



**ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
April 20, 2026**

PRESENT: Rachele Manett, Chair
Nikolas Harris, Vice Chair
Councillor Laura White
Councillor Jean St-Amand
Glenn Babcock
Anne Sinclair
Jamil Sinno
Cathi Stevenson
Céline Vautour

REGRETS: Councillor Trish Purdy
Oliver Keith

STAFF: Melissa Myers, Accessibility Advisor
Morgane Evans, Coordinator Accessibility Community Outreach and
Research
Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant

These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by the Accessibility Advisory Committee at a future meeting.

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at halifax.ca.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 23, 2026

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor White

THAT the minutes of March 23, 2026 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Jamil Sinno

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence – None

7.2 Petitions – None

7.3 Presentation – None

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 CNIB Halifax - Cycling Infrastructure Guidelines

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff presentation dated April 20, 2026

Phil Nickerson, Supervisor, Design Engineering gave a presentation, seeking feedback and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee provided the following feedback:

- The importance of collecting data regarding collisions at bus stops;
- Halifax Transit users and cyclists both being vulnerable road users;
- The overlapping challenges in meeting the needs of all road users in universal design;
- The effective relationship between cycling and transit infrastructure in Toronto;
- The potential cons of the landing pad being in the bike lane;

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- The importance of educating cyclists on traffic laws and regulations; and
- The need for proper and clear signage, particularly in areas where cycling lanes and pedestrian paths intersect.

9.1.2 Approval of 2026 Work Plan

The following was before the Committee:

- Draft Accessibility Advisory Committee 2026-27 Work Plan

The Committee discussed making the following changes to the Work Plan:

- In the “Desired Outcome” section of Priority 1, adding the need for Halifax Transit bus drivers to receive accessibility training;
- In the “Desired Outcomes” section of Priority 3, that “2026/27 Municipal Budget” be changed to read “2027/28 Municipal Budget”; and
- Potentially adding a fourth priority to address issues of access to emergency services and homelessness in the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

9.1.3 2026 Town Hall Planning

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff presentation dated April 20, 2026

Rachele Manett, Chair gave a presentation. Manett outlined the results of the “2026 Town Hall – Member Survey” that had been circulated to collect feedback regarding member preferences for the 2026 Town Hall.

The Committee discussed holding the booths before and after the panel and panelists no longer providing 5-minute introductions to allow additional time for questions from members of the public. The Committee noted the possibility of creating programs for the event that included information of about each business unit represented on the panel and at the booths.

Outgoing member, Céline Vautour volunteered to assist with distributing posters for the event.

9.2 MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

9.2.1 Regional Council Update

As set out in section 34 of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, a motion was required to extend the time of the meeting.

MOVED by Jamil Sinno, seconded by Nikolas Harris

THAT Accessibility Advisory Committee extend the time of the meeting past 6:00 p.m.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor White spoke to Halifax Regional Council’s activities over the past month. Councillor White noted the items:

- Councillor Austin - Transit Prioritization and Windsor Street Exchange Project – Phase 2 Construction had passed at the March 28, 2026 meeting;
- The 2026/27 Municipal Budget was ratified on March 31, 2026; and
- Proposed Amendments to Administrative Order 2018-005-ADM, Respecting

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Construction Site Management - Temporary Pedestrian Paths Through Work Sites had passed at the April 14, 2026 meeting.

Councillor White responded to questions of clarification from the Committee and spoke to Halifax Regional Council's decision to pass the staff recommendation for PLSTUDY-2026-00504: Inclusionary Zoning Market Analysis and Policy Options Update at the April 14, 2026 meeting.

10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – May 25, 2026

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Elizabeth Macdonald
Legislative Assistant