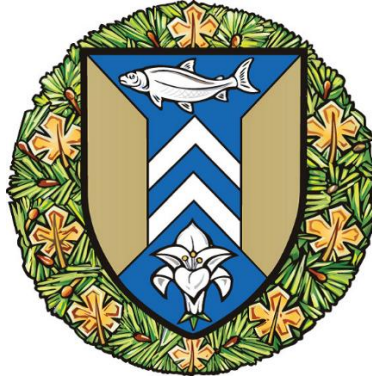




The Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie

Accessibility Advisory Committee

Agenda, October 8, 2025, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

[Link to 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 September 10, 2025

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

5. New Business

5.1. City Strategic Plan presentation

5.2. New City website presentation

5.3. Kindness week initiative

- 5.4. GFL accessible entrance signage
- 5.5. GNR/Northern Ave crossing and Northern Ave/Metro crossing
- 5.6. Request for use of Barrier Removal Reserves – Kayak launch

6. Old Business

- 6.1. On-street accessible parking update
- 6.2. Downtown patio update

7. Barrier Removal Updates

- 7.1. Barrier Removal Update – no update

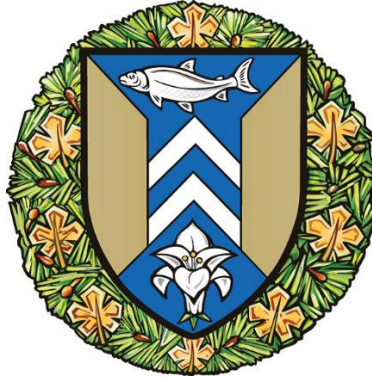
8. Site Plan Sub-Committee Report

- 8.1. Site Plan Sub-Committee Report - none

9. Adjournment

Next meeting November 12, 2025

In-person and via Zoom, 2:00 to 4:00 pm



The Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie

Accessibility Advisory Committee

Minutes, September 10, 2025

Meetings may be viewed on the [City's YouTube Channel](#)

Present: Carol Magnan, Don McConnell, Diana Gerhart, Derrick Lavallee, Kerri Tucket, Wayne Scharfenberg, Andree Lebonte, Councilor Sandra Hollingsworth, Councilor Lisa Vezeau-Allen.

Absent: Craig Kohler

On Zoom: Peter Tonazzo (Planning), Leslie Sawchyn (Interpreter).

Officials: Dan Perri (PW), Diane Morrell (Accessibility Coordinator), Samir Thapa (Recorder).

1. Chair's Comments

2. Approval of Minutes – June 11, 2025

Moved by: Diane Gerhart

Seconded by: Councilor Lisa Vezeau-Allen

Resolved that the Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting of June 12, 2025 be approved.

Carried.

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

3.1. None

4. New Business

- 4.1. Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone (EASE) Grant
- New grant from the Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility.
 - It's a Provincial Grant.
 - \$60,000 with no matching funding.
 - Recreation and Culture (Virginia) will apply for a grant for both outdoor pools.
 - Greco and Manzo pool.

5. Old Business

- 5.1. Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) repair update.
- APS locations; Where there is more time for the clearance phase, adjusted and added time to the walk phase.
 - This is ongoing; will continue to optimize.
 - Audible indications revised to not end on half of a beep or a chirp.
 - Challenging because any changes to one phase affect the other phases. This has been a trial and error taking considerable time to adjust each APS.
 - Work is continuing
 - Queen and Pine: Buttons were put on the wrong side of the pole.
 - This work is scheduled for this fall.
 - Trunk and Black: Working to add additional time to cross Trunk Road. Improved paint marking for the slip lane.
 - The committee discussed working with the Engineering Division to see if a traffic specialist can review the crossing at the slip lane and recommend a solution.
 - McNabb/Willow intersection.
 - Due to advanced green, the audible signal for one side is longer than the other side, causing audible signal confusion.
 - PW is working with the APS supplier to find a solution.
 - Wellington Street West and St Georges.
 - Additional time was added to cross St Georges.
 - Second Line and Korah Road.

- Investigate some improved painting at this intersection.
 - Operations staff and Engineering Division to review the intersection paint marking at this location.

Recommended changes will be implemented next paint season.
- Second Line and Pine Street.
 - Additional time was added for this crossing.
- APS fall inspections will begin shortly.
 - The findings will be presented to the committee at the November meeting.
- 5.2. APS Standard Policy Update.
 - This work is underway.
- 5.3. Queen Street Civic Address Signs.
 - Site Plan Sub-Committee have been tasked to develop guidelines for Civic Address signs

6. Barrier Removal Updates from the Accessibility Plan

- 6.1. VPR - \$20,000
 - Paid to Innovation Centre at start of year
 - Expression of concern for currency of information of the VPR
 - Further exploration required
- 6.2. Curb Cuts - \$10,000
 - Schedule this work to be done.
 - 274 Lake Street, 107 Ontario Ave, 119 Ontario Ave, 64 Passmore Rd, 110 Poplar Ave, 27 Valhalla Place.
- 6.3. APS Pedestrian crossing proximity sensors - \$10,000
 - Funds not used this year; will go into reserves
- 6.4. Parks, swings and instruments - \$10,000
 - Funds allocated to Manzo Park updates
- 6.5. Accessible Outdoor Seating - \$10,000
 - Funds allocated to Manzo Park updates
- 6.6. Captioning City Council - \$6,000
 - Funds will go to reserves
- 6.7. VRI - \$5,000
 - VRI has not been used yet this year due to Canadian Hearing Society (CHS) strike this year; contact has been made with

CHS office to arrange teaching of VRI with Deaf community members

6.8. John Rhodes Centre - \$2,000

- Batteries for pool and rink lift purchased

6.9. Contingency - \$12,000

- AAC committed \$5,000 for Manzo Park accessibility updates in May of 2025.

6.10. Uncommitted Reserves - \$61,388

6.11. John Rhodes Community Centre grant

- Working on updated quotes
- Unclear if this project will be done this winter or next summer

7. Site Plan Sub-Committee Report

7.1. Site Plan Sub-Committee Report, attached

- Sault Lock Tours – 65 Foster Drive
- 45 Social – 117 Spring Street

8. Adjournment

Next meeting October 08, 2025 In-person and via Zoom, 2:00 to 4:00 pm



**SAULT
STE. MARIE**

Corporate Strategic Plan

October 2025 – Accessibility Advisory Committee

Brent Lamming, Deputy CAO, Community Development & Enterprise Services



Strategic Plan

- **Our Strategic Plan outlines the organization's direction and goals through 2027 and the strategies and actions that will guide the direction and allocation of resources for years to come.**

Focus Area 1: Community Development

- **Well-being:** Take a collaborative approach towards a healthy and safe community
 - **Goal:** Advocate for addiction and mental health services
Action: SSM was successful in securing a Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment Hub (HART Hub)
 - **Goal:** Advocate for improved healthcare facilities and personnel
Action: The City and the Sault Area Hospital invested in allied health care recruitment and innovative labour force solutions by successfully recruiting four new doctors to our area

Focus Area 1: Community Development (continued)

- **Social Equity:** Support equitable access and opportunities for everyone
 - **Goal:** 3 significant barriers removed or accessibility enhancements installed
 - Action:** The City is actively working on this through the implementation of the Accessibility Plan

Focus Area 2: Quality of Life

- **Work. Life. Balance.:** Maintain an affordable community with exceptional four-season recreational opportunities
 - **Goal:** Invest in recreational infrastructure
Action: Active Transportation Master Plan complete. Upgrade park equipment (Wilcox Park RFP approved)
- **Welcoming:** Instill a strong sense of community that embraces and celebrates diversity and culture
 - **Goal:** Establish diverse, equitable, inclusive, and accessible community spaces
Action: Budget request for 2026 for accessible playground updates for Manzo Park.
 - **Goal:** Engage seniors in community programming
Action: 35,815 participant days at Bay Street and NCC Active Living Centres.

Focus Area 3: Infrastructure

- **Current Assets:** Monitor, maintain, and redevelop existing infrastructure
 - **Goal:** Maintain a robust asset management plan
Action: 450m of sidewalks replaced (30%)
 - **Goal:** Accessible and barrier-free
Action: Budget request for 2026 Greco and Manzo Pool accessibility upgrades
- **Future Assets:** Strategically build and acquire infrastructure to support a growing community
 - **Goal:** Invest in maintaining an attractive and vibrant downtown core with a world-class waterfront
Action: Phase 1 of Queen Street Reconstruction complete. Waterfront Masterplan approved. Installed accessible ramping for the kayak dock.

Focus Area 4: Service Delivery

- **Customer Service:** Provide accessible communications, timely resolution of concerns, and fair treatment for all
 - **Goal:** Standardize customer service practices and policies
Action: The Accessible Customer Service Policy is being finalized
 - **Goal:** Develop new methods of collecting and analyzing customer feedback
Action: Four surveys have been completed
- **Develop Employees:** Create a supportive workplace that invests in employees
 - **Goal:** Implement strategies to attract and retain talent
Action: The City of Sault Ste. Marie has been recognized with the prestigious Employment Partner of the Year award, supported by Community Living Algoma. This recognition is a testament to the City's leadership in empowering and inspiring individuals with diverse abilities

Focus Area 4: Service Delivery (continued)

- **Eliminate Barriers:** Identify obstacles that hinder growth and development, and streamline processes
 - **Goal:** Remove physical and digital barriers to enhance accessibility
Action: The City has launched its new WCAG 2.0 AA Website.
Video remote interpreting has been introduced at the Ronald A. Irwin Civic Centre. This service provides improved communication support for Deaf customers who use American Sign Language or Langue des Signes Québécoise.

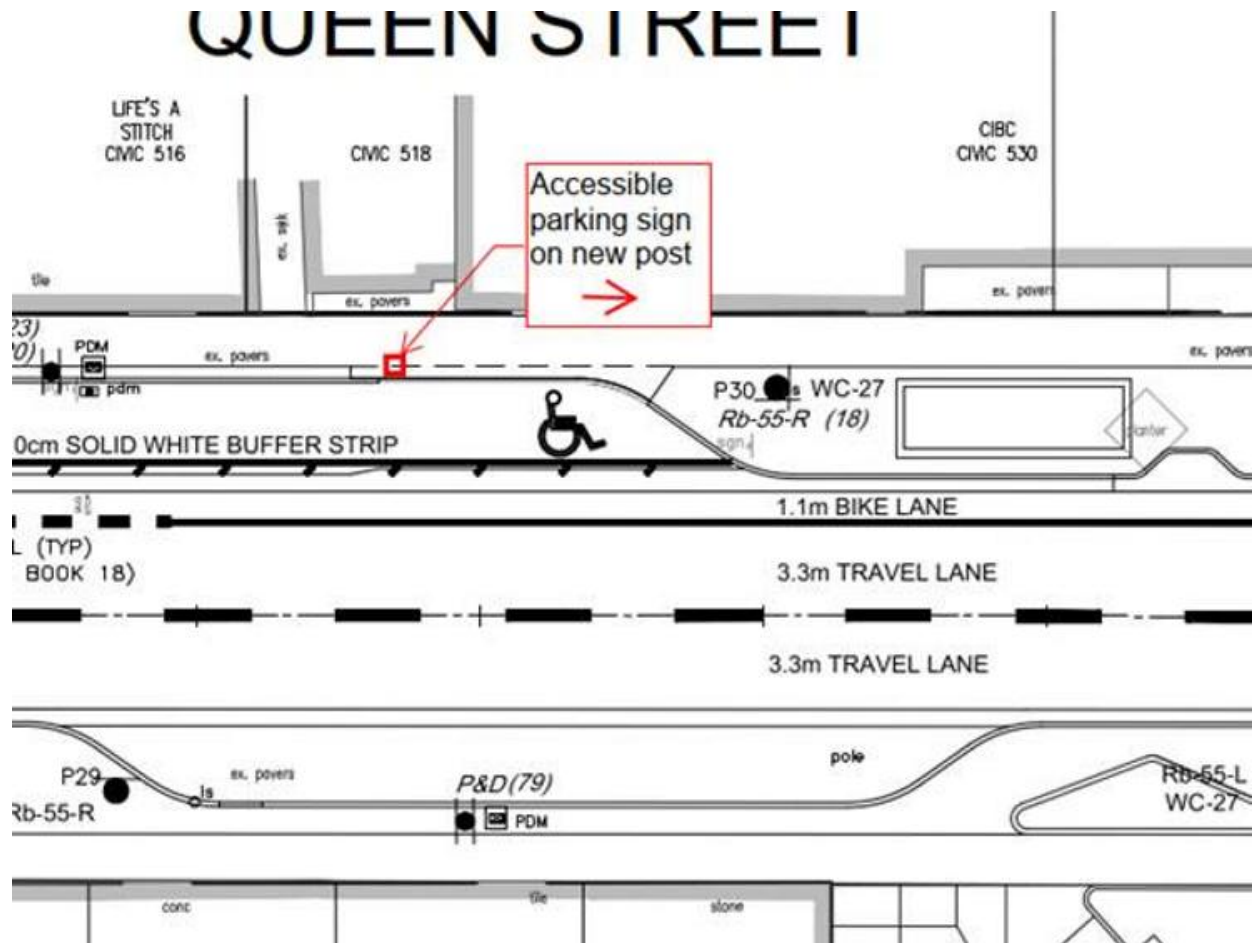


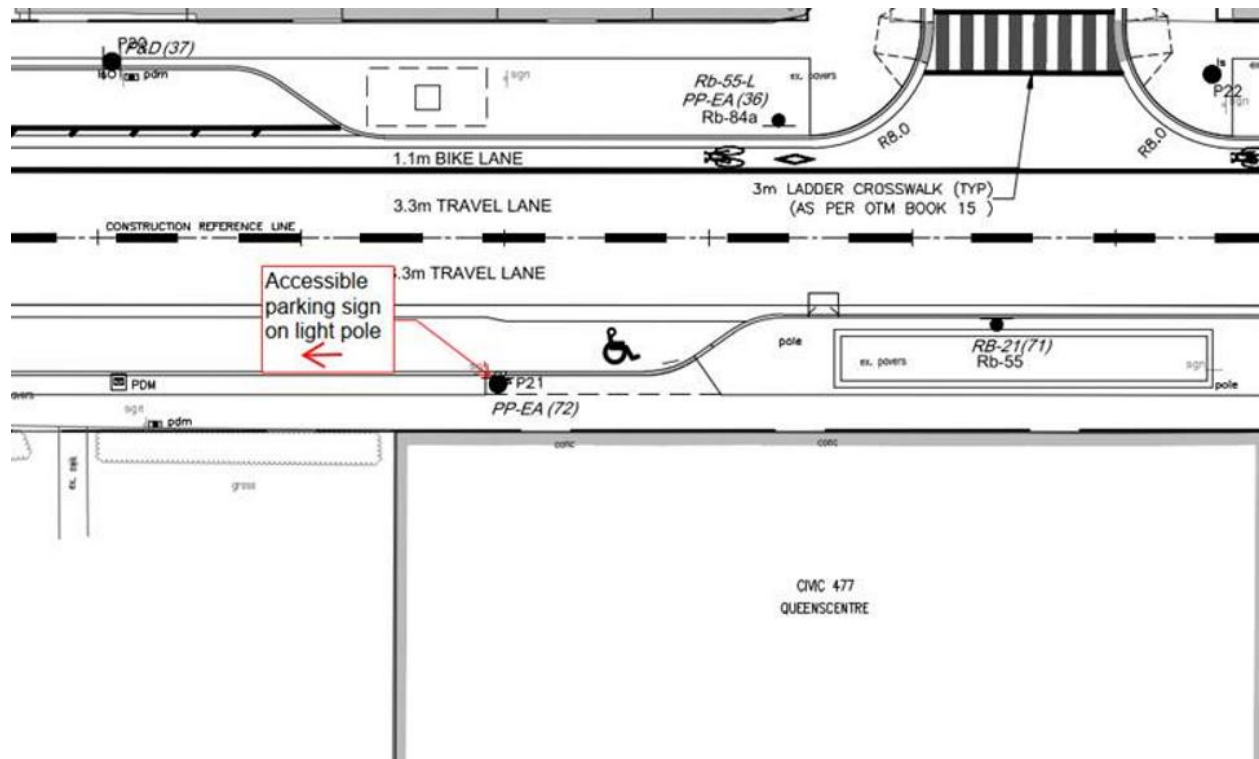
**SAULT
STE.MARIE**

Thank you



On-Street Accessible Parking Design







NOTE:

- EXISTING SIGNS SHALL BE REMOVED, SALVAGED AND DELIVERED TO CITY PWT.
- EXISTING SIGN POSTS SHALL BE REMOVED AND DISPOSED OF.
- TRAFFIC SYMBOLS SHALL BE PLACED AS PER OTM GUIDELINES.
- STOP BLOCKS TO BE PLACED 1m FROM PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALKS.
- ALL PERMANENT MARKINGS FOR THE PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS AND STOP BLOCKS AT THE INTERSECTIONS AND ALL BIKE AND ACCESSIBLE SYMBOLS WILL BE COMPLETED BY CITY TRAFFIC. ALL PERMANENT LINE MARKINGS WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY THE CONTRACTOR ALONG WITH TEMPORARY MARKINGS WHERE REQUIRED.