



HUMAN RESOURCES MEMORANDUM

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TO: DEPUTY MAYOR, B. WARD AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

FROM: C. DILLON, ACCESSIBILITY COORDINATOR

NOTED: C. GIANINO, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RE: UPDATE ON CITY OF BARRIE'S 2019 – 2024 MULTI-YEAR ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

DATE: MAY 30, 2022

The purpose of this Memorandum is to provide members of Council with an update concerning activities undertaken by the City of Barrie and Barrie Police Services in 2021, to comply with the City's 2019 – 2024 Multi-year Accessibility Plan.

Background

Like all Ontario municipalities, the City of Barrie must meet and maintain legislated requirements set forth in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), including preparing, and implementing the City's Multi-year accessibility plan. Per the AODA, the City's multi-year accessibility plan(s) must be updated at least once every five years. The City's current multi-year accessibility plan runs from January 1, 2019 through to December 31, 2024.

Under the AODA, municipal accessibility advisory committees must provide advice to municipal councils on the requirements and implementation of the accessibility standards, multi-year accessibility plans and compliance reports, in addition to providing advice regarding accessibility in the broader community. The City's Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) fulfills this function for the Corporation of the City of Barrie, and as of 2013, the AAC has also been fulfilling this function for Barrie Police Services.

The Barrie Police Services (BPS) is a member agency covered by the City of Barrie's Multi-year Accessibility Plan and BPS, and the City of Barrie staff will continue to work in partnership with the AAC to address issues of accessibility.

Status

The AAC has fulfilled their obligation for the 2021 AODA requirements, and despite the covid-19 pandemic, the AAC was able to provide valuable feedback and support to staff on objectives outlined in the 2019-2024 Multi-year Accessibility Plan, including:

- Feedback on the reconstruction of City Parks and Playgrounds for accessibility, introducing a wheelchair swing into the community;
- Advising on the Heritage Park Master Plan;
- Recommendations for improved accessibility at shopping plaza's and city walkways, as well as improved accessibility during winter maintenance;
- Consulting on development applications for accessibility considerations;



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- Advising on Official Plan and Urban Design Guidelines to support improved accessibility in future public and private development;
 - Providing advice for improved accessible public washrooms; and
 - Consultation on accessible recreation activities such as, accessible pickleball.

In addition, the AAC supported the work staff completed to meet compliance for the 2021 Information and Communication Standard requirements, including work to ensure the City's and Barrie Police Services website meets Web Content Accessibility Guideline Compliance (WCAG) per the AODA. The City achieved WCAG 2.0 Level AA in 2021 and will work to maintain this level of compliance.