



NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE

Thursday, October 30, 2025, 10:00 AM
Village Office, 495 Hot Springs Road,
Harrison Hot Springs, BC V0M 1K0

THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED IN-PERSON AND VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE

1. CALL TO ORDER	
Meeting called to order by Councillor Facio, Chair.	
2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT	
Acknowledgement of Sts'ailes traditional territory.	
3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS	
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA	
5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES	
(a) THAT the Accessibility Committee Meeting minutes of September 15, 2025 be adopted.	Page 1
6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION	
(a) Annual Work Plan / Budget	Page 5
(b) Letter dated October 27, 2025 from Rachel Fordham Re: Request for Crosswalk	Page 7
(c) Next Meeting Date: TBD	
7. ADJOURNMENT	

Amanda Graham
Corporate Officer

VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS
Accessibility Committee Minutes

DATE: Monday, September 15, 2025
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers, Village Office
495 Hot Springs Road, Harrison Hot Springs, BC

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Leo Facio, Chair
Sharon Chatenay (at 10:12 a.m.)
Shell De Martin
Stephanie Gallamore
Geraldine Mailhot

STAFF PRESENT: Christy Ovens, Community Services Manager
Kalie Wiechmann, Communications and Community
Engagement Coordinator
Amanda Graham, Corporate Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Facio called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair Facio acknowledged the traditional territory of Sts'ailes.

3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

Geraldine Mailhot requested to add "Ramps to the Beach Walkway along Esplanade Avenue" as an item under Item for Discussion 6(b) – Accessibility Feedback.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Stephanie Gallamore
Seconded by Geraldine Mailhot

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED
AC-2025-09-01

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Shell De Martin
Seconded by Geraldine Mailhot

THAT the Accessibility Committee Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(a) Disability Alliance BC Webinar – Effective Accessibility Committees

Disability Alliance BC hosted a webinar and the link was forwarded to Committee members. There is a recording available of the webinar for those who were unable to attend. The Committee expressed that the resources and links are beneficial. One aspect of accessibility is to consider having descriptive video for people with visual impairments.

(b) Accessibility Feedback

- Spring Park Washroom

There was an incident where the crushed gravel at the entrance to the Spring Park Washroom had sunken down and someone in a motorized wheelchair was unable to move either forward or backward, and required assistance from others at the park. The Village put cement in the following day after receiving the feedback, and is looking at installing an accessible push button door in the future.

The Committee discussed the following:

- Parking stalls for ambulances and care workers near the apartments on Esplanade Avenue
- Buses of people visiting from care homes having an unloading area on the west side of Maple Street
- The playground equipment at Spring Park which is not currently accessible and is surrounded by a raised step due to drainage concerns
- The cost of rubber surfacing playgrounds

- Water Access and Aquatic Chairs

The Village received feedback regarding a lack of accessible parking stalls for boats and trailers at the boat launch, an Aquatic Mesh Chair rental program at the boat launch to assist disabled swimmers, kayakers and canoers, and the need for a concrete path down to the water to replace the Mobi-Mats. The Committee discussed False Creek and Peachland as areas with accessible access to water. Councillor Facio advised that there was a previous motion of Council to replace the Mobi-Mats with wooden walkways that don't get full of sand and remain even. The issue may not be so much getting down to the water as it is trying to get back up, depending on the grade. The Committee discussed potential grant funders including the Lions Club, Easter Seals and Rick Hansen Foundation. There are grants that the Village as a municipality may not be eligible for, but Tourism might be.

- Manhole Cover at Tourism Building

Near the start of the accessible ramp to the Tourism building, at the rear of the building by the parking lot, there is a manhole cover that extends above the

sidewalk creating a tripping hazard. The Committee discussed potential solutions such as putting some cement sloping around the cover, a rubber gasket, or having the hole drilled out so the cover can sit lower and more flush to the sidewalk. Staff looked at it and the cover comes off easily to expose electrical equipment. Staff will reach out to BC Hydro, Public Works and Tourism to come up with a solution.

- Ramps to the Beach Walkway on Esplanade Avenue

Feedback received verbally from a couple using a walker and canes that the ramps from Esplanade Avenue up to the beach walkway are in need of repaving as they have gouges, dips and pits in them that cause the walkers and canes to get caught. Staff will pass this feedback along to the Public Works department.

The Committee further discussed lighting around the ramps, specifically the one near Chehalis Street, and lighting at the bus stop on Lillooet Avenue.

(c) Verbal Report of Community Services Manager
Local Community Accessibility Grant Progress Update

The Community Services Manager provided the following updates:

- Two accessible picnic tables have been installed at Spring Park
- Accessible parking stalls were recently repainted with the new icon
- An automatic foot and push button door was installed at the Village Office
- Staff are seeking cost estimates to prioritize other locations to upgrade next
- Staff are also researching automation to set a timer for the washrooms to lock and unlock as field staff hours scale back in the fall and winter

(d) Annual Work Plan / Budget

The Corporate Officer presented on the annual Work Plan and Budget process. Committees are invited to develop a Work Plan to submit to Council some time in November for integration of any projects with a financial component into the municipal budget. Staff will prepare a draft Work Plan and Budget to present for the next meeting. The Committee was asked to please send any ideas, especially those requiring funding, in advance so staff and conduct preliminary research. It was noted that much of the Work Plan will be based on the Village's Accessibility Plan.

(e) Next Meeting Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Shell De Martin
Seconded by Stephanie Gallamore

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

CARRIED
AC-2025-09-03

Leo Facio, Chair
Accessibility Committee

Amanda Graham
Corporate Officer

DRAFT

2026 Accessibility Committee Work Plan & Budget					
Project	Description	Timeframe	Est. Staff Time	Budget	Funding Source
Automatic Door Openers	Installation at Spring Park Washroom Building and Memorial Hall	2026	5 hours	\$11,000	Accessibility Grant
	Installation at Beach Washrooms	2026	5 hours	\$13,000	Resort Municipality Initiative
			Total	\$24,000 (grant funded)	
Project	Description	Timeframe	Est. Staff Time	Budget	Funding Source
Braille signage for washroom buildings		Spring 2026	10 hours	\$200	Accessibility Grant/Signage Budget
			Total	\$200	
Project	Description	Timeframe	Est. Staff Time	Budget	Funding Source
Accessible parking stalls and signage	Create a map of accesibility features along the beachfront and update Village signage to state "accessible" and new inclusive design	2025-2026	20 hours	\$200	Accessibility Grant
			Total	\$200	
Project	Description	Timeframe	Est. Staff Time	Budget	Funding Source
Accessibility Plan Review	Review and update plan	Fall 2026	20 hours	N/A	N/A
	Develop accessible/ inclusive features checklist and standards for Accessibility Plan as a guiding document for future improvements to parks, trails, roads, buildings and public spaces				
			Total	N/A	
Total Municipal Funds Requested: \$0					

October 27, 2025



Re: Crosswalk at Walnut Drive and Miami River Drive

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to request a crosswalk for the students who attend Harrison Hot Springs Elementary School. There are several students who walk down Walnut Drive from the school, heading towards Miami River Drive. There is currently no crossing from Walnut Drive over Miami River Drive to the pathway on the other side. It would be ideal if there could be flashing lights at that crossing, but even having a crosswalk would be helpful.

There is a student with severe hearing loss who attends Harrison Hot Springs Elementary. Even with hearing equipment, this student is not able to localize sound the way that typically hearing students are able to. In order for this student to safely walk home independently, a crosswalk would be essential to safely navigate that intersection. While they would typically be of an appropriate age to walk home on their own like their classmates, this student can't safely cross Miami River Drive to the path on the other side. As a result, a parent needs to walk to school with them and come to pick them up every day.

The family has chosen to live in Harrison Hot Springs because of the safe neighborhoods and community for their child to grow up. I would love to see this student able to safely access the community around their school so that they can build confidence and independence. Not having a crossing at that intersection is a barrier to the student being able to walk home independently. We would love it if you would consider removing that barrier by adding a crosswalk.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further questions or clarification of the request, or if you need further data to support the request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rachel Fordham". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Rachel Fordham
Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing
Fraser Cascade School District
rachel.fordham@sd78.bc.ca
604-799-6608