

From: Ruth Sheridan

Sent: August 22, 2022 8:32 AM

To: Andrea Coyne <andrea.coyne@oakville.ca>; Beth Robertson <beth.robertson@oakville.ca>; David Underwood; Deborah Muldoon; Matthew Lam; Peggy Anne Gordon; Rosa Bustamante; Jill Marcovecchio <jill.marcovecchio@oakville.ca>; Joanne Phoenix <joanne.phoenix@oakville.ca>

Cc: JOHN M

Subject: Submission to the Accessibility Advisory Committee

To: Members and staff of the Town of Oakville AAC Committee

On behalf of member John Muldoon who drafted two proposals outlined below and the members of our enVISION Oakville Peer Support Group for the blind and partially sighted, I am writing this submission to the Town of Oakville Accessibility Advisory Committee, outlining the two requests for the committee to consider.

With the approval of the AAC these requests would then be forwarded to Town Council to consider for the next fiscal year as a budget project.

Members of our group all of whom have declining vision meet biweekly using ZOOM and monthly in person at Trafalgar Park Community Centre.

The Town of Oakville has and will continue to have a number of senior citizens who require increased aids in terms of accessibility.

To continue on the path of making the Town of Oakville “the most livable town in Canada,” we thank John Muldoon for bringing these two requests to your attention.

Sincerely,

Ruth Sheridan

Peer group lead - on behalf of the members of
enVISION Oakville

Request #1

The City of Toronto and other municipalities across Canada have adopted the use of double the size of their street identification signage at most main intersections. The larger signage allows the driver and passengers more easily to see the name of the main streets in their municipality.

Many times, one drives by main intersections due to the inability to read the street signs due to slight impaired vision or being lost in an area that they are not familiar with.

We see Town Council budgeting for these new signs rolled out over a three-year period.

Request #2

Have a yellow line or appropriate section/area of pavement painted YELLOW on all slopes (inclines, ramps) that lead to a street. In most cases the slope ends at the end of the concrete and meet at the asphalt of the street.

As a group of visually impaired people we run into the asphalt lip being either too low, or too high, causing people with vision impairment to miss the lip with their white walking stick and some cases fall.

We agree that there are many of these slopes (inclines, ramps) that are completely matched up with no possibility for error.

We would like to see this project rolled out over three- or four-years using students who are hired for the summer.

At this time, we only see that the main intersections of the Town get the yellow line. In the future we would like to see this project expanded to every slope (inclines, ramps), in every ward, where there is a possibility of uneven joints between the concrete and the asphalt.

For a person using a white walking stick this project becomes important as many times they are walking in unfamiliar areas of the town.

We hope your committee understands the need for these two projects and pass them on to the correct department or Town Council.

This is just a piece of the puzzle to make Oakville “the most livable Town in Canada.”

Thank you for considering these two requests and making the appropriate follow-up.