

REPORT

REPORT TO: Mayor Bonnette and Members of Council
REPORT FROM: Office of the CAO
DATE: November 9, 2015
REPORT NO.: ADMIN-2015-0026
RE: Annual Status Report – Multi Year Accessibility Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. ADMIN-2015-0026 dated November 9, 2015 regarding the Annual Status Report - Multi-Year Accessibility Plan and the attached Appendix “A” be received for information.

BACKGROUND:

In June 2005, the Ontario government passed the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)*. Under this legislation, the Minister of Community and Social Services was responsible for identifying sectors of society for which accessibility standards were to be developed. The five areas that were chosen were:

- Customer Service
- Employment
- Transportation
- Information and Communication
- Built Environment

The Customer Service Standard (Ontario Regulation 429/07) was the first standard to become law. The next three areas – Employment, Transportation, and Information and Communication were blended together into the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) (Ontario Regulation 191/11) and enacted into law July 1, 2011. One of the requirements of the IASR is to implement and maintain a Multi-Year Accessibility plan.

The Accessibility plan describes the measures that the Town of Halton Hills will take in the next five years to identify, remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities who utilize the facilities and services of the Town of Halton Hills. While the Integrated Accessibility Standard Regulation requires that a Multi-Year Accessibility plan be developed to outline how the Town will remove and prevent barriers within the areas of

Employment, Information and Communication, and Transportation, the Town's 2013-2017 Multi-Year Accessibility plan goes further in outlining action items to reduce and prevent barriers within all five areas outlined in the AODA.

The Town of Halton Hills Council passed the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2013-2017 on January 7, 2013, and as part of the plan an annual status report has to be completed to outline the progress of measures taken to implement the Multi-Year Accessibility plan. Additionally a review of the plan will be conducted with the plan being updated as required to include any new identified priority action items and/or as new legislation is brought forward.

COMMENTS:

In accordance with Section Four (4) of the Integrated Accessibility Standards, and to meet the legislative requirements of the AODA the Town is to prepare an annual status report on the progress of measures taken to implement the strategy including steps taken to comply with the Regulation and to post the status report on the website and if required provide the report in an accessible format upon request.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

The Town of Halton Hills' Strategic Plan notes the following Goal:

Foster a Healthy Community

To maintain and enhance a healthy community that provides a clean environment and a range of economic and social opportunities to ensure a superior quality of life in our community;

through the Strategic Objective;

(A.4) To provide accessibility throughout the community.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Expenditures needed to meet the requirements of the Integrated Accessibility Standards will be funded through the Accessibility Capital Budget program.

COMMUNICATIONS IMPACT:

The Annual Status Report - Multi-Year Accessibility plan, upon adoption by Council, will be made available on the Town's website, and will be communicated to Town staff.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

The Town is committed to implementing our Community Sustainability Strategy, Imagine Halton Hills. Doing so will lead to a higher quality of life. The relationship between this report and the Strategy is summarized below:

Do the report's recommendations advance the Strategy's implementation?

Yes

Which pillar(s) of sustainability does this report support?

Cultural Vibrancy, Economic Prosperity and Social Well-being

This report is keeping with the objective of incorporating sustainability into the Town's operation. Implementation of the actions outlined in the Multi-Year Accessibility plan provides for greater opportunity to sustain community livability for residents of all abilities.

Overall, the alignment of this report with the Community Sustainability Strategy is:

Very Good

CONSULTATION:

The Town Clerk was consulted on the development of the Annual Status Report.

CONCLUSION:

To meet the legislative requirements of the Act, the Town must comply with the Integrated Accessibility Standard regulations by preparing an annual status report on the progress of measures taken to implement the Multi-Year Accessibility plan. All identified 2015 Action Items in the Multi-Year Accessibility plan were completed.








Respectfully submitted,














**Kelly Withers, Municipal Law
Enforcement/Accessibility
Coordinator**





Reviewed and Approved by,

**Suzanne Jones
Town Clerk**

**Brent Marshall,
Chief Administrative Officer & Fire
Chief**

Key Area	Action Items	Completed  Additional Comments
2015 Action Items		
Accessibility Plan	Prepare an <u>annual status report</u> on the progress of measures taken to implement the multi-year accessibility plan. Post the status report to the Town's website and make available in an accessible format upon request.	Status Report to be completed December 2015. 
	Review and update the accessibility plan as required.	Review December 2015 and update with any identified priority action items. 
Accessible Taxi-Cabs/ Specialized Transit	Review, with consultation with the HHAAC, the demand for accessible taxi-cabs within the Town. Provide opportunity for public feedback on accessible transportation needs.	Conduct a public meeting to gain citizens perspective.  ongoing
Training	Provide accessible standard training to incoming Council members as part of Council Orientation.	January/February 2015 
Accessible Website	Ensure the Town's website(s) and web content conform to W3C WCAG 2.0 Level AA This applies to websites, web content and web-based applications.	By December 31, 2015 to meet January 1, 2016 compliance 
Facilities & Open Spaces	Install at least one new Accessible Traffic (cross-walk) Signal (upon Council approval through subsequent report).	 <u>2015</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mountainview Road South/Danby Road • Mountainview Road South/Barber Drive • Mountainview Road South/Sinclair Avenue

		
	<p>Conduct a signage review at Town facilities to ensure accessibility standards are met.</p> <p>Signage for the Acton Arena and Hillsview Active Living Centre</p>	<p>2015 – review signage within Town Hall, and at Community Centres.</p> <p> and ongoing</p>
Civic Centre	<p>Halton Hills Accessibility Advisory Committee approved on June 24, 2015 the following Recommendation No. HHAAC 2015-0004 for the following items at the Civic Centre, Acton Arena, Hillsview Active Living Centre-Georgetown and Robert C. Austin Operations Centre</p> <p>Installation of: A Teletypewriter (TTY) for front customer service counter for those with hearing disability</p> <p>LED TV for the front counter kiosk to provide enhanced communication in an accessible format</p> <p>Push Buttons openers for public washrooms within Town Hall and entrance to Council Chambers</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p> Project commenced anticipated installation 1st quarter of 2016</p>
Acton Arena	<p>Installation of: Automatic Sliding Entrance Doors Installation of an elevator</p>	<p></p> <p></p>
Hillsview Active Living Centre – Georgetown	<p>Installation of: Automatic sliding entrance – north entrance inside of mall Automatic sliding entrance – south main entrance Automatic sliding entrance – west entrance</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p>
Robert C. Austin Operations Centre	<p>Installation of: Automatic sliding doors Installation of touch free panels for the barrier free washrooms Installation of an elevator</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p>

<p>Accessible Recreation Programs and Services – annual update (2015)</p>	<p>Rec Partner Pass (Allows for the participant to be accompanied by an individual, such as a support worker, in a drop-in program, a registered program and in Seniors Centre membership activities).</p> <p>Participant Placements Denotes each registration made during 2015 in various programs (e.g. summer camp or swim lessons) by individuals with special needs</p> <p>Program Hours Represents the time that individuals with special needs have spent participating in registered programs</p>	<p>29 Passes issued in 2015  and ongoing</p> <p>260 program opportunities accessed in integrated setting  and ongoing</p> <p>73 program opportunities accessed in specialized setting  and ongoing</p> <p>6884 hours spent participating in recreation programs  and ongoing</p>
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