel, especially for those with vision loss.

	<p>8. Plus 15 Network Study</p>	<p>Accessible downtown core connections.</p>
	<p>9. Serving People with Disabilities Customer Service Training</p>	<p>Through on-line e-Learning modules and face-to-face sessions Administration providing ideal customer service for people with disabilities.</p>
	<p>10. International Day of Persons with Disabilities December 3 and ACA Awards</p>	<p>Understanding of the United Nation’s Convention on Persons with Disabilities. Community projects and individuals recognized for universal access, advocacy and accessible transportation initiatives.</p>
	<p>11. Accessibility Tours with Councillors and Administration</p>	<p>Administration may have a greater understanding of people with physical, sensory and cognitive disabilities and how they navigate the public realm to assist in their job roles.</p>
	<p>12. Implementation of the Access Design Standards</p>	<p>Infrastructure and public realm is accessible for people with disabilities across City projects.</p>
<p><b>Outline of 2020 work plan.</b></p>	<p>The Advisory Committee on Accessibility (ACA) 2020 Workplan is outlined in the City of Calgary Accessibility Strategy, which will have measurements included and will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working to embed accessibility through the Cross-Corporate Public Accessibility Advisory Team.</li> <li>• Working toward the success of the Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle (WAV) Centralized Dispatch program with community support.</li> <li>• Continuing to communicate all the accessible communication tools, like captioning and American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation to be used at public meetings and events.</li> </ul> <p>Dealing with Emerging Issues, particularly COVID-19, as they unfold in the upcoming year.</p>	
<p><b>Challenges to fulfilling mandate.</b></p>	<p>For ACA to continue to fulfill its mandate, the 2016 Access Design Standards need to be updated to align with the new Alberta Building Code and the Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Accreditation Gold Standards.</p> <p>For Council to continue to support and fund accessibility with the BMO Expansion, the New Event Centre, Arts Commons and Green Line.</p>	
<p><b>Additional information you would like to share with Council.</b></p>	<p>Attachment 2.B</p>	