

## Item No. 6.3.1

My name is Doolin O'Reilly, I am one of Dr. Terashima's graduate students at Dalhousie's School of Planning and I wish to present to the Accessibility Advisory Committee on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **Title of Presentation:**

"Request for Feedback on Proposed Accessible Design Guidelines for the Built Environment"

### **Purpose of Presentation:**

To receive feedback from the Committee about my project's Proposed Accessible Urban Design Guidelines.

- Comments/ concerns/ questions about the content of the guidelines
  - o Do you believe these standards will meet the needs of wheelchair users? Do you disagree with any of the design recommendations in the standard?

### **Information about my Proposed Accessible Urban Design Guidelines...**

#### General:

- They are based on recommendations made in the Canadian Standards Association's 2012 publication 'Accessible Design for the Built Environment'
- Purpose 1: As part of my project, I intend to propose that Halifax City Council use these guidelines as a framework for developing an official Accessible Urban Design Standards policy document for the city.
- Purpose 2: As part of my project, I intend to use these guidelines as a reference to measure the current 'wheelchair -accessible' state of Spring Garden Road's public realm

#### What these guidelines address:

- They address mobility needs, specifically the needs of those individuals who use wheelchairs.
- They focus on the public realm (outdoor, public spaces)
- They address the design of elements of the public realm that exist on Spring Garden Road (sidewalks, crosswalks, curb cuts, seating, waste receptacles, parking etc.)

#### What these guidelines do not address:

- They do not focus on the specific needs of people with other disabilities (visual, cognitive etc.)
- They do not focus on private or indoor locations
- They do not address the design of elements of the public realm that exist outside of Spring Garden Road (for example the design of playgrounds and waterfronts are not addressed in my guidelines)
- Snow removal or construction concerns

#### Important to be aware that...

- These exclusions are a result of my project's time restrictions and are not indicative of importance. Omissions in guidelines (design needs for other disability types, snow removal & construction, the indoor environment and

elements of the public realm that exist in areas of Halifax outside of Spring Garden Road) will be identified in my project as components that must be considered and included in order to build an equitable and complete accessibility strategy in the city.

**Other**

1. If you would like to receive any additional information about my project please let me know.
2. Please note that this is the working draft of the standard that I will be presenting to the committee. While the majority of it will go unchanged before October 19<sup>th</sup> there are one or two sections that might undergo slight adjustments (for example: I am working on overcoming a complication in the 'change in level' section. It will be resolved early next week). Therefore, with your permission I will also bring updated copies of the standards with me on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Element Of the Public Realm	Components	Standard
General (Applicable to all areas of the public realm)	Ground Surfaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material must be stable and firm (such as asphalt, concrete, pavers or lumber (with planks perpendicular to the direction of travel).</li> <li>• Should not be irregular surface (such as cobblestone and exposed aggregate paving)</li> </ul>
	Ground Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At minimum the ground area should be at least... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 750mm x 1200mm for a stationary position</li> <li>- 1500mm x 1500mm for a U-turn</li> <li>- 1200mm x 1200mm for a forward or side approach</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Change in Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (In progress)</li> </ul>
Pedestrian Circulation Routes (Sidewalks & Pedestrian Paths)	Width	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The clear width of a pedestrian route should be... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1500mm (minimum general standard)</li> <li>- 1200 mm (where adjacent to a curb ramp)</li> <li>- 2000mm (in high traffic areas)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Grates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pedestrian routes should have adequate drainage to avoid water accumulation</li> <li>• Grates located in pedestrian routes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Should not have openings greater than 13mm wide in one direction</li> <li>- Should be placed so that the long dimension of the opening is perpendicular to the primary direction of travel</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Protruding Obstructions/ Hazards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examples of ‘protruding obstructions/hazards’ include signs, street furniture, transit stops, public amenities (like public telephone stalls or drinking fountains), vegetation, etc.</li> <li>• Protruding objects should not reduce the clear width required for a wheelchair to maneuvering within the pedestrian route</li> <li>• Preferable to have amenities placed in an ‘amenity zone’ that is consistently located on one side of a pedestrian route and does not reduce the required clear width of the pedestrian route</li> </ul>
	Ramps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should be at least 1200mm wide</li> <li>• Should have a running slope ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- With the ratio between 1:12 (8.33%) and 1:20 (5%) and</li> <li>- A distance between level landing not longer than 9000mm</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Should have a cross slope that is not steeper than a ratio of 1:50 (2%)</li> <li>• Should have a landing that... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is provided at the top and bottom of each ramp</li> <li>- Is provided at all changes in ramp direction</li> <li>- Be at least 1200mm wide and 1500mm in length</li> <li>- Have an area of at least 1500mm x 1500mm when next to a doorway</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pedestrian routes should be appropriately maintained</li> </ul>
Pedestrian Crossings	General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should have a curb cut</li> <li>• Pedestrians and motorists should be able to maintain adequate sightlines.</li> </ul>
	Curb Cut	<p>General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should exist at every pedestrian crossing</li> <li>• Curb cuts should not be continuous around corners</li> <li>• Pedestrian crossings should not contain a catch basin</li> </ul> <p>Measurements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The width of the curb cut should be between 1200mm and 1500mm (exclusive of flared sides).</li> <li>• The flared sides of the curb cut should have a slope (measured parallel to the curb line) with a ratio between 1:10 (10%) and 1:15 (6.66%) See figure 64.</li> <li>• Running slope for a curb cut should be between a ratio of 1:15 (6.66%) and 1:10 (10%)</li> <li>• Cross slope for a curb ramp should be not steeper than a ratio of ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1:50 (2%) at intersections or</li> <li>- 1:20 (5%) at mid-block crossings</li> </ul> </li> <li>• When the counter slope of a curb cut is greater than 11%, a transition area should be provided such that is... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extends the full width of the curb cut,</li> <li>- Begins at the base of the curb cut and extends to a length of at least 600mm on the street</li> <li>- Has a cross slope not steeper than a ratio of 1:50 (2%).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Landing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A landing should exist at the top of a curb ramps</li> </ul>
	Crosswalks	<p>Measurements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should be at least 1800mm wide between pavement markings (where provided)</li> <li>• Have a running slope not steeper than in a ratio of 1:20 (5%)</li> <li>• Have a cross slope not exceeding... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A ratio of 1:50(2%) for a crossing with a stop control or</li> <li>- A ratio of 1:20 (5%) for a crossing with out a stop control</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Pedestrian Crossing Signal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Push button pole should be located on a clear level area 760mm x 1200mm (either adjacent to or overlapping the pedestrian route). Push button pole should not be located on the curb ramp</li> <li>• Push button should be located on pole at a height of 1100 mm to 1500mm above level of the pedestrian route</li> </ul> <p>Traffic Walk Signal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When calculating the pedestrian walk signal interval the time should be calculated using... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A pedestrian walking speed of not more than 1.1m/s</li> <li>- The entire length of the crosswalk</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Transit	Transit Stops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At each loading position there should be an accessible pedestrian route with...</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A clear length of at least 2400mm (measured perpendicular to the vehicular route edge) and</li> <li>- A clear width of at least 1500mm (measured parallel to the vehicular route)</li> </ul>
	Transit Shelters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should have level access to the pedestrian route</li> <li>• Should have an unobstructed clear floor areas of at least 1500mm X 1500mm directly inside the enclosure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clear of furnishing in the immediate entrance</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Street Furniture	Seating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should be located adjacent to a pedestrian route</li> <li>• Should have an area adjacent to it (but not overlapping with pedestrian route) that ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Has a level and firm surface</li> <li>- Has the following dimensions: at least 850mm x 1200mm</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Public Amenities	General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All public amenities listed below should have a clear ground area in front of the unit that is at least 750mm x 1200mm</li> <li>• Should be located adjacent or connected to a pedestrian route</li> </ul>
	Public Telephone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should have all operable parts (including the coin slot) no more than 1200mm from the floor</li> <li>• Should have a cord length of at least 1000mm</li> <li>• Should have a knee clearance between 680mm – 730mm</li> <li>• If seat is provided it should be movable</li> </ul>
	Drinking Fountains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spouts should have opening between 750mm and 900mm from floor</li> <li>• Controls should not be foot operated</li> <li>• Cantilevered drinking fountains should... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Have a knee clearance between the bottom of the apron and the floor at least 750mm wide x 200mm deep x 680mm high</li> <li>- Have a toe space of at least 750mm wide x 230mm deep x 230mm high</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Waste Receptacles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should not have the opening lid higher than 1060mm from the ground</li> </ul>
Parking	Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parking spaces designated for those with accessibility needs should be closest to the pedestrian route</li> </ul>
	Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designated parking spots should be identified by a <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vertically mounted sign visible to approaching driver and</li> <li>- The international symbol of access painted on the pavement</li> <li>- The location of the designated parking spaces should be identified for drivers entering a parking lot by means of directional signs along the route leading to them</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Proportion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parking Lot - The numbers below show the number of designated parking spaces (DPS) that should be provided in comparison to the total number of parking spaces provided (TPS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- TPS= &lt;50/ DPS= 2-6</li> <li>- TPS=51-100/ DPS= 4-8</li> <li>- TPS= 101-200/ DPS= 8-16</li> <li>- TPS= 201-300/ DPS= 10-20</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- TPS= 301-500/ DPS = 12-24</li> <li>- TPS= &gt;500/ DPS=12-24, plus 2-6 for ever space over 500</li> <li>• One Street Parking - where on street parking is provided, at least 10% of the spaces per block should be a designated parking space but never less than one of two or more spaces.</li> </ul>
	Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Size: should be at least 2400mm wide and have an adjacent side aisle at least 1500mm wide that is marked by diagonal markings</li> <li>• Designated spots should either have a transfer spot next to them that is level with the road and connects with the pedestrian route or should have a curb cut access to the pedestrian route</li> <li>• A designated parking spot should not require people to pass behind vehicles that may be backing out</li> <li>• Two designated parking spaces may share a common side access aisle</li> <li>• If the parking spot is located under a covered area, the height clearance from the pavement to the underside of any ceiling structure or hanging object should be at least 2750mm</li> <li>• Bollards should not impede access to the vehicles or its side access aisle.</li> </ul>