



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

ACCESS AWARENESS COMMITTEE

A G E N D A

October 15, 2008

4:00 p.m., Council Chambers

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **LATE ITEMS**
3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - (1) Minutes of the Access Awareness Committee meeting, September 17, 2008 Pg 1 – 3
5. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - (1) Report on Meeting with Darin Ramsey at BC Transit, April 8, 2008
 - (2) Proposed New Sidewalk Construction Program for Next Five Years Pg. 4 – 6
 - (a) Esquimalt Pedestrian Charter Pg. 7 – 13
6. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - (1) Letter from the Director of Parks and Recreation Services dated October 6, 2008, Re: Appointment to Parks and Recreation Commissioner to the Access Awareness Committee Pg. 14
7. **REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES**
 - (1) Measuring – Up Sub-Committee Update
 - (a) Funding Application Report
 - (2) Access Awareness Day Sub-Committee
 - (3) Buccaneer Days Sub-Committee
8. **COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS / REPORTS**
9. **NEXT MEETING**
10. **ADJOURNMENT**



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

MINUTES
ACCESS AWARENESS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

4:00 P.M.

Wurtele Room, Esquimalt Municipal Hall

- PRESENT:** Councillor Barbara Desjardins (Chair)
Councillor Don Linge
Joe Buczkowski, Community Representative
Brian Gray, Community Representative
Meagan Duncan, Community Representative
Emmy Labonté, Community Representative
- STAFF:** Gilbert Coté – Director of Engineering and Public Works (Staff Liaison)
Andy Katschor – Parks Manager (Staff Liaison)
Deborah Liske – Recording Secretary
- REGRETS:** Maureen Mitchell-Starkey
Walter Gattinger, Esquimalt Legion Representative
Mia Shinbrot, Community Representative
Barbara Amberstone, Community Representative

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Desjardins called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

2. **LATE ITEMS**

The following late items were introduced:

Add to Agenda item **5. OLD BUSINESS** (3) Proposed New Sidewalk Construction Program for Next Five Years

Add new Agenda item **5. OLD BUSINESS** (4) Access Town

3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Brian Gray, seconded by Joe Buczkowski, that the agenda of the Access Awareness Committee meeting of September 17, 2008 be approved with the inclusion of the late agenda items.

The motion **CARRIED**.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Brian Gray, seconded by Councillor Linge that the minutes of June 18, 2008 be approved as presented.

The motion **CARRIED**.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- (1) Report on Meeting with Darin Ramsey at BC Transit, April 8, 2008

Defer to next meeting.

- (2) Buccaneer Days / Access Awareness Day

The Committee continued to discuss incorporating a Access Awareness showcase during Buccaneer Days along with the merits of keeping the two events separate. It was determined through discussion that the two events be kept separate with the Access Awareness Committee participating in some capacity at Buccaneer Days and also continuing to organize the Access Awareness Day event in June. The opportunity to highlight accessibility issues to a large number of people during Buccaneer Days was noted.

Suggestions for the Committees contribution at Buccaneer Days included:

- Videotape the activities of Access Awareness Day to play at Buccaneer Days.
- Highlight an accessible sport.
- Research other visual aids.

Emmy Labonté and Andy Katschor will continue to work on the sub-committee for the Access Awareness Day event. Brian Gray and Joe Buczkowski will liaise with the Buccaneer Days Committee to arrange the Access Awareness Committees participation at Buccaneer Days.

The Access Awareness Day sub-committee will contact Marnie Essery, Chair of the Intermunicipal Advisory Committee on Disability Issues for additional information for the Esquimalt Access Awareness Day event.

- (3) Proposed New Sidewalk Construction Program for Next Five Years (**Late Item**)

The Director of Engineering and Public Works reviewed a proposed five-year plan for municipal sidewalks and would like to receive feedback from Committee members on which streets and roads require sidewalks in order to provide a draft plan to Council. Once feedback is received, a list will be compiled and prioritized. It was requested that suggestions be forwarded to the Director of Engineering and Public Works via email. A map showing the locations of existing sidewalks is also available. The Director of Engineering and Public Works will forward a pdf copy of the map to all Committee members.

The Director of Engineering and Public Works outlined the necessary criteria (in priority sequence) for the installation of sidewalks:

- Major roads and collector roads (sidewalks located on both sides of the road).
- Along bus routes (minimum of sidewalk on one side of the road).
- School locations.
- Commercial and business establishments.

It was requested that a copy of the Esquimalt Pedestrian Charter accompany the map to be sent to Committee members.

The Committee also discussed the permitted uses of a sidewalk i.e.: pedestrian only and pedestrian/cyclist. The Director of Engineering and Public Works will review the bylaw(s) associated to permitted uses of sidewalks.

These items will be discussed further at the next meeting.

(4) Access Town (**Late Item**)

Meagan Duncan provided the Committee with a newspaper article on local hotel accessibility. The Committee discussed with Emmy Labonté noting that the local bed & breakfasts have mentioned that they face many challenges in making their accommodations accessible due to the high costs associated with renovating.

Moved by Councillor Linge, seconded by Emmy Labonté that the Committee forward a letter to the B & B's and the two hotels located within the municipality for a listing of the level and type of accessibility of their accommodations.

The motion **CARRIED**.

6. **REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES**

(1) Measuring – Up Sub-Committee Update

Councillor Desjardins reported that a meeting of the group municipalities is scheduled for next week, September 23, 2008. Andy Katschor will be attending and will report back to the Committee at the next Access Awareness Committee meeting.

7. **COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS / REPORTS**

Councillor Desjardins noted that Maureen Mitchell-Starkey will no longer be the Parks and Recreation Commission representative. A new representative will have to be designated.

8. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Access Awareness Committee will take place on Wednesday, October 15, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Esquimalt Municipal Hall.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councillor Linge, seconded by Emmy Labonté that the meeting adjourn at 5:09 p.m.
The motion **CARRIED**.

Councillor Barbara Desjardins, Chair

This day of , 2008

Proposed New Sidewalk Construction Program 2009-2014 Draft for Comments

Street	Location	Reasons for Sidewalk	Remarks	Priority
Admirals Road & Bewdley Ave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From end of Sidewalk on Admirals Road to Fraser Street Sidewalk on both sides of road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collector Road Network connectivity Proximity to Saxe Point Park Bus route 	Property acquisition will be required on Admirals Road Rock excavation may be needed	
Munroe St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plaskett Place to Pooley Place Sidewalk on both sides of work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collector Road Network connectivity Proximity to Saxe Point Park and Fleming Beach Bus route 		
Bewdley Ave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From Lampson to walkway to Macaulay School Sidewalk on one side 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network connectivity Access to Macaulay School 		
Greenwood Ave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From Kinver to Lampson Sidewalk on one side 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network connectivity 	There is an existing sidewalk on Greenwood Ave west of Kinver Street	
Lyll Street	Gore Street to Head Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network connectivity Proximity to West Bay Marina 	New sidewalk to be constructed by developed whenever the Gore/Lyall/Head triangle is developed	
Head Street	Gore Street to Lyall Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network connectivity Proximity to West Bay Marina 	New sidewalk to be constructed by developed whenever the Gore Lyall Head triangle is developed	
Head Street	Dunsmuir to Esquimalt Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network connectivity 	Sidewalk in poor condition	
Old Esquimalt Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From Viewfield to Head Street Sidewalk on North side 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collector Road Bus route Adjacent to Victor Brodeur School and Sport field 		

Wollaston St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lampson to Macaulay Sidewalk on North side Sidewalk on south side 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network connectivity 		
Wordsley St.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Old Esquimalt Road to Fairview Sidewalk on North side 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network connectivity Large apartment buildings Truck route Large grocery store 		
Viewfield Rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From Viewfield to Ellery Sidewalk on east side 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Truck route Walking route by students to Esquimalt High School Network conductivity Access to large grocery store on Viewfield 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Property acquisition needed Railway crossing could be very costly because of poor visibility due to angle of crossing 	
Fairview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From Fairview to Cave Sidewalk on north side Section between Fairview and Cave St Sidewalk and south side 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Truck route Network connectivity Proximity to school Network connectivity 		
Devonshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From Craigflower to Selkirk Sidewalk on one site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network connectivity 		
Elery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From Craigflower to Esquimalt Gorge Park Sidewalk on east side 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network connectivity Access to Esquimalt Gorge Park 		
Arcadia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From Craigflower to future development at 1190 Rhoda Lane Sidewalk on east side 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network connectivity 		
Sioux Place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sidewalk on one side of street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bus route No sidewalks in Parklands neighbourhood 		
Garthland				
Parklands Drive				

Kingsmill Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sidewalk on one side of street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bus route No sidewalks in Parklands neighbourhood 		
Woodway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admirals to Greenville Sidewalk on south side 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network connectivity 		
Astle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constance to Admirals Road Sidewalk on north side 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No sidewalk in high density neighbourhood 	Portions of sidewalk may be funded by developers	
Constance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Esquimalt Road to north end of road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No sidewalk in high density neighbourhood 	Portions of sidewalk may be funded by developers	



**Corporation of the Township of
Esquimalt**

**The Esquimalt
Pedestrian Charter**

**Created by the Esquimalt Environmental Advisory
Committee**

Approved by Esquimalt Council on April 2, 2007

The Esquimalt Pedestrian Charter

A **pedestrian** is a person moving from place to place, either **by foot or by using an assistive mobility device**. Pedestrians include people of all ages and abilities and residents of and visitors to Esquimalt. In order to travel safely, conveniently, directly and comfortably, pedestrians require an urban environment and infrastructure designed to meet their travel needs.

Walking is the most ancient and universal form of travel. It is also an important form of exercise and recreation. Every personal trip involves walking, alone or in combination with taking public transit, driving or cycling.

In adopting **The Esquimalt Pedestrian Charter**, Esquimalt Council recognizes the benefits of walking as a key indicator of a healthy, efficient, socially inclusive and sustainable community and acknowledges the universal rights of people to be able to walk safely and to enjoy high quality public spaces at anytime. As we move toward becoming a more sustainable community, Esquimalt is committed to reducing the physical, social and institutional barriers that limit walking activity. Esquimalt respects the following strategic principles:

1. Increased inclusive mobility

People in our community have the right to accessible streets, squares, buildings and public transport systems regardless of their age, ability, gender, income level, language, ethnic, cultural or religious background, strengthening the freedom and autonomy of all people, and contributing to social inclusion, solidarity and democracy.

Esquimalt supports and encourages planning, design and development that:

- Ensures safe and convenient independent mobility for all by providing access on foot or with an assisted mobility device for as many people as possible to as many places as possible particularly to public transport and public buildings
- Integrates the needs of people with limited abilities by building and maintaining high-quality services and facilities that are socially inclusive

2. Well designed and managed spaces and places for people

People in Esquimalt have the right to live in a healthy, convenient and attractive environment tailored to their needs, and to freely enjoy the amenities of public areas in comfort and safety away from intrusive noise and pollution.

Esquimalt supports and encourages planning, design and development that:

- Designs streets for people and not only for cars, recognizing that streets are a social as well as a transport space and therefore, need a social design as well as engineering measures. This can include reallocating road space, implementing pedestrian priority areas and creating car-free environments to be enjoyed by all, supporting social interaction, play and recreation for both adults and children
- Provides clean, well-lit streets and paths, free from obstruction, wide enough for their busiest use, and with sufficient opportunities to cross roads safely and directly, without changing levels or diversion
- Ensures seating and toilets are provided in quantities and locations that meet the needs of all users
- Addresses the impact of climate through appropriate design and facilities, for example shade (trees) or shelter.
- Designs legible streets with clear signing and on-site information to encourage specific journey planning and exploration on foot or with an assisted mobility device.
- Values, develops and maintains high quality and fully accessible urban green spaces and waterways.

3. Improved integration of networks

Our community will strive to have a network of connected, direct and easy to follow walking routes which are safe, comfortable, attractive and well maintained, linking their homes, shops, schools, parks, public transport interchanges, green spaces and other important destinations.

Esquimalt supports and encourages planning, design and development that:

- Builds and maintains high-quality networks of connected, functional and safe walking routes between homes and local destinations that meet community needs
- Provides an integrated, extensive and well-equipped public transport service with vehicles which are fully accessible to all potential users
- Designs public transport stops and interchanges with easy, safe and convenient pedestrian access and supportive information

4. Supportive land-use and spatial planning

Esquimalt residents have the right to expect land-use and spatial planning policies which allow them to walk to the majority of everyday services and facilities, maximizing the opportunities for walking, reducing car-dependency and contributing to community life.

Esquimalt supports and encourages planning, design and development that:

- Puts pedestrians at the heart of urban planning. Gives slow transport modes such as walking and cycling priority over fast modes, and local traffic precedence over long-distance travel
- Improves land-use and spatial planning, ensuring that new housing, shops, business parks and public transport stops are located and designed so that people can reach them easily on foot or with an assisted mobility device.
- Reduces the conditions for car-dependent lifestyles (for example, reduce urban sprawl), re-allocate road space to pedestrians and close the missing links in existing walking routes to create priority networks

5. Reduced road danger

Residents of Esquimalt have the right for their streets to be designed to prevent accidents and to be enjoyable, safe and convenient for people walking – especially children, the elderly and people with limited abilities

Esquimalt supports and encourages planning, design and development that:

- Reduces the danger that vehicles present to pedestrians by managing traffic, (for example, by implementing slower speeds), rather than segregating pedestrians or restricting their movements
- Encourages a pedestrian-friendly driving culture with targeted campaigns and enforce road traffic laws
- Reduces vehicle speeds in residential districts, shopping streets and around schools
- Reduces the impact of busy roads by installing sufficient safe crossing points, ensuring minimal waiting times and enough time to cross for the slowest pedestrians
- Ensures that facilities designed for cyclists and other non-motorized modes do not compromise pedestrian safety or convenience

6. Less crime and fear of crime

Esquimalt residents have the right to expect an urban environment designed, maintained and policed to reduce crime and the fear of crime.

Esquimalt supports and encourages planning, design and development that:

- Ensures buildings provide views onto and activity at street level to encourage a sense of surveillance and deterrence to crime
- Conducts pedestrian audits by day and after dark to identify concerns for personal security and then target areas for improvements (for example, with brighter lighting and clearer sightlines)
- Provides training and information for transport professionals to increase awareness of the concerns of pedestrians for their personal security and the impact of such concerns on their decisions to walk

7. More supportive authorities

Our community has the right to expect authorities to provide for, support and safeguard their ability and choice to walk.

Esquimalt supports and encourages planning, design and development that:

- Commits to a clear, concise and comprehensive action plan for walking, to set targets, secure stakeholder support and guide investment and includes the following actions:
 - Involves all relevant agencies (especially transport, planning, health, education and police), at all levels, to recognize the importance of supporting and encouraging walking and to encourage complementary policies and actions
 - Consults, on a regular basis, local organizations representing people on foot and other relevant groups including young people, the elderly and those with limited ability
 - Collects quantitative and qualitative data about walking (including the motivations and purpose of trips, the number of trips, trip stages, time and distance walked, time spent in public spaces and levels of satisfaction)
 - Integrates walking into the training and on-going staff professional development for transport and road safety officers, health practitioners, urban planners and designers
 - Provides the necessary ongoing resources to implement the adopted action plan
 - Implements pilot-projects to advance best-practice and support research by offering to be a case study and promoting local experience widely
 - Measures the success of programs by surveying and comparing data collected before, during and after implementation

8. A culture of walking

Our community has a right to up-to-date, good quality, accessible information on where they can walk and the quality of the experience. People should be given opportunities to celebrate and enjoy walking as part of their everyday social, cultural and political life.

Esquimalt supports and encourages programs that:

- Actively encourage all members of the community to walk whenever and wherever they can as a part of their daily lives by developing regular creative, targeted information, in a way that responds to their personal needs and engages personal support
- Create a positive image of walking by celebrating walking as part of cultural heritage and as a cultural event, for example, in architecture, art-exhibitions, theatres, literature readings, photography and street animation
- Provide coherent and consistent information and signage systems to support exploration and discovery on foot or with an assisted mobility device including links to public transport
- Financially reward people who walk more, through local businesses, workplaces and government incentives

Township of
ESQUIMALT

DATE: 6 October 2008

TO: Barb Desjardins, Chair
Access Awareness Committee

FROM: Christine Morissette
Director, Parks and Recreation Services

SUBJECT: **Appointment of Parks and Recreation Commissioner to the
Access Awareness Committee**

At a recent meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission, the appointment of a member to the Access Awareness Committee was discussed. The Commission decided that it would appoint someone to the Committee at its first meeting in the new year, after the Mayor appoints new members to the Commission.



Christine Morissette
Director of Parks and Recreation Services