

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY GROUP

Tuesday 26th of June in Committee Room One, Wakefield Street 5.30 to 7.30pm

AGENDA

- 1. Present**
- 2. Welcome from the Chair**
- 3. Matters arising/Adoption of minutes**
- 4. Accessibility and Emergency Management**
Bruce Pepperell, Regional Manager, CDEM,
Wellington Region Emergency Management Office
- 5. AWAP Plan**
Alice Hang, Community Resilience Advisor, City Communities
- 6. Temporary works**
Jason Strawbridge
- 7. AAG Sub-groups follow up and reports**
- 8. Other business**
- 9. Next Meeting**
Tuesday 24th of July in Committee Room One

RECORD OF MEETING: ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY GROUP

Tuesday 26th of June in Committee Room One, Wakefield Street 5.30 to 7.30pm

Present

- Members: Kendall Akhurst (Co-chair) Lachlan Mackay (Co- Chair), Alan Royal, Linda Hobman, Rosemary Cole, Angela Vanderpoel, Jason Strawbridge, Julia Mosen,
- Council Officers: Lisa Matthews, Alice Hang
- Councillors: Iona Pannett
- Guests: Bruce Pepperell
- Interpreters:
- Minutes:

1. Welcome from the Chair

Apologies from Shannon Morris and Lorraine Guthrie (minute-taker)

4. Accessibility and Emergency Management

Presentation from Bruce Pepperell, Regional Manager, Civil Defense Emergency Management, Wellington Region Emergency Management Office

Presentation covered the restructure of the regional civil defense and the future work with vulnerable communities

Discussion

- Lessons from Hurricane Katrina
- Useful networks of Accessibility Advisory Group
- Are the Civil Defense documents accessible? “Its easy” and “its easy to know your tsunami zone”
- Alan keeps his personal documents that might be needed in an earthquake on a flash drive

Action

- Bruce will come back to the group when ready to start working in the area of vulnerable communities in the next couple of months
- Lisa to email Bruce a link to Accessible Wellington Action Plan

5. AWAP Plan/Reportback from Conference

Alice Hang, Community Resilience Advisor, City Communities
Currently working on a map of activities from each business unit.

Update from Symposium Alice attended in Christchurch - “Symposium on disability-inclusive emergency preparedness and response: Learning from the Canterbury earthquakes”

What didn't work well:

- Some welfare centres weren't accessible and people in wheelchairs were turned away
- The networks of support e.g. by community groups were disrupted so the level care for some people diminished
- There was no follow-up from door knocking
- Not enough wheelchair accessible portaloos and showers

What worked well:

- Maraes opened up. Provided practical support but also emotional support for those who needed it.
- Social media was helpful but face to face best
- Neighbourhood networks

How we can do better:

- Ask instead of making assumptions
- Create a database of people with disabilities (who and how would it be managed?)
- Accessible awareness training – people didn't know how to interact
- Accessible information
- Capitalise on neighbourhood support networks

Twin – track approach needed to go forward

- Empowerment – building capacity
- Mainstreaming – reducing barriers

Action

- Alice to share conference notes with the Accessibility Advisory Group

3. Matters arising/Adoption of minutes

Minutes of the 29th of May meeting were adopted. (Rosemary/Alan)

- Iona reminded the group of the Regional Governance consultation and requested the group to put in a submission (and as individuals). The group should examine what is the best solution in terms of accessibility.
- The Long Term Plan is to be signed off 27/06/12. The Plan incorporates the Accessibility Advisory Group's suggestion around measurement and the Accessible Wellington Action plan.

6. Temporary works

Jason Strawbridge

Jason reported back on his successful meeting with Trish Urbells, Peter Dodge and Stephen Harte regarding temporary works and pedestrian management.

They are very keen to address the issues and want to present to Accessibility Advisory Group. They want the presentation to be tailored for the best results and are seeking specific topics.

Discussion

- Temporary ramps and signage suggested
- Also the use of tape as a barrier

- There has been great improvement over the last couple of years
- Responsibility of contractor – could be included in contract
- There is no legislation enforcing accessibility in temporary works unless associated with a building

Action

- Lisa to begin to draft and email for all to contribute to (including information on purpose built ramps etc). Email to be sent to Trish, Peter and Stephen.
- The Mayor could send a formal letter to the Ministry regarding the lack of legislation in this area. Jason to work on with Iona.

7. AAG Sub-groups follow up and reports

Arts and Culture, Social and Recreation

- Events and Arts Policy submission made including an oral submission for the Events Policy.
- Events Policy had little mention of accessibility. Important that the Council is the leader in governance in other events e.g. pointing out accessibility as being important.
- Events team have requested a one page – best practice for events on accessibility from the group. Could include accessible information, hearing loops etc etc. Subgroup to complete.

Transport and Urban Design and Governance and Economy

- Invitation to the Accessibility Advisory Group from the Greater Wellington Regional Council to attend a meeting on the bus review

8. Other business

Auckland Botanic Garden pamphlet has information on first page regarding accessibility including mobility scooters.

Appendix 1

Follow up actions

From June 26th

- Events team have requested a one page – best practice for events on accessibility from the group. Arts and Culture subgroup
- Work on mayoral letter to the Ministry regarding the lack of legislation in temporary works. Jason to work on with Iona

From May 29th

- Members to think about a concert to celebrate the Accessible Wellington Action Plan being finalised and bring ideas back to the next meeting. All

From April 24th

- Lisa to check whether a Council advisory group can or should have such a disclaimer to protect itself from repercussions of advice. Lisa

From March 27th meeting

- Lisa to clarify Council's responsibility for the timing on traffic lights for pedestrians. Lisa

From February 28th 2012

- New representative for SASTRG to be chosen at the March meeting. All
- Accessible Environment and Transport subgroup to have a follow meeting with Urban Design. Accessible Environment and transport subgroup
- Problem intersection identified on Willis St by Julia and an offer to show officers why. Lisa to pass on details to Steve Spence. Lisa
- Accessible Environment subgroup to follow up with bus shelter design. Lisa to get contact details of officer responsible. Lisa
- AAG minutes to be sent to the GWRC Accessibility Reference Group in the future. Lisa to organise.

APPENDIX 2

SUB-GROUPS AND MEMBERSHIP

Accessible Environment and transport (including urban design, open spaces)
Jason, Kendall, Julia, Rosemary, Lachlan, Angela

Economic development and governance
Alan, Julia, Lachlan, Kendall

Arts and Culture and Social and Recreation
Angela, Linda, Kendall, Rosemary, Julia