

**Chair's Report from Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam
Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee
February 22, 2022**

- **December 3, 2021: International Day of Persons with Disabilities**

The City of Toronto is committed to promoting fundamental human rights and enhancing the quality of life for all residents. The City is committed to accessibility and the goals of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) and works to identify, prevent and remove barriers to equitable access in society for persons with disabilities. The United Nations' 2021 theme for the International Day of Persons with Disabilities is "Leadership and participation of persons with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post-COVID-19 world." Members of the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee are excellent examples of leadership within this community.

- **December 10, 2021: International Human Rights Day**

The City of Toronto embraces the spirit of the Declaration by working to uphold the human rights of its residents and fostering a civil society committed to reconciliation and justice, and the elimination of anti-Black racism, and all forms of hate and discrimination. The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed and deepened many pre-existing inequities and barriers facing equity-deserving communities. We continue to work together with residents and community partners to collectively heal and rebuild from the pandemic in a manner that supports equity, inclusion, and reconciliation. While there has been progress, there is still more work to be done.

The City acknowledges that all people, particularly those facing complex systemic barriers, deserve a fair and just society with access to equitable opportunities. This day, and every day, is an opportunity to highlight the importance of human rights in building safe, sustainable, livable, and vibrant communities.

- **Automated Micro-Utility Devices - Accessibility Feedback**

At the December 15, 2021 meeting of City Council, the item Automated Micro-Utility Devices - Accessibility Feedback was amended to reflect a directed Transportation Innovation Challenge to further support the development of micro-utility devices on Exhibition Place with a report back in the second quarter of 2022. Additionally, Council directed a report on potential impacts and benefits arising from the use of micro-utility devices to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee in the second quarter of 2022, in consultation with local entrepreneurs, Business Improvement Areas, micro-utility devices manufacturers and operators, accessibility community members, law enforcement (surveillance, counter-terrorism, and security experts) and any other interested stakeholders and members of the public.

- **Ontario Line Downtown Stations - Temporary Road Closures and Community Impacts**

At the December 15, 2021 meeting of City Council, the item Ontario Line Downtown Stations - Temporary Road Closures and Community Impacts was amended to strengthen accessibility considerations including clear sidewalks and protected public realm for all who walk, stroll and

roll on our streets. An intersectional approach to long-term road closures will mitigate impacts on communities, businesses, and residents alike.

- **Accessibility Impacts on the Closure of Essential Bus Stops in Our Communities**

At the December 15, 2021 meeting of City Council, the item Accessibility Impacts on the Closure of Essential Bus Stops in Our Communities was adopted without amendments requesting the Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Transit Commission to arrange a presentation to the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee in the first quarter of 2022 on the removal of the two Market Street bus stops on the 121 route, including an explanation of how an equity and accessibility analysis was used to consider the potential impacts of canceling or moving bus stop locations in general and these stops in particular.

- **Update on Outstanding Vehicle-for-Hire Directives**

At the December 15, 2021 meeting of City Council, the item Update on Outstanding Vehicle-for-Hire Directives was adopted with amendments including the temporary 75% reduction on the Vehicle-for-Hire Accessibility Fund Program regulatory charges, approved by Council in February 2021. Additional changes include developing a framework for the vehicle-for-hire sector, supported by an independent report, to maximize the efficiency of the sector and balancing public policy priorities including equity and accessibility as well as measurement and optimization of service for disabled passengers.

- **Major Snow Event Post Operational Report**

At the February 3, 2022 meeting of City Council, the item Major Snow Event Post Operational Report was amended to include consultation with the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee on February 22, 2022.