

Accessibility Advisory Panel

Minutes

Friday, June 5, 2026

Tom Davies Square

10:30 a.m. Open Session, Electronic Participation

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Discussions

3.1 Housing Registry

Jason Nelson provided an overview of the Housing Registry and Housing Continuum programs.

Housing Services Overview

- Housing Services funds 37 housing providers through the Housing Services Portfolio.
- Providers include the Greater Sudbury Housing Corporation (GSHC), non-profit housing organizations, and housing cooperatives.
- Each provider is governed by its own board and is responsible for building operations and maintenance.

Housing Programs

- The Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB) program provides portable housing benefits for eligible individuals.
- The benefit allows applicants to remain housed independently in private rental accommodations while being removed from the community housing waitlist.

Housing Registry Process

- The Registry administers applications for community housing.
- Applications may be submitted online or through paper forms.
- Applications are reviewed by a Coordinated Access Representative.
- Required documentation includes:
 - Notice of Assessment
 - Bank account statements
 - Proof of Canadian citizenship or eligible status
- Information regarding required documentation is available on the City website and application forms.
- Once eligibility is confirmed, applicants are designated as household applicants and placed on the housing waitlist.

- Housing providers contact waitlisted applicants directly when suitable units become available.

Policy Updates

- Previously, applicants were permitted three refusals of housing offers.
- Current policy allows only one refusal.
- If a housing offer is declined, applicants must reapply for housing.

Occupancy Standards

The importance of applying occupancy standards consistently was emphasized. Examples include:

- Parent and one child: eligible for a two-bedroom unit.
- Parent and two children: eligible for a three-bedroom unit.

Special Circumstances

Consideration is given to applicants experiencing:

- Special Priority
- Urgent Status
- Modified Unit

Housing Demand and Waitlists

- Demand for housing has increased significantly, with household applicants nearly doubling to approximately 2,000.
 - Timelines for housing placement remain difficult to predict as vacancies depend on existing tenants vacating units.
 - Housing turnover has slowed due to current rental market conditions and housing costs.
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3.2 Anderson Farm Museum Property

This presentation provided an update of the proposed re-imagined year-round recreational hub.

3.3 Kalmo Beach Accessibility Project

This presentation provided an update on the project's development.

3.4 Parks & Recreation Upcoming Projects

This presentation provided an overview of the department's upcoming projects.

Accessibility and Community Updates

Downtown Parking and Accessibility

- An updated Downtown Parking Events Map is available.
- Updates included information regarding regrading work and barricade removals.
- Staff expressed willingness to review opportunities for additional accessible parking spaces and welcomed suggestions from committee members.

Inclusion Support Services for Day Camp Programs

- Five support staff members have been hired to assist campers with disabilities.
- Current services provide support to enable successful participation in programs.
- Broader accessibility improvements are being considered through the upcoming Master Plan update.

Public Transportation

- Accessibility considerations continue to be addressed through public transportation routes and service planning.

Accessibility Issues

- General accessibility concerns and issues were discussed including increased lighting on the Bell Park Boland Street accessible pathway and AODA compliant playground equipment.

Council and Advisory Panel Updates

- Members discussed updates related to the new Council term and advisory panel activities.

4. Question Period

- It was clarified that transfer requests are outside the scope of the Housing Registry and are managed through a separate process and board.
- Individuals seeking relocation are required to submit a new application. Additional discussion included:
 - Medical documentation is considered during reviews and eligibility assessments.
 - Applicants may request a review of decisions affecting their eligibility or placement.
- The City provides maintenance funding to housing providers through an application-based funding process.

5. Adjournment