

UNIVERSAL ACCESS-ABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Please note that this meeting is scent free

DATE: Tuesday, April 2, 2024

TIME: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

PLACE: Council Committee Room, Coquitlam City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, February 6, 2024 be approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- 2. Introduction of Accessibility and Inclusion Specialist (Introductory Comments by the Manager Equity, Diversity and Inclusion)**
7:05 – 7:15 p.m. (10 minutes)
- 3. UAAC Working Group Updates (Introductory Comments by the Manager Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and Community Services Coordinator)**
7:15 – 7:35 p.m. (20 minutes)
 - 2024 BC AccessAbility Resource Fair
 - 2024 Canada Day – UAAC volunteers at EDI booth
- 4. Accessibility Plan Update – Standing Agenda Item (Introductory Comments by the Manager Equity, Diversity and Inclusion)**
7:35 – 7:50 p.m. (15 minutes)
- 5. Fraser Mills Community Centre and Parks Planning (Presentation by the Park Planning and Design Manager and Senior Project Manager)**
7:50 – 8:20 p.m. (30 minutes)
- 6. Transportation and Other Department Updates – Standing Agenda Item (Presentation by the Transportation Planning Manager)**
8:20 – 8:40 p.m. (20 minutes)



7. Committee Members’ Roundtable / Emerging Accessibility Issues (Standing Agenda Item)

8:40 – 9:00 p.m. (20 minutes)

** Opportunity for Committee members to share emerging universal accessibility issues/updates from their communities*

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – Tuesday, June 4, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

**UNIVERSAL ACCESS-ABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, February 6, 2024**

A Regular Meeting of the Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee convened on Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Teri Towner, Vice Chair
Julianne Cressman, Citizen Representative (arrived at 7:02 p.m.)
Dana Ebtekar, Citizen Representative
Paul Jarvie, Citizen Representative (arrived at 7:01 p.m.)
Alex Kwan, Citizen Representative
Heather Lawson, Citizen Representative
Georgette Reyes, Citizen Representative
Pat Roy, Canadian Council of the Blind BC-Yukon Division
Linda King, Community Ventures Society
Ross Renaud, SHARE Family and Community Services
Susan Williamson, Tri-Cities Seniors’ Action Society

REGRETS: Councillor Matt Djonlic, Chair
Benjamin Perry, Citizen Representative
Pete Stone, Community Ventures Society

STAFF: Manisha Dutta, Manager Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
Thomas Thivener, Transportation Planning Manager
Glen Chua, Transportation Planning Specialist
Jennifer Urbaniak, Community Services Coordinator
Caley Amundsen, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- 1. Minutes of the Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, November 7, 2023.**

Paul Jarvie arrived to the meeting at this time (7:01 p.m.).

Julianne Cressman arrived to the meeting at this time (7:02 p.m.).

The Minutes of the Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, November 7, 2023 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

2. Committee Welcome

The Committee Clerk provided introductory comments relative to the 2024 UAAC Meeting Schedule, Committee member attendance expectations and facility evacuation procedures.

There were no comments from the Committee.

3. Review and Adoption of the 2024 Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee Work Plan

The draft 2024 Work Plan was presented on-screen and the Manager Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and Transportation Planning Specialist provided an overview of the proposed Work Plan items.

Discussion ensued relative to the Biennial Education Event's current status.

The Committee endorsed the 2024 Work Plan and a copy is attached hereto, and forms a part of, these minutes.

The Committee recommended:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the 2024 Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee Work Plan.

4. 2024 Event Planning / Potential Establishment of UAAC Working Groups – Volunteer Opportunities

The Manager Equity, Diversity and Inclusion introduced the Community Services Coordinator and provided introductory comments that covered the following topics:

- Overview of the City's Community Services division and its programs
- Overview of the 2024 AccessAbility Resource Fair (hereon "the Fair") and staff desire to proactively collaborate with UAAC members for the Fair
- Canada Day 2024 and potential for UAAC volunteers at the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) booth

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Potential for information provided at the Fair to include more relevant programs and opportunities for people with disabilities such as the Canada Revenue Agency's (CRA) Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP)
- The Fair's logistics, details, and proposed structure in terms of UAAC representation and involvement

- Potential for the Fair to be held later in the evening on a weekday, on a weekend or during a School District No. 43 (SD43) Pro-D Day

The Committee formed a 2024 AccessAbility Resource Fair working group and the following members offered to serve: Julianne Cressman, Heather Lawson, Ross Renaud and Georgette Reyes.

The Committee formed a 2024 Canada Day working group and the following members offered to serve: Dana Ebtekar, Alex Kwan and Susan Williamson.

The Committee Clerk noted that staff will follow-up with working group members regarding next steps.

5. Accessibility Plan Update

The Manager Equity, Diversity and Inclusion noted that there were no updates at this time.

6. Transportation and Other Department Updates

The Transportation Planning Manager provided a presentation entitled “Transportation, TransLink and Other Department Updates” that covered the following topics:

- Overview of Nelson Street and Guildford Way active transportation infrastructure safety improvements, including timeline, proposed micromobility lanes, challenges of widening sidewalks and public engagement opportunities

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Location and time of Nelson Street public engagement open house
- Concerns regarding vehicle traffic near Mackin Park
- Nelson Street, including the importance of installing more lighting and visible signage, Committee support for proposed safety improvements and the possibility of installing benches and communal spaces along this corridor
- Whether proposed upgrades on Guildford Way will prevent collisions between cyclists and pedestrians at bus stops, concerns regarding the slanting edge of separated bike lanes and desire to make the slanting edge more visible to pedestrians
- Major intersections in Coquitlam and whether they currently have separate traffic lights for cyclists

7. Committee Members’ Roundtable / Emerging Accessibility Issues

The Chair invited Committee members to share emerging accessibility issues and information regarding events occurring in their communities.

The following information was shared:

- Concerns regarding traffic along Austin Avenue during the City's HollyDaze in the Heights event on November 18, 2023
- White Cane Week from February 4 to 10, 2024
- Accessibility challenges and barriers that prevent youth from participating in sports
- Proposed Coquitlam seniors' rental housing projects at 290 Laval Square and 602 Sydney Avenue, including concerns regarding unit design, affordability and the desire for accessible units
- Lower Mainland snowfall events, including jurisdictional responsibility of clearing bus stops and concerns regarding the lack of snow clearance along Coquitlam sidewalks
- BC Active Transportation Summit from June 18 to 19, 2024 at Anvil Centre

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE - Tuesday, April 2, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Teri Towner, Vice Chair

Caley Amundsen, Committee Clerk

Committee Mandate:

The mandate of the Committee is to provide a local and universal accessibility perspective and advice to Council with respect to achieving the City of Coquitlam’s strategic goals and accompanying strategic directions toward universal accessibility:

- To continue to make the City more inclusive for existing and future residents with disabilities by addressing and preventing the physical, social and attitudinal barriers which impede their full participation in all aspects of City life;
- To provide advice to Council about the development of City policies and programs to educate and inform on matters affecting residents with disabilities and/or physical or mental challenges and universal accessibility;
- To review design plans for civic buildings and public spaces and provide advice to Council to ensure the needs of persons with disabilities are considered with the goal of universal access;
- To provide advice to Council about the development of City policies and programs, including an organizational accessibility plan and mechanism for public feedback in accordance with the *Accessible British Columbia Act*, to ensure the needs of existing and future residents living with disabilities are considered (e.g., transportation, housing, capital programs, leisure and parks services, environment).


WORK PLAN ITEMS	DEPARTMENT AND/OR PRESENTER	COMMENTS (i.e. Initiated by, Priority Assignment A, B, C)
Committee Welcome	Chair / Staff	Chair / Staff
Review and Approval of the 2024 Work Plan	Chair / CS / E&PW	Staff
Accessibility Plan Initiation and Development (Standing Agenda Item) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various items will be addressed throughout the year including the process for developing the plan and standard areas to be included in the plan (i.e. built environment, service delivery, information and technology, employment, procurement, and transportation) 	CS and Various Departments	Staff / Priority A

2024 Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee Work Plan

WORK PLAN ITEMS	DEPARTMENT AND/OR PRESENTER	COMMENTS (i.e. Initiated by, Priority Assignment A, B, C)
Transportation, TransLink and Other Departmental Updates (Standing Agenda Item)	E&PW / TransLink / Various departments	Staff / TransLink
UAAC Members' Roundtable / Emerging Accessibility Issues & Updates (Standing Agenda Item)	Roundtable	Committee
2024 AccessAbility Week – Planning for educational activities at the AccessAbility Resource Fair	PRCF / Committee	Staff / Committee
Canada Day 2024 Event Overview – UAAC representation at City booths	DCM / CS / Committee	Staff
E&PW initiatives – Opportunity for Committee input, as needed, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Transportation Plan Update • Climate Action Plan • Micromobility Capital Projects 	E&PW	Staff Priority A Priority B Priority C
City Manager / Deputy City Manager initiatives – Opportunity for Committee input, as needed, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Festival and Events Strategy 	CM / DCM	Staff Priority B
Planning and Development initiatives – Opportunity for Committee input, as needed, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southwest Housing Review • Hazel-Coy Neighbourhood Draft Plan 	P&D	Staff Priority A Priority C
Parks Planning and Facilities initiatives – Opportunity for Committee input, as needed, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northeast Community Centre and Park Design • Blue Mountain Park Master Plan • Fraser Mills Community Centre and Parks Planning 	PRCF	Staff Priority A / Committee Priority B Priority C

2024 Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee Work Plan


WORK PLAN ITEMS	DEPARTMENT AND/OR PRESENTER	COMMENTS (i.e. Initiated by, Priority Assignment A, B, C)
2024 Year-end Review / Identify potential items for the 2025 Work Plan – Committee feedback/input	Staff Lead / Committee	Staff



City of Coquitlam

Accessibility Plan Update

Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee | April 2, 2024



f t i y l | coquitlam.ca/EDI

Background

- ABC Act came into effect in 2023 presents requirements to:
 - Create an accessibility committee;
 - Create an accessibility plan;
 - Create a feedback mechanism on this plan.
- Municipalities are now prescribed organizations
- No singular approach
- Coquitlam is well positioned for 2023 and beyond



Actions completed 2023 – to date



- Continue to use and engage with the Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee as the designated accessibility committee
- Continue to promote City’s accessibility programs and resources
- Manager EDI to coordinate key staff on this wide-ranging, cross-department work

Actions completed 2023 – to date



- New accessibility webpage with feedback mechanism
 - Coquitlam.ca/EnhancingAccessibility
- Hired an Accessibility and Inclusion Specialist
- Issued a Request for Proposals for a consultant in late December 2023 – this process is being finalized

Next Steps



- Gain direction on developing the City's first-ever Accessibility Plan
- Come back to UAAC with regular updates and to gain feedback and consultation



City of Coquitlam

Fraser Mills Public Amenities Update

Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee | April 2, 2024

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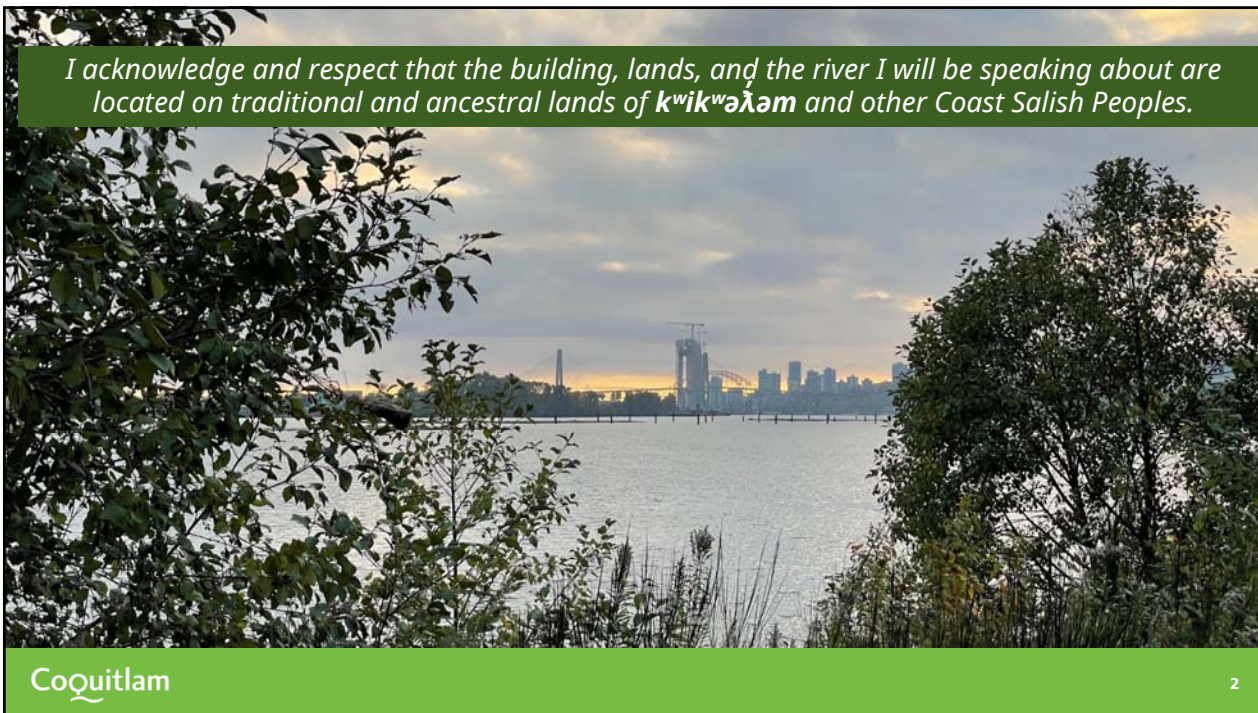
Purpose of Presentation

1. Introduce the Fraser Mills development and public amenities;
2. Answer questions and receive comments;
3. Outline next steps.

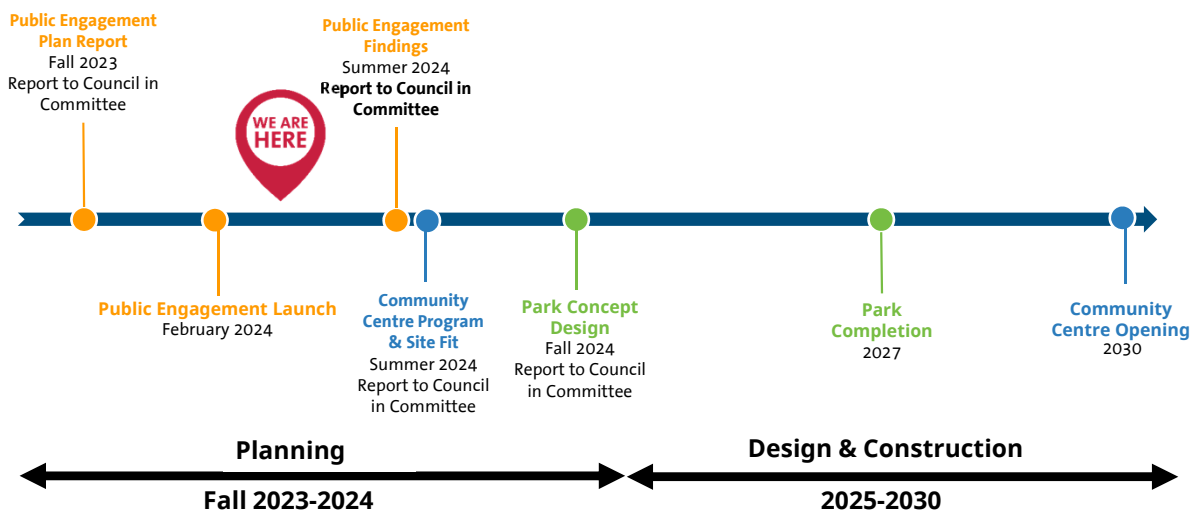


Coquitlam

I acknowledge and respect that the building, lands, and the river I will be speaking about are located on traditional and ancestral lands of kwikwəłəm and other Coast Salish Peoples.



Timeline



Context

- Per Approved Development Agreement:

 - 4.7 hectares (11.5 acres) of park land

 - 2.1 hectares (5.1 acres) of restored natural area

 - A 4,645 sq. m. (50,000 sq. ft.) community centre

- Serving all Coquitlam residents



Fraser Mills Public Amenities Project Process

- 3 phases:
 - planning, design and construction
- Founded on policies and plans, development agreement, and project specific public engagement
- *Public engagement in process*



City Strategies & Policies



Community Centre

- Work in conjunction with the City's Accessibility Strategy recognizing importance of BC Legislation
- Design the building to the highest accessibility standard (i.e. Rick Hanson Foundation)
- Ensuring indoor spaces and programs are inclusive, welcoming, and safe



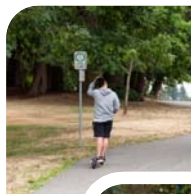
Parks Network

Destination Waterfront Park

Four districts: Riverfront Park, Historic Como Creek Greenway, Urban Plaza and Riverside Linear Park.

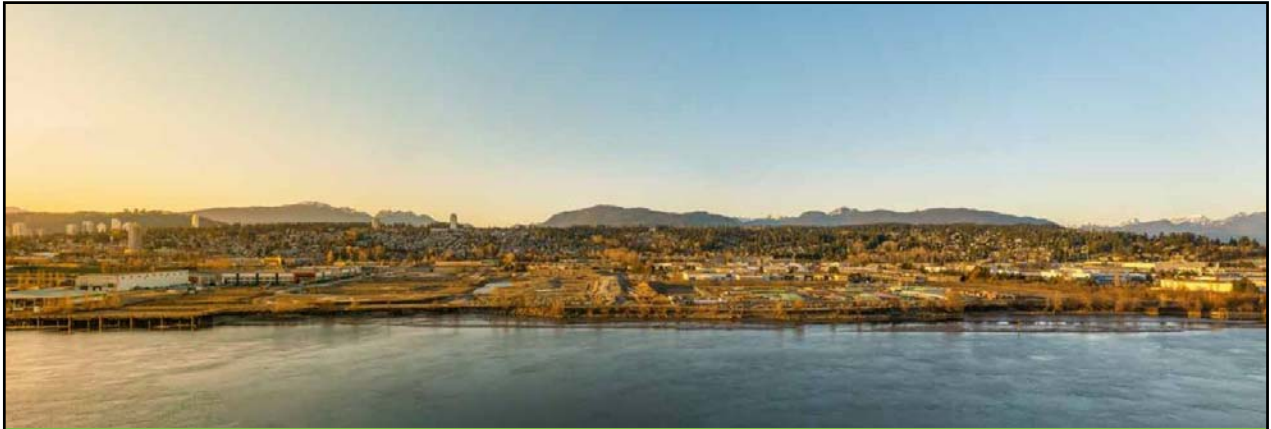
Ensure Accessibility and Inclusivity of:

- Trails and pathways
- Surface materials that provide smooth walking and rolling
- Play and active spaces
- Washrooms
- Seating



Next Steps

- Receive Advisory Committee input
- Staff will report to Council with engagement outcome and information on programming & cost estimate



Fraser Mills Community Centre Update

Thank you

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