



TO: GENERAL COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: UPDATE TO CITY OF BARRIE'S MULTI-YEAR ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

PREPARED BY AND KEY CONTACT: C. DILLON, ACCESSIBILITY COORDINATOR, HUMAN RESOURCES, EXT. 5237

SUBMITTED BY: A.M. LANGLOIS, DIRECTOR HUMAN RESOURCES 

GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: R. BUNN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INNOVATE BARRIE 

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL: C.LADD CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER 

RECOMMENDED MOTION

1. That the update to the 2013-2018 Multi-year Accessibility Plan and the update to the 2013-2018 Transit Multi-Year Accessibility Plan attached as Appendix "A" to Staff Report HR001-14 be approved.
2. That staff, in consultation with the Accessibility Advisory Committee monitor implementation of the Plan and provide a memo to General Committee, with annual updates on the City's Multi-Year Accessibility Plans, in accordance with the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario's guidance as required.

PURPOSE & BACKGROUND

3. On April 29, 2013, City Council adopted motion 13-G-107 and motion 13-G-108 which approved the 2013-2018 Multi-year Accessibility Plan and the 2013-2018 Transit Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, authorizing staff and the Accessibility Advisory Committee to monitor the implementation of the Plan and report back to General Committee with annual updates to the Accessibility Plan or as required by the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario.
4. Like all Ontario municipalities, the City of Barrie is meeting the requirements of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) by preparing, implementing and updating its Accessibility Plan. Through on-going monitoring of accessibility issues, the City will proactively identify and remove barriers that may exist in its by-laws, services, policies, procedures, programs and facilities.
5. The AODA's Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) compliance requirements are to be phased in over ten years, with the last compliance requirements being met in 2021. The City of Barrie has already achieved compliance of a number of the IASR requirements ahead of schedule. Staff from impacted departments work diligently to ensure that compliance is effectively and efficiently met as required.
6. Although the importance of creating an accessible community is recognized, it is acknowledged that the City's plans must reflect a balance between the goals, objectives and priorities identified by stakeholders and the City's ability to achieve those goals within the framework of Council's Priorities, the City's Strategic Plan, and the resources made available through the City's Annual Business Plan.

7. Consultation with the City's Accessibility Advisory Committee and staff from various departments within the Corporation is on-going throughout the year. The update to the 2013-2018 Multi-year Accessibility Plan, and Transit Multi-year Accessibility Plan are largely administrative in nature, highlighting changes to the corporate structure of the Corporation of the City of Barrie and were established through consultation with the Accessibility Advisory Committee.
8. The Accessibility Advisory Committee reviewed and approved the Update to the 2013-2018 Multi-year Accessibility Plan attached as Appendix "A" to this Staff Report, at its meeting held on January 23, 2014.
9. As required by the AODA, the City's Multi-year Accessibility Plans will be updated for approval at least once every five (5) years, and annual updates or status reports will be provided as required as initiated by noteworthy changes, or until the Ontarians with Disabilities Act (ODA) is repealed.

Environmental Matters

10. There are no environmental matters related to the recommendation.

Alternatives

11. There is an alternative available for consideration by General Committee:

Alternative #1

General Committee could decide not to approve the update to the City's two Multi-year Accessibility Plans.

This alternative is not recommended as the City is legislatively required to adopt and keep up-to-date, a Multi-year Accessibility Plan.

Financial

12. There are no environmental matters related to the recommendation.

APPENDIX "A"

Update to the 2013-2018 Multi-year Accessibility Plan and the 2013-2018 Transit Multi-year Accessibility Plan

*Note: The following updates will be made to both Multi-year Accessibility Plans.

*Note: The section numbers refer to the sections to be updated in the Multi-year Plans.

Section 1: Organization of the Corporation of the City of Barrie (pages 5- 6)

The Corporation of the City of Barrie underwent a corporate wide reorganization, effective May 1, 2013; to better align corporate departments, to focus more on Council's priorities, and to provide better customer service to the community.

The City's new organizational structure is the result of consultation and feedback from City Council, the Senior Leadership Team and staff focus groups. It is based upon several organizational design needs the City wanted to address, including:

1. Improving the use of technology
2. Strengthening customer service
3. Supporting interdepartmental collaboration
4. Improving internal communications
5. Supporting cross-departmental project management and
6. Developing the next generation of the City's workforce

1.8 Community and Corporate Services Division

The General Manager of the Community and Corporate Services responsibilities include the Finance Department, Legal Services Department, Legislative and Court Services Department, Building and By-Law Enforcement Department, Barrie Fire and Emergency Services Department, and the Recreation Department.

1.9 Infrastructure and Growth Management Division

The General Manager of the Infrastructure and Growth Management Division's responsibilities include the Environmental Services Department, the Roads, Parks and Fleet Department, the Planning Department, the Engineering Department, Asset Management Department, and the Facilities and Transit Department.

1.10 Access Barrie Portfolio

The Access Barrie team is comprised of staff in customer service, communications & marketing. This strategic portfolio reflects the importance and the need for the City to champion customer service and to align this service with marketing & communications. The Access Barrie Portfolio is comprised of the Communications and Strategic Initiatives Department, the Marketing and Promotions Department and the Customer Service Department.

1.11 Invest Barrie Portfolio

The Invest Barrie Portfolio was created in response to the need for the City of Barrie to bring together several city departments to provide a more comprehensive approach to investment in our city. Invest Barrie with work to achieve this through several goals, such as the development of a diversified economy, the positioning of culture as a key driver of the creative economy and the recognition and promotion of Downtown Barrie as the heart of the City's economic and cultural life. The Invest Barrie team is comprised of staff and leadership in the areas of Business Development, Culture and City Centre Revitalization.

1.12 Innovate Barrie Portfolio

The Innovate Barrie team is comprised of the Human Resources Department, and the Information Technology and Process Improvement Department. The Innovate Barrie portfolio reflects the importance and the need for the City to champion and become a leader in innovation, aligning people, process and technology with the City's Strategic Plan.

1.11 Partnerships

The Barrie Police Service (BPS) is a member agency covered by the City of Barrie's Multi-Year Accessibility Plan. The Barrie Police Service is committed to following the intent of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) to improve opportunities and service for people with disabilities. To this end, members of the Barrie Police Service understand the importance of responsive public services that enhance the quality of life for people with disabilities and will continue to develop strategies and programs that facilitate access to policing services. The Barrie Police Service is a member agency covered by the City of Barrie's Multi-Year Accessibility Plan and BPS and the City of Barrie staff is working in partnership to address issues of accessibility.

Section 3: City of Barrie Accessibility Advisory Committee Background Information

3.1 Committee Membership (pg. 7)

The following members have been appointed by Council for a term ending November 30, 2014:

Name	Membership	Term
Councilor D. Shipley	Council Rep	November 30, 2014
Kim Demberline	Chair	November 30, 2014
Margaretta Papp-Belayneh	Citizen Rep	November 30, 2014
Micheline Crocker	Citizen Rep	November 30, 2014
Cheryl Caterer	Citizen Rep	November 30, 2014
Colin Wilson	Vice Chair	November 30, 2014
Aaron Lillie	Citizen Rep	November 30, 2014