#### **RE: EX36.43**



# **TTC Wheel-Trans**

#### **City of Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee: Update on Appeal Process**

June 20, 2018

# **Wheel-Trans Eligibility**

- Prior to January 1 2017: all customers were required to have a physical disability, use a mobility device and attend an in-person interview
- January 1 2017: AODA mandated eligibility changes that all disabilities can apply and 3 levels of eligibility are to be used:
  - <u>Conditional</u>: when a person with a disability is unable to take conventional transit some or all of the time.
  - <u>Unconditional</u>: when a person with a disability is unable to take conventional transit at all.
  - <u>Temporary</u>: when a person with a disability is unable to take conventional transit for a temporary period of time.



## **Wheel-Trans Eligibility Process**

- Wheel-Trans met with over 1500 stakeholders to develop a very comprehensive eligibility application process.
- Developed an application form in partnership with all specialized transit agencies in the GTHA.
- Application form is completed by both the applicant and their healthcare professional.
- Application is submitted and reviewed by staff who have over 20 years' experience in specialized transit eligibility.
- Applications that require more information are booked for an in-person functional assessment with an Occupational Therapist at Sunnybrook Health Services.



# **Eligibility Statistics**

- 2017 Wheel-Trans received 13,360 applications
- 12,689 received eligibility (209 were ineligible)
  - 7813 conditional eligibility
  - 3175 temporary eligibility
  - 1494 unconditional eligibility
- 613 Functional Assessments
- 10 Appeals (less than 1% of total applications result in an appeal)



## **Appeal Process**

- 1. Applicant appeals eligibility decision by submitting an Appeal Form.
- 2. Applicant is scheduled for an in-person functional assessment, unless they have previously completed one as part of the eligibility decision process.
- 3. Interview is scheduled with the Appeal Panel within 30 calendar days.
- 4. Appeal Panel Interview takes place (approximately 30 minutes).
- 5. Decision is made and communicated to applicant within 14 days of the appeal interview.





Appeal Panel consists of 3 members

- Occupational Therapist
- TTC Transit Expert
- Community member with a disability



## **Appeal Statistics**

- Average wait time for appeals to be booked with appeal panel: 7 days
- 10 Appeals conducted in 2017 out of 13,360 received applications
- 7 Appeals conducted in 2018 out of 5511 received applications
- 17 total appeals to date
- 5 appeals overturned Wheel-Trans original decision
- 12 appeals upheld Wheel-Trans original decision
- \$1884.60 total cost of appeals in 2017 which represents 0.27% of our appeals budget
- \$1314.90 total cost of appeals in 2018 which represents 1.9% of our appeals budget





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