



Town of Newmarket
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2021 Annual Accessibility Status Update to the 2019-2023 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan Staff Report to Council

Report Number: 2022-10

Department(s): Legislative Services

Author(s): Jaclyn Grossi, Acting Deputy Clerk

Meeting Date: February 28, 2022

Recommendations

1. That the report entitled 2021 Annual Accessibility Status Update to the 2019-2023 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan dated February 28, 2022 be received; and,
2. That the 2021 Accessibility Status Update (**Attachment A**) be approved; and
3. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is for Council to approve and adopt the 2021 Annual Status Update to the 2019-2023 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.

Background

Ontario municipalities are required to establish, implement, and maintain a Multi-Year Accessibility Plan while providing annual updates on the plan's progress through the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) standard. Council approved the current 2019-2023 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan at their [Council Meeting on October 21, 2019](#), and this report serves to provide the 2021 annual status update to the current multi-year plan.

Discussion

The Town of Newmarket is committed to creating an accessible environment by removing barriers for people of all abilities in our community. This includes Town staff, community and business partners, residents and visitors.

Staff from across all departments of the Town were consulted in the development of the 2021 status update. The Newmarket Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) reviewed the status update at their meeting on January 20, 2022 and provided staff with feedback before passing the following motion:

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee endorse the 2021 Annual Accessibility Status Update to the 2019-2023 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, as amended.

The status update continues to be broken down by department to highlight the work each team in the Corporation has completed throughout 2021, and features a section on the annual accomplishments of the AAC.

The unforeseen challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, were carried throughout 2021 which continued to underscore the value and need for implementing accessibility enhancement projects. The status update details accessibility enhancements that the Town implemented in 2021 that were new or not contemplated prior to the pandemic, and were a direct result of the changes felt throughout the pandemic thus far.

Conclusion

As required by the IASR, staff will ensure that the approved 2021 Status Update is provided to the public on the Town's website following Council approval.

Business Plan and Strategic Plan Linkages

This report aligns with Council's Strategic Priority pillar regarding Extraordinary Places and Spaces: Creating an environment for an engaged, accessible and inclusive community, and highlights a list of projects across the Corporation which align with all six pillars of Council's Strategic Priorities. The report also aligns with the Town's vision of being a community that is Well Beyond the Ordinary.

Consultation

Staff from various departments were consulted in the development of the 2021 Accessibility Status Update, and the Newmarket Accessibility Advisory Committee was consulted, provided input, and endorsed the 2021 Accessibility Status Update.

Human Resource Considerations

There are no Human Resources considerations related to this report.

2021 Annual Accessibility Status Update to the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

Budget Impact

Costs to implement requirements of the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan will continue to be addressed by the various responsible departments.

Attachments

Attachment A – 2021 Accessibility Status Update

Approval

Lisa Lyons, Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk

Esther Armchuk, Commissioner, Corporate Services

Peter Noehammer, Commissioner, Development & Infrastructure Services

Ian McDougall, Chief Administrative Officer

Contact

For more information on this report, please contact Jaclyn Grossi, Acting Deputy Clerk at 905-953-5300 extension 2207 or email at jgrossi@newmarket.ca

Questions about the individual projects completed within **Attachment A** should be directed to the applicable department.