



**Annual Presentation to Council  
by the City of Greater Sudbury  
Accessibility Advisory Committee**

# **2006 Accessibility Plans**



**Presented by:  
Elizabeth Lounsbury, Chair**

**September 6, 2006**



## 2006 Accessibility Plans



- City of Greater Sudbury has a strong history of accessibility planning:
  - Sudbury Transit Full Accessibility Implementation Plan (1993)
  - Transportation for Persons with Physical Disabilities Advisory Panel
  - Accessibility Advisory Committee
  - Policy on Universal Access



## **2006 Accessibility Plans**



### Accessibility Advisory Committee:

- Elizabeth Lounsbury (Chair)
- Nancy Baron (Vice-Chair)
- Bob Bannister
- Councillor Claude Berthiaume
- Earl Black
- Shirley Childs
- Peter Desilets
- Norma Fitzgerald
- Councillor Terry Kett
- Diane Loyer



## 2006 Accessibility Plans



- The Ontarians with Disabilities Act identifies five types of disabilities:
  - Physical Disability
  - Mental Impairment or Developmental Disability
  - Learning Disability
  - Mental Disorder
  - Injury or Disability for which Claims received under WSIB



## 2006 Accessibility Plans



- 16% of Ontarians have disabilities
- 18,000 Residents of City of Greater Sudbury have a long-term disability



- Purpose of Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005 is:
  - To develop, implement and enforce accessibility standards in order to achieve accessibility for Ontarians with disabilities by January 1, 2025; and

## 2006 Accessibility Plans



- To provide for the involvement of persons with disabilities, of the Government of Ontario, and of representatives of industries and of various sectors of the economy in the development of accessibility standards.

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- Until AODA implemented, municipalities are required to complete annual accessibility plans.





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- Accessibility Advisory Committee worked on two Plans:
  - City of Greater Sudbury Accessibility Plan
  - Greater Sudbury Transit Accessibility Plan



## 2006 Accessibility Plans



## Handi-Transit Harmonization:

- August 14, 2001, CGS Council approves a 5-year Harmonization Plan
- Handi-Transit Service Hours increased to match Conventional System
- Harmonization Plan did not take into consideration growth of Conventional System



## Handi-Transit Harmonization:

- October 2002, CGS Council approves RFP to harmonize service delivery
  - Eliminated Boundaries
  - Central Dispatch
- Leuschen Bros Limited (formerly Estaire Bus Lines) awarded RFP
- Current Service Contract extends to May 2008

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## Handi-Transit Harmonization:

- November 2003, CGS Council approves Holiday Service:

Christmas Day  
Boxing Day, and  
New Year's Day

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## Handi-Transit Harmonization:

➤ 2004, added two new Handi-Transit Vehicles to meet ridership demands

➤ 2005, fully Harmonized Handi-Transit Service to Conventional Transit

- Funded by Provincial Gas Tax Revenues

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## Handi-Transit Harmonization:

### Measures of Success:

- Handi-Transit Ridership almost **DOUBLED** in three years from 42,616 rides in 2003 to 82,851 rides in 2005
- 2005 Ridership Survey
  - Overall System rated Highly
  - 89% of Riders treated with Dignity and Respect

## **2006 Accessibility Plans**





- 2004, Barrier Free Design Training



- 2005 EnAbling Change Workshop

## **2006 Accessibility Plans**

- 2005 Community Accessibility Workshop



- 2006 Partnership with Greater Sudbury Police – Handicapped Parking Enforcement

## **2006 Accessibility Plans**



- 2006 Community Partners Meeting – Accessible Taxis





## 2006 Accessibility Plans



## Facilities:

- Access to Arenas has been improved including:
  - Barrier free washroom and new entrance ramp – Coniston Arena
  - New Entrance Ramp – McClelland Community Arena Hall

## Services:

### ➤ Pioneer Manor:

- Gentle Care Model for Residents with Dementia
- Senior's Campus Project Partnership with Alzheimer's Society



## 2006 Accessibility Plans

## Access to Government:

### ➤ Tom Davies Square

- \$50,000 in Renovations to Enhance Accessibility
- TTY Phones in Lobby, CSC and OntarioWorks
- Accessible Counters – Clerks/Purchasing



## 2006 Accessibility Plans



## 2006 Accessibility Plans



## Barriers:

- A barrier is identified as a human made design flaw in the environment that prevents or hinders a person with a disability from fully participating in society or from accessing a service.

# Examples of Barriers and Actions

## City of Greater Sudbury

### Accessibility Plan:



#### BARRIER TYPE AND DESCRIPTION

#### ACTIONS for BARRIER REMOVAL as identified at Public Hearings

Lily Creek Boardwalk is not wheelchair friendly

Review ramp incline and width of small bridge. Use more hard surfaces and less gravel.

Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing cannot hear when their name is called in a public waiting area

Use both visual and auditory calling systems. Staff should move into the waiting area when calling an individual name and should ensure that they are seen by those who are waiting

Placement of garbage cans can create impediments to those with visual or mobility impairments

Review placement of garbage cans to ensure that there is room for a companion animal / large scooter to pass

Participants in Alzheimer's Society Day Program need alternative transportation arrangements

A joint meeting between the City of Greater Sudbury, the Accessibility Advisory Committee Chair and the Alzheimer's Society Board was held this spring to develop solutions

## 2006 Accessibility Plans

# Examples of Barriers and Actions

## City of Greater Sudbury

### Accessibility Plan:



#### 2006 BARRIER TYPE & DESCRIPTION

#### ACTIONS for BARRIER REMOVAL as identified at Public Hearings

Payment of fares is challenging for passengers who can not handle tickets or coins.

Review green pouch program and clip on passes. Review opportunity for Handi-Transit passengers to prepay for a specific number of rides. Investigate touchless smart cards as part of proposed new fare box system

Difficult for people with visual difficulties to navigate Transit Terminal

Introduce Public Address announcements  
 Improve signage, including lowering signs  
 Review lane number signage  
 Develop a tactile map of Transit Terminal  
 Ensure buses always use the same platform  
 Provide brailled and large print route information  
 Mark curbs and pedestrian crossing areas between platforms and to street with high contrast paint and or  
 Review position of signage to eliminate glare

Accessibility and safety of Transit Terminal  
 Washrooms

Review maintenance protocols  
 Install door openers for bathroom

## 2006 Accessibility Plans



## 2006 Accessibility Plans



- Next Steps:
  - Council Adopts the Two Accessibility Plans
  - Plans Posted on Website and Submitted to Province
  - AAC Continues to Work to Improve Accessibility