

## MAKING MAIN STREET NEWMARKET ACCESSIBLE MATTERS

### Here's why:

- Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) mandates accessibility for all public spaces, including streets and sidewalks.
- Accessibility is not just a matter of convenience but a legal obligation to promote equal rights and opportunities for all citizens.
- It promotes inclusivity and ensures that everyone, regardless of physical ability, can fully participate in and enjoy our public spaces.
- Accessible and inclusive environments attract more visitors and customers. A Main Street that accommodates all individuals will likely see increased foot traffic, leading to higher revenues for businesses.
- Accessibility improvements can enhance property values and stimulate local economic development, as they make the area more attractive for residents, tourists, and businesses alike.
- The regrading of Main Street maintains the historical significance of our Main Street as part of Ontario's heritage.
- Accessibility improvements that can preserve the historical charm while making Main Street accessible to a broader range of visitors, including those with disabilities.
- There are many social benefits of creating inclusive spaces, including fostering a sense of community and belonging for all residents. An accessible Main Street promotes physical activity, improve mental well-being, and reduces social isolation among individuals with disabilities.
- Accessibility brings additional buying power and attracts more people to our Main Street.
- Accessible business attracts people with disabilities and their family and friends as your customers.
- Accessibility also helps others, individuals who are blind, deaf, seniors, young families with children (strollers, etc.)
- Investing in accessibility improvements now will yield long-term benefits for the community by creating a more inclusive and sustainable environment. Accessible infrastructure is not only socially responsible but also ensures that our Main Street remains viable and resilient.

### Facts:

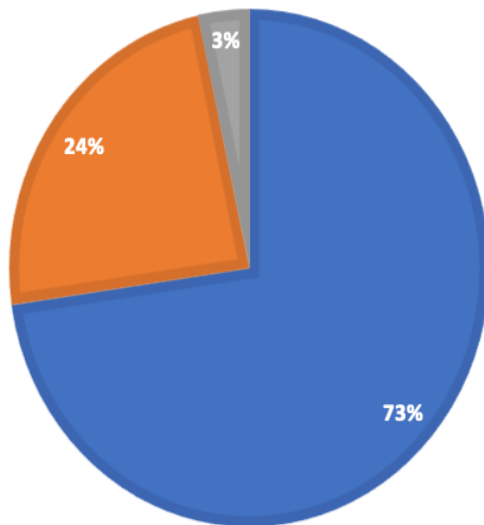
- 53% of Ontario's population has a disability or is related to someone who has a disability <sup>(1)</sup>
- Approximately 45% or 1.12 million Ontarians with disabilities have mobility related disabilities
- More than 40% of this population is over the age of 65
- As the population ages, this number will only grow
- In 2022, 6 in 10 persons with disabilities experienced barriers related to accessing indoor and outdoor public spaces <sup>(2)</sup>

### Accessibility Benefits Everyone

1. Ontario Business Improvement Area Association. <https://obiaa.com/>.  
2. Accessible Standards Canada. <https://accessible.canada.ca/>.

## Approximate Total Number Businesses on Main Street Newmarket (from Water St. to Park Ave.)

Total number of businesses on Main St **64**  
Total number of businesses with entrances at grade level **21**  
Total number of businesses with automatic door openers **3**



Percentage of business that are not accessible  
Percentage of business with entrances at grade level  
Percentage of business with automatic door openers

