THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES PRESENTS REPORT 10-006 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. Request for Policy on usage of video surveillance in relation to public transit

That the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities request that staff be directed to prepare a set of guiding principles, policies and procedures for video surveillance cameras usage in relation to public transportation.
2. Proposed Reforms to Taxi Licensing By-law

a) That staff be directed to take the required steps to ensure that by the end of 2012, 20% of licensed taxis in the City of Hamilton are fully accessible for people with disabilities, with a goal of achieving 100% accessible taxis within a reasonable timeframe;

(b) That staff be directed to bring forward the required amendments to the Taxi Licensing By-law and program to ensure that as of 2011 all new taxi plates are issued only to accessible taxi cabs

(c) That staff be directed to bring forward the required amendments to the Taxi By-law and program to ensure that all transfers and/or sales of taxi cab plates be permitted to accessible taxis only.

(d) That staff be directed to amend the Taxi Licensing By-Law to ensure that all new vehicles are accessible.

(e) That staff be directed to create a communication strategy to inform the public of reforms to the accessible taxi system and fares.

3. Request for HECFI to provide outline of their implementation Plan on the Accessible Customer Service Standard

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities requests that City Council requests a copy of the Hamilton Entertainment and Convention Facilities Inc.'s implementation plan on the Accessible Customer Service Standard.

4. Request for Information on renovations and Barrier-Free design from HECFI

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities recommends that City Council requests the Hamilton Entertainment and Convention Facilities Inc. prepare a document outlining how the Barrier-Free Design guidelines are used, where they are used and to provide a list of all planned renovation projects for the next five years.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

The meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m. by Chair Nolan.

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda.
(i) That the Report of the October 28, 2010 Customer Service Sub-Committee be added as item 5.4.

(ii) The clerk also indicated that he would like to introduce item 7.1 under new business in respect to a memorandum he circulated to board members to arrange a tour date of the McNab Street Transit Terminal.

On a motion the agenda was approved as amended.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) MINUTES (Item 3)

(i) Minutes of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities meeting held on October 12 (Item 3.1)

The minutes of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities meeting held on October 12, 2010 were approved as presented.

-There was some discussion on when the appropriate time was to raise matters that arouse from the Minutes
-The clerk indicated that if staff wished to report back on direction given by the Committee in the minutes of the previous meeting the appropriate time to do so would be to provide an update under discussion items
-Items not submitted in time for the printed agenda could also be brought up under New Business
-Chesney raised a concern about how then are matters requiring follow-up tracked?
-The clerk advised that all follow-up related to recommendations reported to Committee of the Whole (General Issues Committee) is tracked by the Committee clerk,
-the clerk indicated that one way to track these items would be to institute and Outstanding Business List.
-the Clerk advised that tracking for items that are not recommendations to Standing Committee are the responsibility of the Committees staff resources
(d) SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES (Item 5)

(i) Transportation Sub-Committee Minutes, August 24, 2010 (Item 5.1) (referred from September and October meetings)

(a) ATS Performance Report – June 2010: REVISED

Mallett provided the following update, her points included but were not limited to the following:

- There are a few outstanding things such as the extension of hours hasn’t happened to darts
- Discussed how DARTS was going to be used to test the system
- Discussion on the installation on rapid transit

Chesney asked in regards to the cameras if there would be a notification to the riders
- There will be a notification to passengers
- had some discussion around the privacy issues related to this
Chesney indicated that if it is used as a performance tool she has a concern about it but if it used as a safety measure then it is okay
- K. Nolan indicated that HSR are currently doing the trial runs and and only one person currently has access to watch the video
- Mallett indicated that she feels it is unfair that the disabled are being used to test out a new system

Lane questioned whether there could be a polling done by the people in the disabled community to institute this.
- Mallet indicated that the only thing that would do this is a successful lawsuit against the cameras as these vehicles are public property
- Lane indicated that he had a problem with voices being recorded
Chair Nolan indicated that the Access Committee requested that they do a policy around who can access to the footage of these tapes and under what circumstances they would be allowed to do so. Chair Nolan indicated that he received a basic refusal from staff

By motion the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities requested that staff be direct to prepare a set of guiding principals, policies, procedures and guidelines for video surveillance cameras usage in relation to public transportation.

-There was some discussion on the fact that this was implemented by City Council without advising ACPD in any form.
-There was the indication that this should be provided to Council as background information.
-Chair Nolan indicated that Council should also be informed that the absence of a policy means that the City of Hamilton is in violation of AODA legislation

General Issues Committee – January 10, 2011
- Wallis indicated that this is will result in the death of the occasional chit chat with bus drivers
- Mallett pointed out that this should not be used as a performance measurement tool
- Later Jane Lee advised that the Minutes of the September meeting of the Transportation Sub-Committee showed that staff had indicated they would be making a video surveillance policy, notify the public and posting the policy online.
- Committee members indicated that they still wanted the previously moved motion to go ahead as insurance that staff are directed to enact these measures.

- There was some discussion around the numbers in the ATS Performance Report and there was an indication that they would be discussed after the next performance report is received

The Transportation Sub-Committee Minutes, August 24, 2010 were received.

(ii) Transportation Sub-Committee Report, September 28, 2010 (Item 5.2)

(a) Minutes of September 28, 2010

Mallett provided the following update, her points included but were not limited to the following:

- Mentioned concerns that the Taxi Advisory Committee hasn’t met although reforms in relation to taxi’s are being brought forward

The Transportation Sub-Committee Report and Minutes of, September 28, 2010 were received.

(iii) Transportation Sub-Committee Report, October 27, 2010 (Item 5.3)

(a) Citizen Committee Report – Provision of Accessible Taxis in the City of Hamilton

Malett provided the following update, her points included but were not limited to the following:

- Smithson asked about whether there is special training and licensing required for accessible taxis
- Mallett indicated that there was
- Smithson inquired about why the wait times and fares have to be the same for accessible taxis as regular ones
Chair Nolan indicated that it was an essential human rights issue that disabled people are not required to pay a larger amount for the same services than the rest of the general public.

Lane indicated that he was pleased with the fact that the City was willing to move forward with this as the municipality is not required to move forward with this at this point.

Aznive indicated that Vince Ormond had spoken before for the need for accessible taxis something she indicated was very positive.

Chair Nolan indicated that there was the issue that taxi owners may simply pulling their fleet from an area if by-laws are enacted.

Chair Nolan indicated that with that we will achieve complete equality in this system.

Chair Nolan requested that there be follow-up on the Accessible Taxi issue.

Smithson discussed that fare charge system there was a suggestion to add an subsection (e) to the report.

Smithson asked about how accessible taxi’s need to be in terms of scooters and wheelchairs.

Chair Nolan and Mallett discussed the current standards and how rear loaders are currently not permitted.

Chesney asked about the reinstatement to the DARTS list after they are hospitalized asked how they can get back on the subscription list?

Mallett and Jane Lee indicated that is likely an ATS issue.

The following motion was passed by Committee:

(ii) Proposed Reforms to Taxi Licensing By-law

(a) That staff be directed to take the required steps to ensure that by the end of 2012, 20% of licensed taxis in the City of Hamilton are fully accessible for people with disabilities, with a goal of achieving 100% accessible taxis within a reasonable timeframe;

(b) That staff be directed to bring forward the required amendments to the Taxi Licensing By-law and program to ensure that as of 2011 all new taxi plates are issued only to accessible taxi cabs.

(c) That staff be directed to bring forward the required amendments to the Taxi By-law and program to ensure that all transfers and/or sales of taxi cab plates be permitted to accessible taxis only.

(d) That staff be directed to amend the Taxi Licensing By-Law to ensure that all new vehicles are accessible.

(e) That staff be directed to create a communication strategy developed to inform the public of reforms to the accessible taxi system and fares.

General Issues Committee – January 10, 2011
The Transportation Sub-Committee Report of October 27, 2010 was received.

(iv) Customer Service Sub-Committee Report, October 28, 2010 (Added Item 5.4)

Smithson provided the following update, her points included but were not limited to the following:

- Discussed the trip to the Museum of Steam and Technology and that numerous accessible features were already in place
- Discussed how they indicated the need for signage, print and some discussion on the drop off locations
- Indicated that they were very accommodating and receptive to the ideas brought forward by the Sub-Committee

The Customer Service Sub-Committee Report of October 28, 2010 was received.

(e) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 6)

(i) Clerical error respecting Report of ACPD’s June 2009 meeting, that was never submitted to Committee of the Whole. (Item 6.1)

- The Clerk provided an update that the Report of the June 2009 ACPD meeting was never submitted to Committee of the Whole due to a clerical error. Since the error was discovered so long after the fact the clerk suggested that the recommendations of the Report are now out of date and should be reconsidered by the Committee.

- Smithson discussed how this is related to the Fire Plan however was informed by staff that was another Report that is still being worked upon
- The Committee decided to make amendments to the first motion and restate the second motion to correct the reporting error.

By motion The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities requested that City Council requests a copy of the Hamilton Entertainment and Convention Facilities Inc.’s outline for the implementation plan Accessible Customer Service Standard.
By motion The ACPD recommended to City Council that the Hamilton Entertainment and Convention Facilities Inc. prepare a document outlining how the Barrier-Free Design guidelines are used, where they are used and to provide a list of all planned renovation projects for the next five years.

(ii) Rescue Vehicles working group discussion (Item 6.2)

-Chair Nolan indicated that the working group will hasn’t met yet so would it be worthwhile for the working group to meet or just to wait until new members are appointed
-Chesney discussed the need for staff liaison on the working group
-Mallet suggested inviting the police to sit on the working group
-The Clerk was asked how the Committee should proceed, he indicated that staff should be consulted to gauge their willingness to sit on the working group, also pointed out that since this issue relates to transportation it could be sent to the Transportation Sub-Committee
-Committee members indicated that this issue was too big to go to the Transportation Sub-Committee
-Jane Lee agreed that this issue should be handled by a working group provided she an update on previous efforts in this vein and indicated that she is willing to sit for the first meeting of the working group
-That the new appointments be declared to help facilitate the next meeting of the with Malett, Chesney, K. Nolan, R. Cameron

(iii) Representation of people with disabilities on boards and committees (Item 6.3)

-The Clerk provided an update on the selection process Indicating how the City of Hamilton works on the selection process
-Outlined how wording is including in the application to encourage marginalized groups to apply
-Described how this is an equity not a disability related issue as it relates to numerous groups.
-Indicated that any approach to address this would need to consider all marginalized groups and not just those with disabilities, making it a matter that is beyond the mandate of the ACPD Committee
-Suggested that ACPD liaise with other Advisory Committees representing the interest of various marginalized groups in the City if they desired to bring a reform policy forward
-Staff liaison to the Committee disagreed with the clerks assessment indicating that she believed it was appropriate for the Committee to pass recommendations on this matter.
-Staff went on to indicate that they have been working with clerks in relation to this aspect of the selection process

-Chesney indicated that there is a question on how deficiencies are indicated and what can be done in terms to address them
-staff indicated that there is record keeping done on a voluntary basis and that those numbers are examined
-Lee indicated that they are working on it with Clerks
-There was some discussion on the need for the policy to be brought forward
-Chair Nolan expressed concerns that this has been brought forward previously and nothing had been done.
-Suggested in the past that appointments were made based on favours done to Councillors and that the entire system is in need of reform
-Jane Lee indicated that matters of equity in appointments are being moved forward with clerks however in terms of timelines they may not be achievable during this selection process
-Lane indicated that there is a need to push these issues forward so that they are simply not buried again

By motion the Advisory Committee tabled item 6.4, Update on Audible Signs and Item 6.5, Request from David Lepofsky, Chair of the AODA Alliance, for the ACDP to write to the Premier of Ontario in support of the AODA Alliance’s brief on proposed integrated Accessibility Standards until their next meeting.

(iv) **Update on audible signs (Item 6.4)**

Tabled until December meeting

(v) **Request from David Lepofsky, Chair of the AODA Alliance, for the ACDP to write to the Premier of Ontario in support of the AODA Alliance’s brief on proposed integrated Accessibility Standards (Item 6.5)**

Tabled until December meeting
NEW BUSINESS (Item 7)

(i) McNab Street Transit Terminal Tour

- Committee members agreed to the December 7, 2010 date proposed by staff
- The Committee Clerk was advised to provide them with further details when they become available

ADJOURNMENT (Item 8)

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Nolan, Chair
Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities

Andy Grozelle
Legislative Assistant
November 9, 2010