



Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: February 12, 2026
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Room 305, City Hall, third floor

1. Members Present:

Jill Randall (Chair), Amy DeHueck, Meg DeForest, Lucy Nixon, Emily Stillwell, Garth Napier, Debbie Strum

2. Member Regrets:

Cheryl Hurst, David Owen, Tammy Lyle-Gravlev, Sona Rai, Councillor Sharman

3. Others Present:

Marion Rabeau (Manager, Design & Construction - Parks), Claire Basinski (Consultant), Amanda Gebhardt (Consultant), Dzenana Zildzic (Accessibility Specialist), Suzanne Gillies (Clerk)

4. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair read the Land Acknowledgement.

5. Declarations of Interest:

None

6. Approval of Minutes:

6.1 Approve the minutes from the meeting held January 8, 2026

On motion the minutes from the meeting held January 8, 2026 were approved as presented.

7. Delegation(s):

None

8. Regular Items:

8.1 Staff update - introduction of Dzenana Zildzic (Accessibility Specialist)

Dzenana was introduced to the Committee and round table introductions of Committee members were completed.

8.2 Community Trails Strategy project update: focus area and potential project discussion - Marion Rabeau (Manager, Design & Construction - Parks) and Claire Basinski (Consultant)

Marion, Claire and Amanda provided a presentation (attached) and the committee asked the following questions and provided feedback:

(Q) The one descriptor that seems to have been dropped from the earlier version is the speed on the trail, was that intentional and if so what was the reasoning? (A) Speed was not left out intentionally, this is just a very high level description/summary of the different trails, there is a strategy being developed that will be for safety commitment that deals with conflict management and user management. This strategy can be shared once further along in its development.

(Q) Can you please clarify the difference between bench seating and rest seating. (A) Rest seating or area could be flat rock or landscaping stone, it is an opportunity to rest but does not meet the accessible requirements or characteristic identified for accessible seating.

(Q) Is there an opportunity moving forward to maximize user experience to provide an electronic way to predict the trail that meets a user's unique needs so expectations are managed prior to arriving at a trail? And can this be updated over time as conditions or use changes? (A) This is done with signage at the trail entry points and should be on the city's website. There are recommendations coming through the 'Good for Safety' strategy that include working with the tools available, but also maybe work with some App developers to have something that is tailored to Burlington trails that can be updated in real time based on data. Ideally this tool could be used as a 'build your own trail experience'.

(Q) What are the best practices with trails when it comes to micro-mobility? (A) One of the focus areas right now is the Centennial Trail due to the current design not matching the current use including demand, speed and interaction so this is where you would find a recommendation to improve that to a major greenway trail with full separation. Always pushing to have the paths as wide as possible.

(Q) Understanding the complexity of waterfront trails in Burlington, should any path water adjacent be required to be accessible to all individuals in

the community. So identify as major to promote the accessibility. (A) We will take that into consideration, the waterfront trail classification is still under discussion.

(Q) When will be receive a response to the list of recommendations the committee provided for consideration? (A) Together with staff we are working on responses to all the recommendations that were provided. We have a draft response ready to do, we just need a little more time to fine tune some of the information we are providing back to the committee.

Lucy, Emily and Garth will continue to work on this initiative including reviewing the responses once provided by staff.

8.3 Workplan and budget discussion

This item was not discussed due to lack of time.

8.4 Zoning By-law delegation update

This item was not discussed due to lack of time.

8.5 Updates from Committees:

a. Seniors' Advisory Committee - Jill

This item was not discussed due to lack of time.

b. Integrated Transportation Advisory Committee - Garth

This item was not discussed due to lack of time.

c. Inclusivity Advisory Committee - Lucy

This item was not discussed due to lack of time.

9. Other Business:

9.1 Good news round table

10. Adjournment:

Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.