

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS OF THE
DESIGN OF PUBLIC SPACES
STANDARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M., THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2019
SECOND FLOOR EXECUTIVE BOARDROOM
NORQUAY BUILDING, 401 YORK AVENUE**

Present: Glen Manning (Chairperson), Kris Cowley, Colin Mathison, Colin Marnoch, Brian Everton, Rebecca Lauhn-Jensen, Bob Somers, John Wyndels (Secretary)

Absent: Judy Redmond

The Secretary reported that he spoke to the DM about the letter from the DOPS committee requesting a meeting. The meeting will seek a commitment from the government that the Design of Public Spaces Accessibility Standard is the first phase of a larger process to address accessibility features in the built environment. The DM has agreed to meet with members of the committee and a date would be determined.

An individual from CSA contacted the Chairperson to say images can be used provided we fill out the copyright permission form and provide details on the specific diagrams, how they intend on being used, and how many copies we will need. CSA also extended an invite to the Chairperson to attend an Accessibility Forum on Thursday, February 28. It will be a focused and facilitated, standards-based discussion on present/future accessibility standard's needs.

All the standards are merged and duplications eliminated. We have to figure out the structure and define the standard. It is suggested we deal with the areas identified in the Ontario standard before we integrate the many additional areas suggested by source materials committee members consulted.

At present, it is a very large document and won't easily fit on the screen. When we look at rows individually, we can see what all the various sources are saying and determine best practices. Brian will continue work with the spreadsheet.

The Secretary prepared a draft Gantt Chart for the committee's perusal. It laid out in relatively simple terms a timeline for the committee's work and the steps to complete the process.

Because the committee's work is focused on the design of public spaces and not buildings, it is important to get in front of the problem and explain to stakeholders our intent (why) and its application (what / where). The potential for dialogue is greater when about the scope and the intent of the standard. It will be an opportunity to demystify the process and explain to people how we arrived at the proposed standard we are working towards. We will be looking to a representative from the government (DM) to talk about how this standard fits into a larger continuum.

According to the Gantt chart, the public consultation is slated to happen in late May.. A great deal of how we proceed is dependent on the meeting with the DM, which is scheduled for later this month.

Once the committee has agreed on a proposed standard and posted it for public comment, there may be a need to meet with smaller groups who have a want and need to explain particular things within the standard that are very near and dear to them.

The committee also spoke about the need to be involved in the drafting of the regulation because things are often lost in translation when instructions go from a technical group to lawyers.

There were comments regarding compliance such as, what can be enforced and what can't be? What about the operational, upkeep and maintenance that will ensure that the accessibility features enacted in the standard are observed? They are good questions, but outside the scope of this committee.

The next meeting of the DOPS Standard Development Committee is Wednesday, February 20 at 1:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Executive Boardroom of the Norquay Building, 401 York Avenue.