

# Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee City Council-Approved Terms of Reference for the 2022 - 2026 Term (February 7 and 8, 2023 – EX2.1)

## A. Purpose

1. The Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee (hereafter "the 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 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 for example:
    - 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 Advisory Committee is a Council Advisory Body. It may not direct City staff or make binding decisions on the Toronto government. Any Advisory Committee 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 Advisory Committee is composed of 13 members, 12 public members, and one Member of City Council.
2. A majority of the members of the Advisory 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. Two members will be youth members between the ages of 18 and 29, and two members will be elder members who self-identify and represent the wisdom of their communities.
4. 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.
5. 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 Advisory Committee will elect up to two Vice-Chairs.
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). The Member of City Council is appointed for two years and may be reappointed.
7. The People and Equity Division will work with the City Clerk's Office to canvass and recruit members in accordance with the Public Appointments Policy.
8. Advisory Committee public members will be eligible to receive an honorarium of \$125.00 per meeting attended in recognition of their contributions to Toronto. Honoraria payments will be available to the maximum number of meetings approved by City Council for the Advisory Committee, as specified in this Terms of Reference. The Advisory Committee's honoraria payments are subject to the following:
  - a) Honoraria are not intended for public members who serve on the Advisory Committee as representatives of organizations or businesses where they are employed;

- b) Public members who serve as the Chair or Co-Chair of the Advisory Committee are not eligible for any additional honoraria; and
- c) Honoraria are not paid for attendance at sub-committee meetings or events.

### **C. Governance**

1. The 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. The Advisory Committee will hold up to six meetings per year at the call of the Chair or Vice-Chairs on delegation of the Chair.
4. The People and Equity Division will provide policy support and advice to the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee on the requirements of the AODA, the City's Corporate Accessibility Policy and the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.
5. The City Clerk's Office will provide meeting management support to the Advisory Committee.