

Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee City Council – Approved Term of Reference (March 27 and 28, 2019 – EX3.4)

A. Purpose

1. The Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee is required under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005*. The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) is a provincial law that enables the government to develop, implement and enforce accessibility standards which require the identification, prevention and removal of barriers in key areas with a goal of Ontario being accessible by 2025.
2. The mandate of the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee is to provide advice to City Council on:
 - a) The requirements and implementation of AODA accessibility standards, preparation of accessibility reports and other matters for which Council may seek advice, as required under AODA;
 - b) All other functions specified in the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation, including consultation on:
 - The City's Multi-Year Accessibility Plan
 - The proportion of on-demand accessible taxicabs required in the community
 - Recreation trails
 - Outdoor play spaces
 - Rest areas along exterior paths of travel
 - On-street parking spaces
 - c) The prevention and elimination of barriers faced by persons with disabilities in order to achieve accessibility with respect to City by-laws, policies, goods, services and programs, employment, facilities, buildings, structures and premises;
 - d) Identifying, preventing and removing barriers to the participation of persons with disabilities in public life; and
 - e) Advancing the achievement of social, cultural, and economic well-being of persons with disabilities.

3. The Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee is a Council Advisory Body. It may not direct City staff or make binding decisions on the Toronto government. The Advisory Committee can affect change through recommendations to City Council. Any advisory body recommendation that requires action by City officials or City Council must first be considered by the appropriate Council Committee and, when necessary, approved by City Council.

B. Composition and Term

1. The Committee is composed of 13 members, 12 public members, and one Member of City Council.
2. A majority of the members of the Committee will be persons with disabilities, as defined by and required by the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005*, and should reflect the diversity of Toronto's population.
3. Members are appointed by City Council on recommendation of the Civic Appointments Committee for public members and Striking Committee for the Member of City Council.
4. The Chair will be the Member of City Council, appointed by City Council and, at its first meeting or as soon as possible after, the Committee will elect two Vice-Chairs.
5. The Vice-Chairs will alternate in participation on the selection panel for the recipient of the annual City of Toronto Disability Access Award.
6. Public members are appointed for a four-year term, coinciding with the term of City Council and until their successors are appointed. Public Members may continue for a maximum of two terms (eight years).
7. The People, Equity, and Human Rights Division will canvass and recruit members in accordance with the Public Appointments Policy.
8. Membership is voluntary and a public service. Members will not be remunerated or receive an honorarium. Expenses may be reimbursed pursuant to the Remuneration Policy.

C. Governance

1. The Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee will provide its advice to City Council through the Executive Committee or other appropriate Council Committee.
2. The Committee will operate in accordance with Council's Simplified Procedures for Advisory Bodies.

3. All meetings of the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee will be open to the public and comply with the Open Meeting Requirements of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*.
4. The Advisory Committee will hold up to six meetings per year at the call of the Chair or Co-Chairs.
5. The People, Equity, and Human Rights Division will provide policy-related support and strategic advice to the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee.
6. The City Clerk's Office will provide meeting management support to the Advisory Committee.