Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities
OVERVIEW

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  ➢ ODA Ontarians with Disabilities Act
  ➢ AODA (Bill 118) Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act
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Mission Statement

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities is committed to raising community awareness of disabilities and identifying issues that will lead to the elimination of barriers for persons with disabilities.

Mandate

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities recommends policies, procedures and guidelines that address the needs and concerns of persons with disabilities.
Background
Ontarians with Disabilities Act (ODA) & Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)

WHY
• To improve opportunities for persons with disabilities and to enhance their ability to be involved in all aspects of life in Ontario.
• To ensure that people with disabilities are involved in the identification, removal and prevention of future barriers to their full participation in the life of the Province.

STATISTICS RE: PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (2005)*
• Hamilton – 91,440 people with disabilities
• Ontario – 1,514,380 people with disabilities

* Source: Statistics Canada, Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS 2001)
Comparison of ODA and AODA

**ODA**

- Applies only to public sector
- Requires accessibility
- Planning – Municipalities required to create an annual plan and make it public
- Required to create an Accessibility Advisory Committee comprised of a minimum of 50% people with disabilities
- Advisory Committee authorized to review and approve all site plans

**AODA**

- Applies to both private and public sectors
- Province will establish standards and place them within regulation for compliance
- Standards development committees will be established by the province in 5 broad areas: Customer Service; Transportation; Communication & Information; Built Environment; and Employment
- Full compliance by 2025
- Spot audits possible with severe penalties for non-compliance up to a maximum of $100,000 per day and/or incarceration
Duties of Municipality

**Under ODA:**
- Continue to fulfill all ODA obligations until ODA is phased out

**Under AODA:**
- Respond to draft standards
- Full compliance with all standards
- File regular compliance reports to the Province for monitoring
- Respond to compliance orders, investigations and spot audits
- Educate staff on compliance requirements
- Maintain and respond to Accessibility Committee and ensure it reviews compliance reports
Reporting Relationship

• CURRENTLY
  Reports to the Audit and Administration Committee.
  – Recommendations then referred to appropriate standing committees for consideration

• CHALLENGES
  – Follow-up to Committee’s Recommendations
  – Timelines for completion/redress
  – No reporting from departments to Council or ACPD on fulfillment of their plans/obligations (as posted annually)
Council Representation

Former Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth
- Two members of Council served on the Advisory Committee acting as liaison with Council

Following Amalgamation
- One Council member designated to committee.

Currently
- No council representation, citizens only.
Summary/Recommendations

1. That Council appoint 1 to 2 members of Council to serve on the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities as a direct link to Council.

2. That the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities submit recommendations for consideration directly to Committee of the Whole.

3. That the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities make yearly presentations to Committee of the Whole on the committee’s workplan.

4. That the City Manager be requested to review and report back to Committee of the Whole on a process where each department within the City of Hamilton provides a staff resource to assist with the initiatives of the Advisory Committee as needed.

5. That each Department regularly report to Council on the progress of their stated plans.

6. That the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities also be designated by Council as the Accessible Transportation Services Advisory Committee.