

November 12, 2021

RE: Letter of support for the Accessible Taxi and WAV program

On behalf of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility (ACA), we would like to offer our support for the continuation of the Accessible Taxi and WAV program in Calgary. From all reports received, there has been excellent feedback about the 24-hour service availability and the courteous, professional service of the drivers.

We believe city administration has developed a fee structure and incentive program that encourages holders of Accessible Plate Licenses to keep their vehicles on the road while also providing some financial support for operators to maintain their vehicles. It is our view that the self-sustaining nature of the program will allow operators to continue to provide this vital service to Calgarians with disabilities. While usage may have been low at times during the pandemic, we expect more people will use this service as restrictions ease and more programs and services resume in person activities.

About ACA:

The Advisory Committee on Accessibility (ACA) is a city-appointed Committee of Council, primarily consisting of citizens with disabilities and a keen interest in access issues. We advise and make strategic recommendations to Council on important advancements on Access Design Standards for public infrastructure projects, public policy issues impacting accessibility, and initiatives like outdoor patios, accessible play grounds and snow clearing.

Our committee feels that all Calgarians should have equal access to On-Demand travel options and the Accessible Taxi and WAV program make this a reality for users of wheelchairs, mobility scooters and other mobility aids.

Thank you.

Chair, Advisory Committee on Accessibility

And,

Christopher Gordon

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Gregory A.B. M. Meeten

Vice-chair, Advisory Committee on Accessibility