



Annual Report to Council- 2016/2017

WAAC provides advice, expertise and input to Windsor City Council with respect to promoting a barrier free community and organization for persons with disabilities as well as providing advice to City Council about the implementation of the AODA Accessibility Standards.

Membership

Councillor Sleiman
PeWHU Best (Co-Chair)
Kathy Iacovone (Co-Chair)
Sandra Friesen
Surendra Bagga
Jillian Hotson
Sheila McCabe
Robert Williams
Ricardo Pappini
John Azlen
Laurie McMahon (Alternate)
Nicholas Petro (Alternate)

2016 Accomplishments

- Working with Traffic Department to review existing technology and provided input to identify appropriate upgrades needed regarding Audible Pedestrian Signals (for the blind and visually impaired) and developed a Windsor standard
- After the technology review the Committee provided input for needed equipment upgrade to meet the new standard. The Committee then provided funding in the amount of \$30,000 to assist with the retrofit of 5 existing Audible Pedestrian Signals to the Windsor Standard (with voice message) in a combined effort such funds would also be matched by the Traffic so that there was a \$60,000 community accessibility improvement. Furthermore Traffic worked with both WAAC and the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) to determine appropriate locations for said improvements.



- Working with Project manager/ Department to provide input and advice on Reame Park Concession Building accessible service counter. Provided funding in the amount of \$11,600 to cover the cost of increasing accessibility of the service area and a new accessible picnic table.
- As a result of public consultation and input that identified a community need WAAC provided funding to the Windsor International Aquatic and Training Centre for the purchase of a Hoyer Power Advanced Power Lift that will allow patrons who require assistance to safely transfer from a wheelchair to the accessible pool lift.
- Provided input and advice regarding new playgrounds/parks accessibility improvements.
- Had community consultation regarding Cullen field and the need to replace the bleachers and ensure that they are accessible.
- Committee advocating for Alexander Park accessibility improvements. Provided detailed input and suggestions that identified specialized needs. Such needs were supported by the input of residents and community organizations.
- Attended Parks public input event for the community to address public concerns and input regarding accessible features in renovated and new playgrounds
- The Committee supported the approval of funds in the amount of \$2500 to purchase one ceiling track lift system to be placed in the New City Hall.
- Working with Project Manager to provide input and advice on the new east end pool.
- Determined, discussed and planned for upcoming accessibility priorities
- Provided input regarding Accessibility improvements at the WFCU arena.
- Provided input and advice regarding the Downtown Windsor Transportation Strategy and Central Box Municipal Class Environmental Assessment
- Provided input and advice regarding downtown accessible street parking for the public
- Provided detailed input into the New City Hall project and provided funding in the amount of \$25,000 to add an additional 5 push button accessible doors above and beyond what was already planned for in the project. The location of said accessible door openers to be determined with the input of WAAC.
- Provided input and advice regarding various accessibility improvements to Jackson Park and provided funding in the amount of \$25,000 as a contribution



towards the construction of two (2) universal washrooms and two (2) accessible change stalls in the newly constructed accessible washroom to be located in Jackson Park.

- Provided input and funding for accessible features at new east end pool --One (1) hydraulic lift change table (lift and adjustable adult change table) in the family barrier free washroom - \$11,083.10, two (2) water wheelchairs - \$4,008, one (1) portable lift to be used for the lap and therapy pools - \$9,610.65, convert directional signage to Braille - approximately \$3,560, add floor tile strip around the pool ledges to provide a textural cue for persons with visual impairments - \$18,509.40, one (1) shower chair \$2,715.90.
- Assessment and walkthrough of assessable feature- east end pool- after purchasing of the accessible features noted above.

2017 Accomplishments

- Working with the project lead at Huron Lodge to provide input, advice and full funding for the purchase of outdoor accessible exercise equipment to help enrich the lives of the residents and the neighbouring community.
- Received update and provided input and advice regarding the Gino & Liz Marcus Recreation Complex accessible family change room addition:
- Provided input, advice and funding for the purchase of a power assisted adult change table and a patient lift system to be installed in the barrier free universal washroom in the building addition to the Optimist Community Centre.
- Working with the Project Manager/Department to provide input, advice and funding for the purchase of beach accessible mats and for two (2) Mobi-Chairs (amphibious rolling beach wheelchairs) for Sand Point Beach
- Attended a bus tour and provided comments/suggestions regarding the Transit Windsor bus equipped with the Intelligent Transportation System).
- Provided input, advice and partial funding for the installation of the announcement system for the three elevators within the New City Hall facility.
- Determined, discussed and planned for upcoming accessibility priorities
- Working with the project lead at POA to provide input, advice and funding for the purchase of an Induction Loop System for the Provincial Offences Courts and, for six (6) Portable Lanyards to make the POA office accessible to those who are hard of hearing.



- Provided input, advice and funding to provide an opportunity for Human Resources to offer a Certificate Program in Workplace Mental Health Leadership from Queen's University that will assist City of Windsor managers to build and reinforce a mentally healthy work environment, and extend an invitation to community partners to participate in this training.
- Met with project manager to provide comments and concerns and suggestions relating to the new street scaping on Ouellette Avenue from Wyandotte Street to Shepherd.
- Accessibility Audit conducted on City website to identify issues and fixes required
- Provided input and supported the initiative put forth by Councillor Irek Kusmierczyk (funded through Ward 7 funds) to plant a tree to be purchased through the City of Windsor "Commemorative Tree Program" in memory of Reverend Charles Payne near the Aspen Lake Nursing Homes.



- Raising profile of accessible amenities offered by the City and education of public--Sandpoint beach accessible mats and Mobi-Chairs grand opening media event.





- Raising profile of accessible amenities offered by the City and education of public --Huron Lodge Accessible outdoor fitness equipment grand opening media event.



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THIS ACCESSIBLE OUTDOOR EXERCISE EQUIPMENT
FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT!**



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*Because access
equals opportunity*





- Committee identified specialized needs *comments and concerns relating to the new street scaping and noted barriers on Ouellette Avenue from Wyandotte to Shepherd*". Working with the Project Manager/Department to provide input and advice to address identified barriers.
- Reviewed the report of the Manager, Traffic Operations dated November 2, 2016 entitled "Response to CQ10-2016 – Metered On-Street Accessible Parking" and Council Resolution CR769/2016 and will be providing input and advice at Dec 12th meeting.