

# DECISION/DIRECTION NOTE

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**Title:** Accessible Parking Working Group

**Date Prepared:** September 7, 2022

**Report To:** Inclusion Advisory Committee

**Councillor and Role:** Debbie Hanlon, Inclusion Advisory Committee

**Ward:** N/A

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## Decision/Direction Required:

The City's Inclusion Advisory Committee recommended that Council approve the development of an Accessible Parking Working Group which will work to improve accessible parking and make recommendations on:

- a public engagement process about accessible parking concerns of City regulated spaces; and
- a public awareness and education campaign, which includes invisible disabilities, concerning accessible parking and accessible parking permits

## Discussion – Background and Current Status:

During the July 7<sup>th</sup> Inclusion Advisory Committee (IAC) meeting staff were asked to prepare a decision note for committee input consideration and recommendation to Council regarding the formation of an Accessible Parking Working Group.

Accessible parking is regulated by the Provincial [Buildings Accessibility Regulations](#) under the Accessible Buildings Act and the [Accessible Parking Regulations](#) under the Highway Traffic Act, however the City is responsible for on-street accessible parking within City limits. The City's By-Laws require that accessible parking spaces must be designated with signage but there are no minimum number of spaces and locations are determined based on operations in the area and demand from the public. In residential areas, they are based on requests from residents with a Service NL permit. On-street accessible parking is not enforced or monitored by the provincial government.

Other municipal jurisdictions have also addressed concerns with accessible parking in absence of provincial guidelines. Halifax recently improved accessible parking through [engagement with the public](#) which guided the development of their [Accessible Parking Guidelines](#) for on-street parking. Similarly, Victoria, BC developed an Accessible Parking Working Group which established [a review process and guidelines](#) for consideration.

## Key Considerations/Implications:

1. Budget/Financial Implications:



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- a. Costs associated with the development of a public awareness campaign and hosting public engagement sessions may ensue.

2. Partners or Other Stakeholders:

- a. Accessible Parking Permit Holders
- b. Businesses within on-street parking spaces
- c. Inclusion Advisory Committee
- d. Healthy City and Inclusion Staff
- e. Planning, Engineering and Regulatory Services
- f. Communications
- g. Organizational Performance and Strategy

3. Alignment with Strategic Directions:

A City that Moves: Improve safety for all users on a well-maintained street network.

A Connected City: Develop and deliver programs, services and public spaces that build safe, healthy and vibrant communities.

4. Alignment with Adopted Plans:

- a. Healthy City Strategy
- b. Envision St. John's

5. Accessibility and Inclusion:

- a. The Accessibility & Inclusion Facilitator will ensure that the work and recommendations of this working group are in line with best practices and accessibility legislation.

6. Legal or Policy Implications: None

7. Privacy Implications: None

8. Engagement and Communications Considerations:

- a. A Communications Plan may be required
- b. A Public Engagement Plan may be required

9. Human Resource Implications: None

10. Procurement Implications: None

11. Information Technology Implications: None

12. Other Implications: None

**Recommendation:**

That Council approve the development of an Accessible Parking Working Group, reporting to the Inclusion Advisory Committee, to provide advice and recommendations for improved accessible on-street parking in the City of St. John's.

**Prepared by: Trisha Rose, Facilitator – Accessibility & Inclusion**

**Approved by:**

**Report Approval Details**

Document Title:	Decision Note_Accessible Parking Working Group.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Sep 15, 2022

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

**Natalie Godden - Sep 14, 2022 - 11:16 AM**

**Tanya Haywood - Sep 15, 2022 - 2:39 PM**