

Accessibility Advisory Committee 2019 Annual Report

May 26, 2020

Background

- March 2019: Inception of Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)
- Purpose
 - Provide advice and recommendations on improving accessibility for all people in Strathcona County
- Members

Rashelle Babij	Andre Duteau
Floyd House	Susan Mynzak
John Vrolijk (Chair)	Kim McDonald (Vice-chair)
Council Representatives: Councillors Katie Berghofer, Linton Delainey (alternate)	

AAC Mandate Alignment

Becoming Canada's most livable community

Strategic Goals

- Goal 1: Build strong communities to support the diverse needs of residents
- Goal 6: Provide facilities and services that are available and accessible to residents
- Goal 7: Provide opportunities for public engagement and communication

Social Framework Outcomes

- Affordability, Access, Safety, Connectedness and Inclusion



Recreation and Culture Strategy and Transit Master Plan Principles

- Access, Collaboration, Forward Thinking, Viability, Safety, Customer-focused, Reliable, Efficient

AAC Mandate Items

Mandate Letter - 2019 Items


- Recreation and Culture Strategy
- Transit Services – Mobility Bus
- Diversity and Inclusion

Related Requests

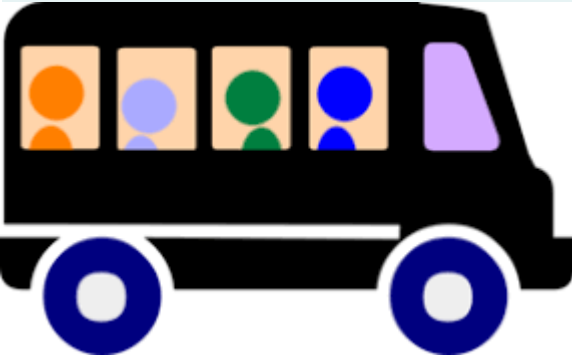
- Community Cemetery
- Multi-purpose Agricultural Facility

Mandate Item:

Recreation and Culture Strategy

Activities	Considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed Recreation and Culture Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptive accessibility equipment at every facility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided input to inform implementation planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disability awareness and sensitivity training for staff
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accessibility guidelines and standards for all Strathcona County facilities, spaces and events
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hearing loop system at customer service counters in the county
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Web portal for public input on accessibility of facilities/events Accessibility lens on programs, services, facility designs

Mandate Item: Transit Services


Activities	Considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Field trip for overview of transit services; issues and opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support for dynamic transit and enhanced direct routes to major facilities in Edmonton
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joint meetings with Seniors Advisory Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase number of bus pads to be upgraded annually
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transit map showing accessible bus stops
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mandate accessibility standards for new developments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify locations of future bus stops and sidewalks in area structure plans
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pilot rural service from Ardrossan to Sherwood Park

Mandate Item: Diversity and Inclusion


Activities	Considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provided input on engagement plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mental health and addictions, poverty and homelessness
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviewed and provided feedback on draft diversity and inclusion policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Urban/rural differences
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public awareness campaign on unconscious bias
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff training on diversity and inclusion



Mandate Item: Community Cemetery

Activities	Considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provided input on the viability and desirability of a community cemetery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support for community cemetery and funeral home not affiliated with faith
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Variety of options for multiple generations and diverse cultures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accessible paths and inclusion of benches
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Affordability
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Location adjacent or close to community

Mandate Item: Multi-purpose Agricultural Facility

Activities	Considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reviewed preliminary design drawing and provided input from accessibility perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Unobstructed views (for wheelchairs) and accessible bleachers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Accessible universal bathrooms
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reduced-stimulus space
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Accessible pedestrian walkways
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Accessible parking close to outdoor spaces

Focus for 2020

- Disability awareness
- Accessibility survey
- Promote accessibility awareness to business community
- Federal and provincial grants and initiatives



Considerations

Recreation and Culture Strategy

- Develop accessibility guidelines and standards for county facilities, spaces and events

Transit Services

- Increase number of bus pads upgraded annually
- Publish transit maps that identify accessible bus stops

Accessibility

- Apply accessibility lens to all facilities, spaces and events



COVID-19 Pandemic Impacts

- Content prepared prior to COVID-19
- Persons with disabilities experiencing loss – of services, connections and community

