

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – APRIL 24, 2012

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF MARCH 27, 2012

Recommendation

The City Clerk, on behalf of the Accessibility Advisory Committee, forwards the following recommendations from its meeting of March 27, 2012:

- 1) That Council direct staff to seek comments from the Accessibility Advisory Committee on site plans relating to commercial, retail and live/work units as part of the development application process; and
- 2) That \$3,000 from the Accessibility Advisory Committee's operating budget be provided for the National Access Awareness Week and that a report from the Director of Recreation and Culture be provided to the Committee detailing the activities and the expense account of the event.

Contribution to Sustainability

The Accessibility Advisory Committee provides advice to Council to support the City's work in identifying and removing barriers to lay the foundation for a barrier-free, inclusive community.

Economic Impact

\$3,000 from the Accessibility Advisory Committee's operating budget will be utilized for the 2012 National Access Awareness Week.

Communications Plan

Council's decision in this matter will be communicated to the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to bring forward for Council's consideration the requests made by the Accessibility Advisory Committee that staff seek comments from the Committee on site plans relating to commercial, retail and live/work units as part of the development application process; and that \$3,000 from the Accessibility Advisory Committee's operating budget be allocated for the 2012 National Access Awareness Week.

Background - Analysis and Options

In August 2002, Council of the City of Vaughan established an Accessibility Advisory Committee to comply with the requirements of the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001* (ODA). The purpose of the ODA is to improve opportunities for persons with disabilities and to provide for their involvement in the identification, removal and prevention of barriers to their full participation in life in the Province of Ontario.

The relevant section in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), insofar as Accessibility Advisory Committees, is provided in Attachment 1.

The Accessibility Advisory Committee is also recommending \$3,000 be provided from its operating budget for the 2012 National Access Awareness Week, an annual event organized by the City's Recreation and Culture Department.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This report is consistent with the strategic priorities set out in Vaughan Vision 2020, in particular:

SERVICE EXCELLENCE: Promote Community Safety, Health & Wellness.

Regional Implications

Not applicable.

Conclusion

The Accessibility Advisory Committee is seeking Council approval of its request that staff be directed to seek comments from the Committee on site plans relating to commercial, retail and live/work units as part of the development application process, and that \$3,000 from the Accessibility Advisory Committee's operating budget be provided for the 2012 National Access Awareness Week.

Attachments

1. Part VII, AODA – Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committees

Report prepared by:

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Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Abrams, City Clerk

PART VII
MUNICIPAL ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Accessibility advisory committees

29. (1) The council of every municipality having a population of not less than 10,000 shall establish an accessibility advisory committee or continue any such committee that was established before the day this section comes into force. 2005, c. 11, s. 29 (1).

Small municipalities

(2) The council of every municipality having a population of less than 10,000 may establish an accessibility advisory committee or continue any such committee that was established before the day this section comes into force. 2005, c. 11, s. 29 (2).

Members

(3) A majority of the members of the committee shall be persons with disabilities. 2005, c. 11, s. 29 (3).

Duties of committee

(4) The committee shall,

- (a) advise the council about the requirements and implementation of accessibility standards and the preparation of accessibility reports and such other matters for which the council may seek its advice under subsection (5);
- (b) review in a timely manner the site plans and drawings described in section 41 of the *Planning Act* that the committee selects; and
- (c) perform all other functions that are specified in the regulations. 2005, c. 11, s. 29 (4).

Duty of council

(5) The council shall seek advice from the committee on the accessibility for persons with disabilities to a building, structure or premises, or part of a building, structure or premises,

- (a) that the council purchases, constructs or significantly renovates;
- (b) for which the council enters into a new lease; or
- (c) that a person provides as municipal capital facilities under an agreement entered into with the council in accordance with section 110 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* or section 252 of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*. 2005, c. 11, s. 29 (5); 2006, c. 32, Sched. C, s. 1.

Supplying site plans

(6) When the committee selects site plans and drawings described in section 41 of the *Planning Act* to review, the council shall supply them to the committee in a timely manner for the purpose of the review. 2005, c. 11, s. 29 (6).