

The Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie

Accessibility Advisory Committee

Agenda

September 10, 2025, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 836 2497 2816

Passcode: 280622

One tap mobile Canada +12042727920,,83624972816#

Canada Toll-free 855 703 8985

[YouTube livestream link](#)

- 1. Meeting called to order**
- 2. Chair's comments**
- 3. Approval of Minutes**
 - 3.1. AAC meeting June 12, 2025
- 4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**
- 5. New Business**

6. Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone (EASE) Grant

7. Old Business

- 7.1. Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) repair update
- 7.2. APS Standard Policy update
- 7.3. Queen Street Civic Address Signs

8. Barrier Removal Updates from the Accessibility Plan

- 8.1. VPR - \$20,000
- 8.2. Curb Cuts – \$10,000
- 8.3. APS Pedestrian crossing proximity sensors - \$10,000
- 8.4. Parks, swings and instruments - \$10,000
- 8.5. Accessible Outdoor Seating - \$10,000
- 8.6. Captioning City Council - \$6000
- 8.7. VRI - \$5000
- 8.8. John Rhodes Centre - \$2,000
- 8.9. Contingency - \$12,000
- 8.10. Uncommitted Reserves – \$61,388
- 8.11. John Rhodes Community Centre grant update

9. Site Plan Sub-Committee Report

- 9.1. Site Plan Sub-Committee Report - attached

10. Adjournment

Next meeting October 8, 2025 - In-person and via Zoom, 2:00 to 4:00 pm



Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie
Accessibility Advisory Committee
Minutes, June 12, 2025, 4:30 pm

Meetings may be viewed live on the City's YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/user/SaultSteMarieOntario>

Present: Carol Magnan, Don McConnell, Diana Gerhart, Derrick Lavallee, Wayne Scharfenberg, Andree Lebonte, Erika Luomo (Autism Ontario)

Absent: Councilor Sandra Hollingsworth, Peter Tonazzo, Kerri Tucket

On Zoom: Councilor Lisa Vezeau-Allen, Craig Kohler

Officials: Dan Perri (PW), Diane Morrell, Samir Thapa (Recorder) Emma Diamond (Planning Student)

1. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by: Diana Gerhart

Seconded by: Derrick Lavallee

Resolved that Minutes of Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting of May 14, 2025 be approved.

Carried

2. Chair's Comments

2.1 Lesley Sawchyn (Interpreter) is away.

3. New Business

3.1 Autism Presentation – Erika Luomo, Fund and Volunteer Coordinator, Autism Ontario.

- Are you born with Autism?
 - Yes.
- What age can identify that a child may be autistic?
 - There is no certain age, as early as 10-month-old.
 - The Medical community is looking at the ability to diagnose as early from a formal perspective as early as 18 months.

4. Old Business

4.1 AccessAbility Day summary, May 30th

- Mobility Device Navigation Challenge, with AAC member Derrick Lavallee.
- Vision Loss Simulation Activity, with AAC member Carol Magnan.
- Autism Awareness and Sensory Experience Activity, with Erika Luomo (Autism Ontario).
- Keyboard Navigation, with Dan Gowans.

4.2 Transit Optimization Consultation and Accessibility Plan

- A special meeting may be called for next steps for Transit Optimization Study

4.3 Follow up on Carol's APS Report September 2024 – Dan Perri

- If you come across any issue with traffic signal, APS contact Public Works at 705-759-5201 & pwt@cityssm.on.ca

5. Barrier Removal Updates

5.1 Barrier Removal Update attached.

- If there is any suggestion/idea contact to Diane (Accessibility Coordinator)
- Suggestion by Carol Magnan to create civic address signage for downtown businesses (AAC member)
- Resolution: AAC requests staff to look into the possibility of standardized accessible civic address signs for Queen Street and Downtown.

Mover: Lisa Vezeau-Allen

Seconder: Diana Gerhart

6. Site Plan Sub-Committee Report

6.1 Site Plan Sub-Committee Report attached.

7. Next meeting

7.1 September 10, 2025

8. Adjournment

8.1 Committee adjourned.

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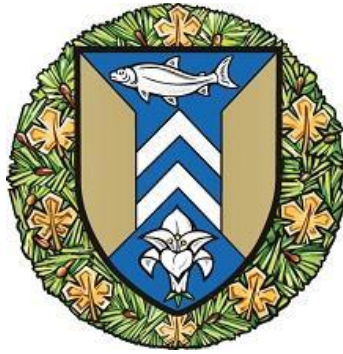
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Site Plan Report – September 10, 2025

Committee members: Carol Magnan - Chairperson, Donald McConnell – Chairperson AAC, Derrick Lavallee, Wayne Scharfenberg

Diane Morrell – Staff Resource

Patios:

Sault Lock Tours – 65 Foster Drive

- The patio design does not show the entire area for the serving and storage. More detail is needed to assess pedestrian path of travel from that side of the patio. As a general statement, ensure that this end is designed to lead people with vision loss around the area safely, as the entire waterfront was a path of travel.
- The gazebo does not appear to be accessible as it has a couple of steps. Please ask that the Gazebo be designed to be as close to ground level as possible and that a ramp be installed to provide accessibility. This is the only shaded area, and people with mobility disabilities should have equal access.
- Ensure the east and west sides of the gazebo are enclosed with solid barriers such as those shown on the east side of the patio. This is especially important for people with vision loss, because this area used to be a pedestrian path of travel. Solid barriers will direct people who use a white cane to navigate around the patio.

- Strongly suggest that the solid barriers on the east side (which appear to be flower planters) that the fencing between planters be 'in-line' with the exterior part of the planter so that persons using a white cane have a predictable path to follow with their cane, rather than a zig-zag pattern.

45 Social - 117 Spring Street

- Although the proposed patio is for a single event, there is mention of the possibility of other single events.
- If the trial of patio is successful this year and will continue next year, Accessibility requests the inclusion of a ramp at the patio to be included. This addition should also include signage at the front of the building indicating that accessibility to the patio is provided at the rear.
- Additionally, please keep in mind cane detectable railings for people with vision loss (cane detectable is a barrier that is level with the ground and has a raised edge; or is more than 2" but less than 5" above ground level) and includes solid barrier (no chains or ropes as barrier).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol L. Magnan".

Carol Magnan
Chair, Site Plan Sub Committee