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Windsor, Ontario July 17, 2012

A meeting of the **Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee** is held this day commencing at 2:00 o'clock p.m. in Room 406, 400 City Hall Square East, there being present the following members:

Councillor Ed Sleiman, Acting Chair  
John Azlen  
Jason Beaudin  
Peter Best  
Tanya Emmett  
Sandra Friesen  
Kathy Iacovone  
Meghan Johnson-Etue (alternate member)  
Bridget Lefort (alternate member)  
Christine Trudell-Conklin  
Mehnaz Rafat (alternate member)

**Guests in attendance:**

Jim McMullin re Item 5.2  
Connie and Madonna Strange, re Item 5.4  
Melody Cook, Operations Director, Community Living Windsor, re Item 5.4  
Debbie Neville, re Item 5.4

**Also present are the following resource personnel:**

John Brunelle, Handi Transit  
Vic A. Garabedian, Board Member, Handi Transit  
Gayle Jones, Diversity/Accessibility Officer  
Mario Sonego, City Engineer  
Karen Kadour, (A) Committee Coordinator

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Acting Chair calls the meeting to order at 2:04 o'clock p.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule "A" attached hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

**2. ELECTION OF CHAIR**

It is generally agreed the election of the Chair be deferred to the September 19, 2012 meeting of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT**

None disclosed.

4. **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

Moved by S. Friesen, seconded by K. Iacovone,  
That the minutes of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee at its meeting held June 14, 2012 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.  
Carried.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Moved by J. Azlen, seconded by C. Trudell-Conklin,  
That Rule 3.3 (c) of the *Procedure By-law 98-2011* be waived to add the following addition to the Agenda:

5.4 **Family Aquatic Centre**

Carried.

5. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

5.4 **Family Aquatic Centre**

The presentation to the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee including the letter from Connie and Madonna Strange requesting accessible amenities at the Family Aquatic Centre is distributed and ***attached*** as Appendix "A". Connie and Madonna Strange (sisters) have disabilities caused by Cerebral Palsy and are requesting the following accessible features at the Family Aquatic Complex:

- Ramps with railings leading into the pool
- Accessible hot tub areas
- Ramps to go deep enough into the water to allow for flotation in and out of reclining adjustable waterproof chairs
- Small underwater benches with hand rails to allow independent sitting
- Handrails in the water where people can stand independently
- Adjustable walking bars that allow therapy and freedom of motion
- Staff trained and familiar with use of the equipment
- Accessible change area (for both genders and ages)
- Ceiling lifts in the change area
- Accessible washrooms including safety rails that can be height-adjusted for bathroom use

- Spacious washrooms to allow for support people and equipment including wheelchairs and pool chairs

G. Jones thanks Connie and Madonna Strange along with the Director from Community Living for their presentation.

## **5.2 Review of Accessible Pathway Dimensions**

Jim McMullin, is present and available for questions regarding the congested walkway in front of the businesses located at 266 Ouellette and 276 Ouellette Avenue. Several photos of the area are distributed and *attached* as Appendix "B". He has requested the planters in front of 266 and 276 Ouellette be removed. He states he has difficulty with coordination and depth perception and it is difficult to maneuver around chairs blocking the sidewalk.

M. Sonogo reports the walkway in question has the 8 foot width as is required. He notes there are raised planters with trees and at times, people sit and outstretch their legs which affects the 8 foot clearance. He states if the operators of the said establishments cannot control the patrons, the sidewalk café agreement could be in jeopardy of renewal.

J. Beaudin indicates there are several panhandlers in this area who sit on the planters. He notes the issue is about enforcement rather than the removal of the planters.

K. Iacovone states there are bicycles and e-bikes at times that block the right-of-way. She indicates people treat persons with disabilities as if they are invisible.

J. Beaudin volunteers to speak to the owners of 266 Ouellette and 276 Ouellette on behalf of Mr. McMullin.

G. Jones suggests sending a letter on behalf of WAAC to the owners of 266 Ouellette and 276 Ouellette.

P. Best suggests the erection of signage indicating to "keep the sidewalk clear".

Moved by K. Iacovone, seconded by C. Trudell-Conklin,

That Jason Beaudin, WAAC member **BE DIRECTED** to speak to the owners of 266 Ouellette and 276 Ouellette to raise awareness of the difficulty some patrons experience due to the lack of adherence to the eight foot clearance policy and further, following a period of three weeks, if the situation is not remedied, that the Diversity/Accessibility Officer **BE AUTHORIZED** to send a letter to the owners of 266 Ouellette and 276 Ouellette Avenue on behalf of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Carried.

### **5.1 Review of Funding Application on behalf of the late Reverend Charles Payne**

The report of the City Engineer dated May 31, 2012 entitled "Request for Improvements at McHugh near Aspenshore Retirement Home" is distributed and attached as Appendix "C".

Mario Sonego, City Engineer advises the late Reverend Charles Payne expressed the following concerns regarding access and accessibility in the vicinity of the Aspenshore Nursing Home:

1. A curb cut mid-block in front of the Aspenshore property on McHugh to connect to the trail on the north side of McHugh Street.
2. A bus shelter constructed on McHugh Street near the Aspenshore property.
3. A sidewalk to be constructed across the McHugh Park frontage to access the Park and the trail to the west.
4. A pedestrian traffic signal at the intersection immediately east of the Aspenshore Nursing Home. This intersection is identified as Indigo Avenue.
5. That this work should be funded through the funds set aside by the City of Windsor to deal with accessibility issues that have not been spent to date.

M. Sonego indicates he does not recommend installing a curb cut mid-block in front of the Aspenshore property, as there are issues with visibility and high traffic speeds on McHugh Street.

As it relates to the installation of a bus shelter in front of Aspenshore Nursing Home, M. Sonego indicates Transit Windsor has this site on their waiting list, but it is not a high priority due to low ridership in the area.

M. Sonego states the current sidewalk leads from the Nursing Home westerly to the McHugh Park parking lot to a newly constructed sidewalk adjacent to the south side of the parking lot. This sidewalk was constructed in 2011 by the Parks Department to provide a link between the Nursing Home and an existing multi-use trail on the west side of the parking lot.

M. Sonego advises the pedestrian or vehicular volume coming from the intersection at McHugh and Indigo, does not warrant the construction of traffic signal. He reports the cost of a traffic/pedestrian signal is approximately \$70,000.

Moved by P. Best, seconded by K. Iacovone,

That the report of the City Engineer dated May 31, 2012 entitled "Request for Improvements at McHugh Near Aspenshore Retirement Home" **BE NOTED AND FILED.**

Carried.

6. **FINANCIAL**

The Financial Summary Variance Report for the period ending June 30, 2012 is received for information.

7. **DIVERSITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OFFICER REPORT**

7.1 **Subcommittee Development – Policy & Plan Development**

G. Jones reports the “Integrated Accessibility Standard Policy” acknowledges the legislative requirement and the commitment by the City of Windsor to provide accessible employment, information and communication and transportation. This commitment extends to residents, visitors and employees with visible and non-visible disabilities She suggests a subcommittee be established to assist her with the Integrated Accessibility Standard Policy and the Multi Year Plan development.

Moved by J. Beaudin, seconded by K. Iacovone,

That a Subcommittee of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee **BE ESTABLISHED** consisting of J. Beaudin, T. Emmett, J. Azlen and K. Iacovone to assist the Diversity/Accessibility Officer with the Integrated Accessibility Standard Policy and the Multi Year Plan development..

Carried.

It is suggested that Don Sadler, Project Manager of the Family Aquatic Centre be invited to attend the September 19, 2012 WAAC meeting to provide information relating to accessible features at the new Aquatic Centre.

7.2 **Update Motion regarding Sign Language Interpreters**

Moved by J. Beaudin, seconded by P. Best,

That the Diversity/Accessibility Officer **BE GIVEN** authority to access the Non-Built Environment Fund for costs associated with American Sign Language interpreters when required.

Carried.

G. Jones will provide the Non-Built Environment Fund Policy for the September 19, 2012 WAAC meeting.

8. **CHAIR'S REPORT**

**8.1 Article in "Municipal World" July 2012**

The article in Municipal World July 2012 regarding the input by the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee to ensure accessibility at the WFCU Centre is received for information.

**9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 19, 2012 at 2:00 o'clock p.m. in Room 407, 400 City Hall Square East.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 3:42 o'clock p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
ACTING CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_  
(A) COMMITTEE COORDINATOR

**AGENDA**  
**WINDSOR ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012**  
**at 2:00 o'clock p.m.**  
**Meeting room 406**  
**400 City Hall Square East, Windsor**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS**

2.1- Election of Chair/Co-Chair or appointment of an acting Chair

**3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT**

**4. MINUTES**

Adoption of the minutes of the meetings held June 14, 2012.- attached.

**5. BUSINESS ITEMS**

5.1 Review of Funding application- on behalf of the late Rev. Charles Payne

5.2 Review of Accessible Pathway dimensions- See attachment for noted concerns

5.3 Accessible Customer Service Training

**6. FINANCIAL**

6.1 Financial Summary Variance Report. – attached.

7. **Diversity and Accessibility Officer Report**

- 7.1 Subcommittee development – Policy and plan development- - **attached- first draft of policy.**
- 7.2 Update motion regarding sign language interpreters for training, meetings or events.

8. **Chair's Report**

- 8.1 Article in “Municipal World” July 2012, p. 14- **attached.**

9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date and location of the meeting is to be determined.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**



## Kadour, Karen

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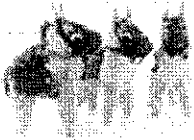
**From:** Melodie Cook [melodie@clwindsor.org]  
**Sent:** July 17, 2012 4:35 PM  
**To:** Jones, Gayle; Kadour, Karen  
**Subject:** Connie and Madonna's presentation  
**Attachments:** Connie and Madonna.docx; picture8 (2).jpg; picture6 (2).jpg; picture5 (2).jpg; picture3 (2).jpg

Hi Gail,

Attached is the presentation and a few of the pictures from Connie and Madonna's presentation. We certainly appreciate the opportunity Connie and Madonna were given today. If we can be of any further assistance please don't hesitate to call. Thank you again. Melodie

Melodie Cook  
Operations Director  
Community Living Windsor  
519.974.4221 ext. 219  
[melodie@clwindsor.org](mailto:melodie@clwindsor.org)

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## **Connie and Madonna's presentation to the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee**

**I would like to take this opportunity to introduce two members of our community, Connie and Madonna Strange. We'll just say they have been around the whole pool system.**

**This community has an opportunity to hear the needs of people with limited abilities and create a state of the art universal design that would accommodate everyone. As our population ages Connie and Madonna would like you to know how beneficial and accessible pool would be for circulation, range of motion, fitness, independence and quality of life for people of all ages.**

**There are many types of accessible options for people. Some examples you may be familiar with are Braille, textures on walls and bright colours. For aquatic centers there are ramps with railings leading into the pools and accessible hot tub areas. Connie and Madonna have learned that the ramps need to go deep enough into the water to allow for floatation in and out of tilting (reclining) adjustable waterproof chairs. They would like you to consider things like small underwater benches with hand rails to allow independent sitting and handrails in the water where people could stand independently. Adjustable walking bars that allow therapy and freedom of motion and staff trained and familiar and comfortable with use of the equipment are also important.**

**An accessible change area is needed that would accommodate privacy (for both genders and ages) as well as ceiling lifts and fully accessible washrooms including safety rails that can be height-adjusted for bathroom use. You will need more than one dressing table with a safety rail that is height adjustable. There needs to be enough room to accommodate support people and equipment like wheelchairs and pool chairs.**

**There are more than 57 people currently supported through Community Living Windsor who would love a new accessible pool as they are unable to access the ones currently in the city. We ask...how many other people in this city could benefit from this? Perhaps a mother who has had a stroke and could use some water therapy; a parent or grandparent in a nursing home who would love to go for a swim. Life happens and we need to be prepared. Right now one in seven people have a disability. In the next 20 years the number will grow to one in five people. We have the opportunity now to plan for and benefit citizens who have a disability.**

**Some personal experiences that we have encountered were:**

**After an enjoyable swim at a hotel the pool chair lift would not function. It was stopped at the bottom and would not rise. Maintenance of the hotel was called; support staff reassured the woman and tried to keep her warm. Finally two gentlemen hearing our**

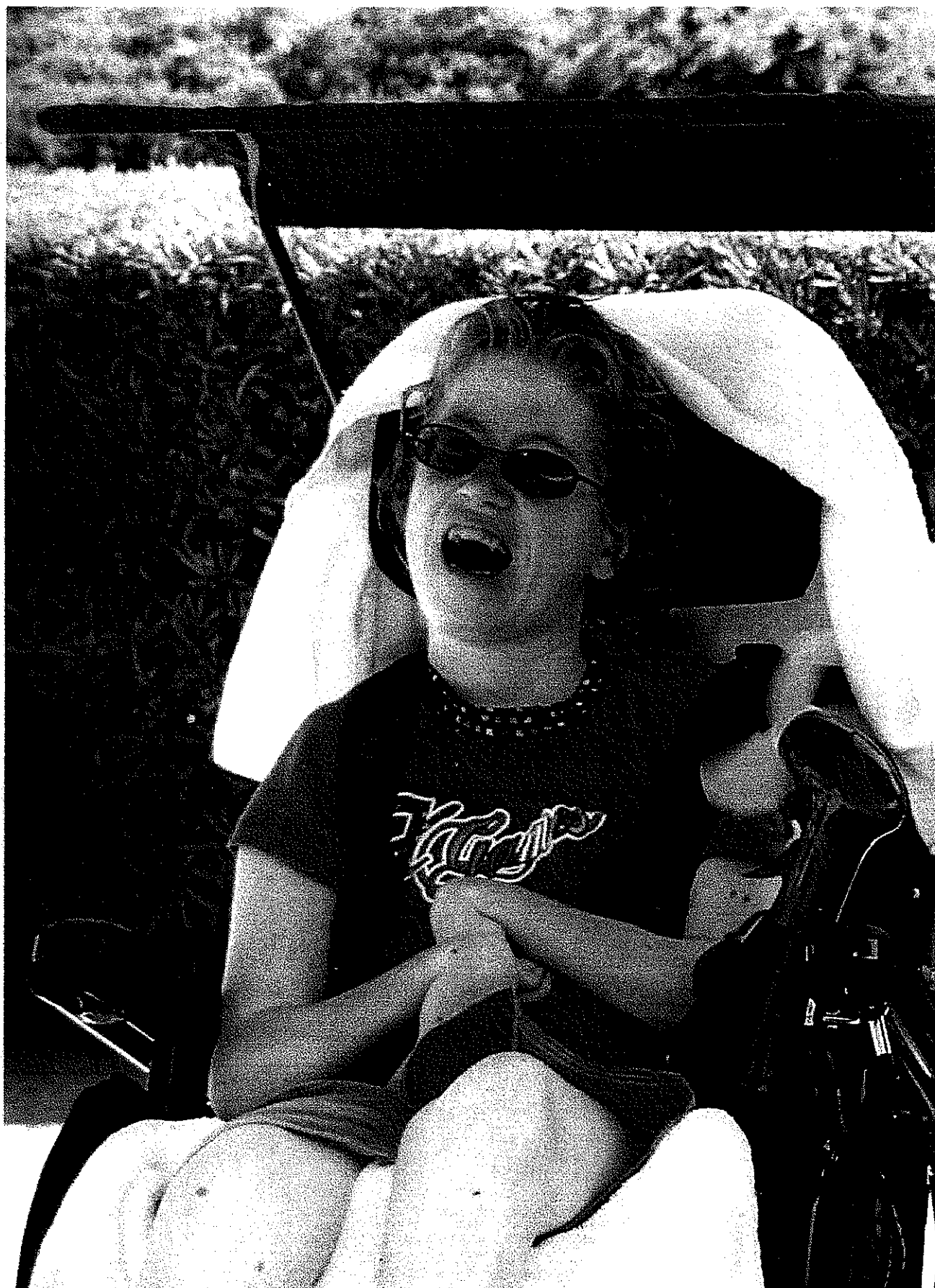
**story lifted her out and into her chair. Maintenance came a half hour later. If there had been a ramp this would not have happened.**

**On another occasion support staff were trying to help Madonna into a straight back water chair to go into the pool. Madonna has a severe curvature of her back. She felt very scared and unsafe. With a tilting adjustable waterproof chair with belts people would feel safe. Every person is not the same...and every person with physical disabilities is not the same.**

**In conclusion Connie and Madonna would like you to know how very much they appreciate the opportunity to be asked for their input concerning their own personal experience before building the new pool. For Connie and Madonna this represents an important opportunity to be included in their community. They would like to thank everyone for asking them here today. You have made their day and hopefully they made yours!!!!**







**CONGESTED WALK ON OUELLETTE BETWEEN  
UNIVERSITY AND CHATHAM STREETS IN FRONT OF  
SHWARMA PALACE.**

**THIS IS PRETTY TYPICAL OF WHAT I EXPERIENCE MOST  
EVENINGS AROUND 8PM**



**THIS MORNING I TOOK A PHOTO THAT SHOWS THE CHAIRS  
PRETTY MUCH AS THE OWNER WOULD HAVE LIKELY  
PLACED THEM WHEN HE OPENED.**





- **I AM PRETTY CERTAIN THAT LOWERING THE SPACE BETWEEN THE PLANTERS AN INCH OR MORE IF POSSIBLE.**

**THUS ALLOWING REMOVAL OF THE PLANTERS WHICH THE CITY HAS INSTALLED, PROBABLY TO REMOVE THE POSSIBILITY OF SOMEONE FALLING OFF THE CURB INTO THE STREET, SHOULD HOPEFULLY, AT A MODEST COST TO TAXPAYERS, FIX THE BIGGEST PROBLEM.**

**THIS SHOULD EFFECTIVELY AND SAFELY DISCOURAGE PEOPLE WHO MAY HAVE PREVIOUSLY SLID THEIR CHAIRS BACK INTO THE WALKWAY WITHOUT REALIZING THE HAZARD THEY WERE CAUSING.**

- **I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SUGGEST THE CITY INSTALL SOMETHING SIMILAR TO 2"X 8" MAN MADE ZERO MAINTENANCE TYPE MATERIAL WITH ROUNDED ENDS ABOUT HALFWAY UP ON THE WALK SIDE, SO AS TO PROVIDE A MORE FORGIVING SURFACE IF SOMEONE DISABLED ON THE WALK WERE TO STRIKE IT.**
- **AS WELL INSTALLING SOMETHING PERHAPS DECORATIVE, BUT NOT THE FLAT WIDE SURFACE, IT IS NOW, PROBABLY WILL DISCOURAGE MOST PEOPLE FROM SITTING ON THE PLANTER, WITH THEIR LEGS DANGLING IN THE WALKWAY.**

**YOURS SINCERELY,  
JIM MCMULLIN**





the exchange

Try a  
refreshing  
FRESH BREWED

10/07/2012

**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WINDSOR  
PUBLIC WORKS - Office of the City Engineer**

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

*"The City of Windsor, with the involvement of its citizens, will deliver effective and responsive municipal services, and will mobilize innovative community partnerships"*

<b>LiveLink REPORT #: 15851</b>	<b>Report Date: May 31, 2012</b> (#3292-06/01/12:ebr)
<b>Author's Name: Mario Sonego</b>	<b>Date to Council: June 18, 2012</b>
<b>Author's Phone: 519-255-6247, x6356</b>	<b>Classification #:</b>
<b>Author's E-mail: msonego@city.windsor.on.ca</b>	<b>CAPITAL BUDGET</b>

**TO: Mayor and Members of City Council**

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR IMPROVEMENTS AT MCHUGH  
NEAR ASPENSHORE RETIREMENT HOME**

**1. RECOMMENDATION: City Wide:  X  Ward(s):**

That the petition from the late Reverend Charles Payne **BE FORWARDED** to the Windsor Advisory Disability Committee for consideration, along with this report, to determine if any of the requests should be funded.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: N/A**

**2. BACKGROUND:**

At the Operating Budget Meeting held on March 5, 2012, the late Reverend Payne attended and brought forward concerns as to the residence at Aspenshore Retirement Home at 9855 McHugh Street.

As a result, the following two (2) motions were passed:

"M105-2012 That the submission of Reverend Charles Payne regarding Transit Windsor's Budget **BE REFERRED** to the 2012 Capital Budget deliberations."

"M113-2012 That the petition presented by Councillor Marra from Reverend Charles Payne requesting major improvements for safety and continued independence in the Villages of Aspen Lakes, **BE RECEIVED** by the Clerk and the Clerk **BE DIRECTED** to forward the petition to the General Manager of Transit Windsor and the City Engineer for the purpose of an examination of the requested works or undertakings; and further, that a report **BE PROVIDED** consistent with the direction provided."

Concerns by the late Reverend Payne dealt with access and accessibility issues that he believed needed to be addressed as follows:

- 1) A curb cut mid-block in front of the Aspenshore Shores property on McHugh to connect to the trail on the north side of McHugh Street.
- 2) A bus shelter constructed on McHugh Street near the Aspenshore property.
- 3) A sidewalk to be constructed across the McHugh Park frontage to access the Park and the trail to the west.
- 4) A pedestrian traffic signal at the intersection immediately east of the Aspenshore Nursing Home. This intersection is identified as Indigo Avenue.
- 5) That this work should be funded through the funds set aside by the City of Windsor to deal with accessibility issues that have not been spent to date.

Attached is the petition submitted by the late Reverend Payne.

### **3. DISCUSSION:**

The following is in response to the concerns brought forth:

#### **1) Curb Cut:**

Public Works had spoken to the late Reverend Payne previously on this issue. We would not recommend installing a curb cut mid-block as there are issues with visibility and high traffic speeds on McHugh Street. Unsignalized crossings at mid-block locations are unsafe as motorists would not likely expect a person to be crossing mid-block rather than at an intersection location. This is especially unsafe given that a large number of users would have difficulty with mobility. The proposed location would be between Florence Avenue and Cypress Avenue. Any consideration of a curb cut should be located at an intersection where there is a signal and is expected.

#### **2) Bus Shelter:**

There is a bus pad at the location in front of the Aspenshore Retirement Home on McHugh Street. It currently does not have a bus shelter in place. Transit Windsor indicates that this is on their list but it is not high on a priority list nor in their immediate plans. Transit Windsor indicates the cost is approximately \$10,000 for the installation of two bus shelters, one on each side of the street.

#### **3) Sidewalk Construction fronting McHugh Park:**

Currently, the sidewalk leads from the retirement complex westerly to the McHugh Park parking lot to a newly constructed sidewalk adjacent to the south side of the parking lot. This sidewalk was constructed in 2011 by the Parks Department to provide a link between the retirement complex and an existing multi-use trail on the west side of the parking lot. It is located along the south side of the parking area and Administration would not recommend another sidewalk be constructed along the frontage of the parking area.

#### **4) Traffic or Pedestrian Signal Construction at Indigo Avenue:**

Currently, the pedestrian or vehicular volume coming from this intersection does not warrant the construction of a traffic signal. Whether a traffic signal or pedestrian signal is constructed at this intersection will cost approximately \$70,000.

#### **5) Accessibility Funding:**

The Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee (WAAC) is the Committee of Council that makes recommendations to Council about reducing barriers and increasing accessibility.

It is corporate policy that WAAC makes recommendations to Council regarding the utilization of a City of Windsor fund set aside for funding accessibility projects. This system of approvals ensures that persons with disabilities have input into the decision and they are responsible to make sure that the funding is used in a manner most likely to meet the goals of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

There is currently approximately \$617,000 in this fund, a portion of these funds is to address reducing barriers in the built environment and a portion of which is earmarked for addressing non-built environment accessibility issues such as sign language interpreters and training needs.

If a department has a viable project aimed at increasing accessibility, it can bring an application for funding which will be decided upon by WAAC. As of this time, no application has been submitted for WAAC's consideration regarding the projects proposed by Reverend Payne.

A change in membership structure recently went to the Striking Committee regarding the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee. As a result of the recommendations of administration and a number of members of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee, a membership structure was developed that would allow for flexibility to accommodate the unpredictable nature of absences resulting from issues related to health and illnesses.

The Striking Committee approved the new membership structure that would result in there being 7 voting members, one councillor and 4 alternate members. These alternate members will be appointed and will attend meetings and participate in discussions and debate, but not normally have voting privileges unless filling in for an absent member.

The Striking Committee approved new Committee members on May 7, 2012. On May 23, 2012, City Council confirmed the new members of the WAAC Committee.

#### **4. FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

The costs of the requests are detailed in the report. No funding for these requests are in the recommended capital budget. The funds available in the WAAC fund are \$617,000 as noted above.

**5. RISK ANALYSIS:**

The risk is the balance for the need for the infrastructure requested and what is currently in place. There is also risk if infrastructure is constructed in a location which is not deemed safe or advisable. Is it a matter of convenience or reduction of nuisance for some of the items is another issue to be considered.

**6. CONSULTATIONS:**

This report was discussed with Traffic Operations, Disability Officer, Transit Windsor, Public Works, Finance and Risk Management staff.

**7. CONCLUSION:**

This report is brought forward to Council for information and response to the late Reverend Payne's concerns brought forth on March 5, 2012.

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**MARIO SONEGO**  
City Engineer and Corporate Leader  
Environmental Protection and Transportation

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**ONORIO COLUCCI**  
Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer and  
Corporate Leader Finance and Technology

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**GEORGE WILKKI**  
City Solicitor and Corporate Leader Economic  
Development and Public Safety

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**HELGA REIDEL**  
Chief Administrative Officer

MSonego:ebr

**APPENDICES: Petition submitted March 5, 2012**

**DEPARTMENTS/OTHERS CONSULTED:**

Name:  
Phone #: 519            ext.

**NOTIFICATION :**

Name	Address	Email Address	Telephone	FAX