

Accessibility Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: September 12, 2024

FROM:	Clerk's Department
DATE:	September 3, 2024
SUBJECT:	2024-2029 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan
LOCATION:	Town-wide

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. That the report dated September 3, 2024, entitled "2024-2029 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan", be received.
- 2. That the draft 2024-2029 Multi-year Accessibility Plan be approved.

KEY FACTS:

The following are key points for consideration with respect to this item:

- Establishing a multi-year accessibility plan is a requirement under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA). This plan outlines the specific actions the Town of Oakville will take to meet AODA requirements, prevent and remove barriers, and provides timelines for when these actions will be completed.
- The Town of Oakville is committed to being an inclusive workplace and community where everyone feels they belong. This includes eliminating barriers towards achieving Council's vision to be a vibrant and livable community for all and providing accessible programs, services and facilities. It includes building an inclusive community where all individuals have equitable access to the town's services, programs and facilities in a manner that is integrated and promotes dignity and independence.
- The draft 2024-2029 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (attached as Appendix A) builds on the accomplishments of previous plans, most recently the <u>2018-2023</u> <u>Multi-Year Accessibility Plan</u>, and provides a road map outlining areas of focus and actions that will continue to drive the town forward to meeting and/or exceed the requirements under the AODA.
- Since the town has met most AODA requirements and there are no new requirements set out by the province, the 2024-2029 plan is presented differently from previous multi-year plans. Each section highlights significant accomplishments, shares trends in community feedback related to what an

accessible Oakville means to residents, and outlines the town's ongoing commitments, new initiatives and areas of focus for the next five years (looking ahead).

- The town has made considerable efforts to ensure this plan is comprehensive, inclusive, and reflective of the diverse needs of the community. Multiple opportunities for input were provided to residents and staff, including a public survey, early consultation with the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC), and online engagement with community partners, groups, and organizations.
- The goal of the AAC is to identify and eliminate barriers for people with disabilities in town programs, services, initiatives, and facilities, promoting accessibility for residents of all abilities in accordance with AODA requirements. Town staff will be seeking feedback from the AAC on the draft plan at its meeting on September 12, 2024.
- Feedback from the AAC will be integrated into the final 2024-2029 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, to be brought to Council before the end of this year.
- Town staff will also provide an annual status update on the progress of actions and initiatives aimed at meeting or exceeding AODA requirements.

APPENDICES:

Appendix A – Draft 2024-2029 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

Prepared and Submitted by:

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